



Week beginning Monday 10th March 2025

The Church of England published a booklet of 40 reflections called Living Hope A Lent Journey. Over the coming weeks I will share some of these, the first being this week. **Perfectly imperfect**

Read Romans 7:15-19, 24-25.

In our reading, Paul opens up about his own inner battles, reaching a point where he honestly admits, 'I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate' He understood that being a Christian doesn't prevent him struggling to do the right thing.

Many of us face persistent weaknesses and habits we constantly fight against. Despite our best efforts, we often find ourselves back in the same place, leading to frustration and self-criticism. We can be too hard on ourselves.

The more we try to save ourselves by our own strength and wisdom, the more hopeless our situation becomes. Paul came to realise that perfection is not the goal. He does not have to be flawless, because Jesus Christ is perfect, and God can work through our imperfections. The point is to bring everything to our loving God.

Challenge

What do you do when you are frustrated with weaknesses? How can these weaknesses be spaces where you encounter God?

I chose this reflection because so many people have shared their battles, described so well in this reading from Romans. Many of those were mature Christians, others earlier in their faith journeys and some held no faith. We are all perfectly imperfect!

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