

Erik Jespersen: What makes you angry? 27th February**1. Reflect back**

- Share any stories about developing the prophetic.
- What one thing stood out from this week's talk?

2. Review the teaching

Begin by asking one another each other "What injustice makes you angry?"

Matt 21v12-15 Jesus was angry at the misuse of the Temple and the outcome was that the blind and lame came for healing and the children shouted "Hosanna". Jesus wanted folk on the outside to come in.

Understanding the Temple: In the middle was the Holy of Holies (the place where God resided), then a zone where consecrated priests could serve; next the Court for the Jews (Jewish men could worship); then the Court for Women (where Jewish women could worship); lastly, the Court of the Gentiles where anyone else could watch worship from a distance. It was this space that was taken over for buying and selling sacrifices to save the Jews who travelled in to worship from bringing their own animals.

Jesus saw that space for the "outsiders". It was for any to come and be welcomed by the Father (like the prodigal in Lk 15v11-32). Jesus, meek, mild, kind, loving became angry.

The Lighthouse is a safe place where the outsider can come and "*Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him*". (Ps 34v8). The heart of God is described in Ps 36v7-8 *How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights.*

Emmaus Road is committed to making space for others, those with difficult backgrounds, different life experiences, etc. can come and find space to be accepted and welcomed so they experience the presence of God.

Healing on The Streets offers such a space, for example, one cancer patient came regularly for prayer and eventually became a Christian and sought reconciliation with his family.

We all have a mandate from God to carry Jesus into safe spaces. We can create them at the school gate, at the drinks machine in the office, talking with security at the supermarket, etc.

Jesus cleared the tables of the traders and laid a table of hospitality and welcome. We can do the same. It might be physical space or relational space. We can create opportunities for outsiders to look in to our lives and see how we respond to suffering and pain, see how we worship Jesus.

3. Realise the value

Erik asked:

- Who are those for whom we should be creating space so they can feel welcome and accepted?
- Who are those who don't hold the same space as us?
- What could that space look like?

Erik highlighted:

- CAP is one way of reaching some folk. Debt can be a doorway. Teaching life skills can help those facing life's challenges. CAP is looking for volunteers. (See Social Transformation on Emmaus Road website)
- Does anyone have a story about how they benefitted from coming into a safe space as described above?
- How are we as a Collective going to respond to the call for volunteers?