

Scripture:
John 3:1-17

The Gift of a New Life

As I was in the midst of preparing for this sermon I received an email from Judi. I had asked the worship committee to share stories of hope with me and this is the one she sent. I invite you to watch with the verses we have just heard in mind.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=1DUYIHZsZfc

“The Spiritual life does not remove us from this world but leads us deeper into it wrote” Henri Nowen. To be born above to new life we must engage with the spirit of Christ ,with holiness. We must love God and neighbour first and for most. It is never too late and the wind of the spirit will blow where it may. We never know when God will touch someone in such a way that they discover the kingdom of God. We never know how God will reach in and transform someone in a way that they offer the kingdom of God to others.

Eternal life is not about the life thereafter, eternal life is about living in love, justice and hope now. The kingdom of God is not something we are to discover after we die, it is a wholeness of life Jesus longs for us to discover here and now. How will we be born again? How will we allow the Spirit to touch us in such a way that we are forever transformed by the “Holy presence?”

Jesus said “Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’
8The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”
15that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

We now are called to participate in bringing the kingdom of God to this world. We are to participate in the saving of the world.

May we believe in Jesus and his life in such a way that we are changed to offer the gift of life, love, grace and hope to others.