

Friday, 26th March  
**Changing the world**

Jesus said,  
'To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened'  
*Luke 13.20-21*

This analogy belongs with yesterday's verse. Like yeast, a small bit of goodness, or faith, or love, or generosity can have a great effect. It can, in fact, change the whole situation.

### Questions

- What examples of 'yeast' have you discovered in your life or in your community?
- Jesus uses this phrase, 'the kingdom of God' several times. What do you understand by it?

### Challenges

- Is there a difficult situation that you will find yourself in today? What can you be, or bring, that will be like good yeast in that situation?
- Thank God for those who are good yeast around you.

Saturday, 27th March  
**Living God's welcome**

Jesus said 'When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous'.  
*Luke 14-13-14*

Disciples of Jesus are called to live radically, making a difference in the world. But it often begins very simply, as God's love begins, with a heart that welcomes all and loves without expecting anything back.

### Questions

- Why, when we do something for someone else, is there a tendency to expect them to 'return the favour'?
- How might we cultivate the generous unconditional attitude Jesus describes?

### Challenges

- Reflect on what you have learned and acted on in the last week.
- Why not hold a party? Who could you invite?
- Give something or do something today with no strings attached.

# challenge

**Dare to make a difference  
by living the words of Jesus**

Week 6

21st - 27th March

## *Living the Reality of Jesus*

*The main aim of Challenge is for you to take time to pray and think for yourself about the meaning of Jesus' words and how living them might make a difference in your life and, through your life, in the community. This leaflet offers a bit of help to get you started, but its not a substitute for your own reflections.*



**read it • learn it • pray it • do it**

Sunday, 21st March

### Radical Living

Jesus said, 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailling treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.'  
*Luke 12.32-34*

This week, Jesus words invite us to live a radical difference. Today, some challenging words: how ready are we to live really differently?

### Questions

- What might it mean for you to 'sell your possessions' and seek unfailling treasure?
- Is fear the main thing that prevents us living differently?

### Challenges

- Is there something which you could give away or sell (and give away the proceeds) today?
- Choose to live without something central to your life this week and learn from the experience.

[www.challenge2010.org](http://www.challenge2010.org)

Monday, 22nd March  
**Living your heart**

Jesus said  
'For where your treasure is,  
there your heart will be also.'  
*Luke 12.34*

The reason Jesus' disciples are instructed to sell their possessions and give to the poor (see *yesterday's verse*), is not just to help the poor but also to help them discover their heart's true treasure.

### Questions

- What is treasure for people around you have?
- What is treasure for people in other parts of the world?
- What is your treasure? Is that where your heart is?

### Challenges

- Take time to be still and discover something in your life which speaks of a treasure which lasts.
- By an act of kindness or generosity help someone else discover something precious in their life.

Wednesday, 24th March  
**Responsible living**

Jesus said, 'From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded'.  
*Luke 12.48*

The lives of the disciples of Jesus are to reflect the gifts and resources they have received. Skills, talents, wealth, time and energy bring with them the responsibility to make a difference.

### Questions

- Do you feel that the responsibility which Jesus is talking about is generally recognised in society today?
- What prevents you from doing more with what you've been given?

### Challenges

- Make a list of all that you have been given. What responsibilities do these give you?
- What could you do today to live out that responsibility? Do it.

Tuesday, 23rd March  
**Living ready**

Jesus said, 'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks'.  
*Luke 12.35-36*

Jesus' disciples are to live ready for action. It's as if they are servants waiting for their master's return. They have their eyes on a bigger picture and live accordingly. They live with hope.

### Questions

- What does it mean for you to live 'dressed for action'?
- What might it mean for us today to live as servants waiting for their master's return?
- What does it mean to live with hope?

### Challenges

- Reflect on your life today; how many of your actions are shaped by a 'bigger picture'?
- Do something today which expresses hope, or offers hope to someone else.

Thursday, 25th March  
**Making a difference**

Jesus said 'What is the kingdom of God like? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches'.  
*Luke 13.18-19*

The difference that the disciples of Jesus are called to make in the world is great and broad, like the branches of a tree. It will probably begin with a small action, like the seed from which the tree grew.

### Questions

- What examples of big differences beginning in small ways can you think of?
- What does it take for the 'seeds' to grow, what makes the difference?

### Challenges

- What's the difference you dream about making in your community or in the world? Do something today to plant a seed to make that vision more of a reality.
- Share your dream with someone else.