



Words for the Way

An online Lent Course for the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney

See

Thursday 2 March



Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash

Matthew 7:7–12

Jesus said, “Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.”

What do you expect to happen when you knock on a door? For it to be opened and greeted warmly by someone you, perhaps it doesn't open for some time and you wonder whether to knock again and if the person inside heard you knocking, or maybe you're knocking on the door and don't know the person behind the door or how they will react to you... The end of today's section of the Gospel Matthew speaks about treating others as you would like to be treated – the Golden Rule. Jesus is speaking to those around him, disciples and crowd members about how to treat each other. This section is towards the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is speaking of how to treat others in the world and community – the Beatitudes challenging the world's norms, but also reminding that to ask and knock can also mean, in terms of human relations, not to demand and not to barge in. Look, see, take notice and respond.

What does it mean to you to truly see God at work in the world? Perhaps today you could look out of a window wherever you find yourself and notice where you see God at work or notice where the light of God needs to shine.

For more on the Sermon on the Mount see Amy-Jill Levine (2020) "Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven"

To listen:

O Taste and See by Ralph Vaughan Williams
Break Our Hearts by Vicky Beeching

These and other music for *Words for the Way* can be found at

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/72omFXFljUHKiHcvk9OYv4?si=e7c873dfa5a448fc>

Best Things dwell out of Sight by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Best Things dwell out of Sight
The Pearl—the Just—Our Thought.

Most shun the Public Air
Legitimate, and Rare—

The Capsule of the Wind
The Capsule of the Mind

Exhibit here, as doth a Burr—
Germ's Germ be where?



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The word for each day is taken from Trevor Hudson's *40 words for 40 days Pauses for Lent*.