

• Self appraisal based on John 8;1-11

...how good am I at making best use of daybreak moments?...to pray & to ponder..
..is my relationship with Jesus close enough to use the familiarity of "he" ?
..would others recognise in me that familiarity with the person & the life of Jesus?
..is my appearance in the Temple [Church] just a matter of habit obligation routine?
..am I open to inclusiveness in relating to life situations.."all people" or only certain individuals of certain religious persuasion & ethnic economical or social background?
..is my relationship with my neighbour postcode related?

..do I take time to sit or is my lifestyle too easily read as on the move all the time..& does such a hectic pace preclude some individuals from relating to me..too busy..too involved..?

..do I preach my religion at others ?..or do I share my experiences..struggles.. in a spirit of mutual journey & search..pilgrims listening teaching & learning?

..who are the scribes & Pharisees in my faith community?...how do I relate to them..
when did I last give them time & a listening ear to attempt [yet again] to understand them ?

..is it always their fault or do I at times inflame difficult situations with my strength & rightness of view?

..do I sometimes attempt to catch someone out in word or behaviour?

..once caught trapped do I seek a guilty verdict & a conviction?...or the acceptance of a need for change?

..how often do I take someones transgressions into the public forum through disclosure?...& why do I do it?..

..when was the last time I humiliated someone in front of others?...how did I feel whilst still quietly plotting it?...during its implementation?...& some time afterwards ?

..has my evidence against others sometimes been reinforced..rubbed in..by citing the rules of the Church on the matter..strengthening my hand whilst further demolishing self worth of the accused?

..have I left them room & opportunity for a change of heart & a way back?

..how have I listened to those who spoke out in defence support of the victim or the accused?

..do I really value the opinion advice wisdom of others?...or do I too often go through a puppet exercise to show [seemingly] due & proper process?

..do I believe I am a good listener?...when was the last time I was prepared to look & listen in being appraised in it?

..how many times each day do I put loved ones, colleagues, neighbours, fellow Christians, acquaintances..& strangers .. to the test?

..when was the last time I bent down to touch ground?...to meet reality..to put myself lower in stature than my critics & those handicapped vulnerable & in need?

..why is it I take so little time to ponder ..to think first..to wrestle shape reshape & rephrase words before voicing them?

..if I was to write a word in the sand at this moment in time what would it be?
..would the word persistence be included in the vocabulary of my journey in faith?
..& is that persistence hungry or waspish?
..am I prepared to look up optimistically expectantly rather than critically judgementally ?
..would I have the courage to speak out against the mob if they were thirsting for blood..innocent or otherwise?..
..why would my attitude towards the victim be any different if I learned she [or he] had been a willing participant rather than a casualty?

..would I have the humility to bend down twice..or is once & once only..enough for me?
..what would be my second word now written in the sand?..
..the mob dispersed..when we too stand down in a conflict situation, is it to consider & seek to foster a new beginning?.. or to lick our wounds & wrestle with the choice of weapon in preparation for the next round?

..do I respect age seniority wisdom in relationships?..
..how often do I discover an aloneness with Jesus?..is it an opportunity..a challenge.. a threat a trial or an ordeal?
..am I patient enough to remain standing in the presence of Jesus awaiting a word or a glance..or to accept his need for a longer delay?

..when did I last feel eye to eye contact with Jesus?..did I seek to break the look & the spell through guilt anger blame or unworthiness?
..was..is..his questioning of me gentle & enabling?..or seemingly restricting & destructive?
..have I fear of being condemned to the fires of hell by an angry or frustrated Jesus? & have I sought some help in the Church when such thoughts have seemed to conflict with a different interpretation of Jesus?
..am I afraid to approach others to seek help for fear of my shortcomings being exposed after so many years of living..surviving..behind the mask?

..would any process of reintegration offered to a prodigal son or daughter..husband or wife..parishioner or colleague..be conditional on the promise..or assurance..of good behaviour & the firm resolve not to reoffend?