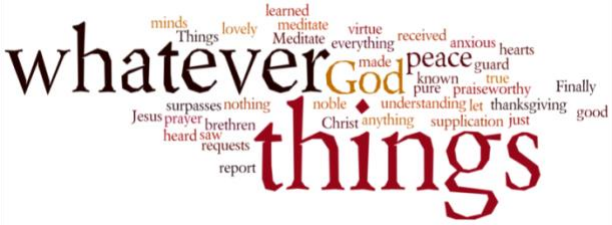

THINK ON THESE THINGS….. (our contributor this morning is Angela Jones)

Reading: Acts 9:8 - 9

Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Reflection:

After Saul's dramatic encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus he was without sight for three days. Have you ever wondered what Saul thought and prayed about during this time? I confess that I have! Saul was an educated man with responsibilities and his duties had led to the persecution of Jesus' followers in Jerusalem. Meeting Jesus had turned his world upside down and taken away from him all that his life thus far had been based upon. Surely his thoughts would have included confusion, maybe doubt and uncertainty about what would happen next.

Standing in the queue at Asda recently the words from one of the hymns we sing at Emmanuel came into my mind "All I once held dear, built my life upon". I said to my husband "what a different world we're living in now". This led me to thinking how deeply had I built my life upon Jesus? Many of those things that we hold dear and build our lives on have been taken away from us by the pandemic. This has shown me that perhaps I had set too high a value on my personal freedom to do what I like when I like. I am sure many of us have thought deeply about what was important to us and what is important to us now.

Saul as we learn later in this chapter had been praying and God had sent him a vision about what would happen to him next. We know from the scriptures that he became a powerful apostle for God.

In our prayers we too can share honestly with God about what we have lost, what we have gained and to ask for His help to find what we need to do to rebuild our lives within this new normal.

Breath prayer for today: Dear Lord, help us we pray to be courageous as Saul was to face our new normal and to build our lives on the rock that is Jesus. Amen.