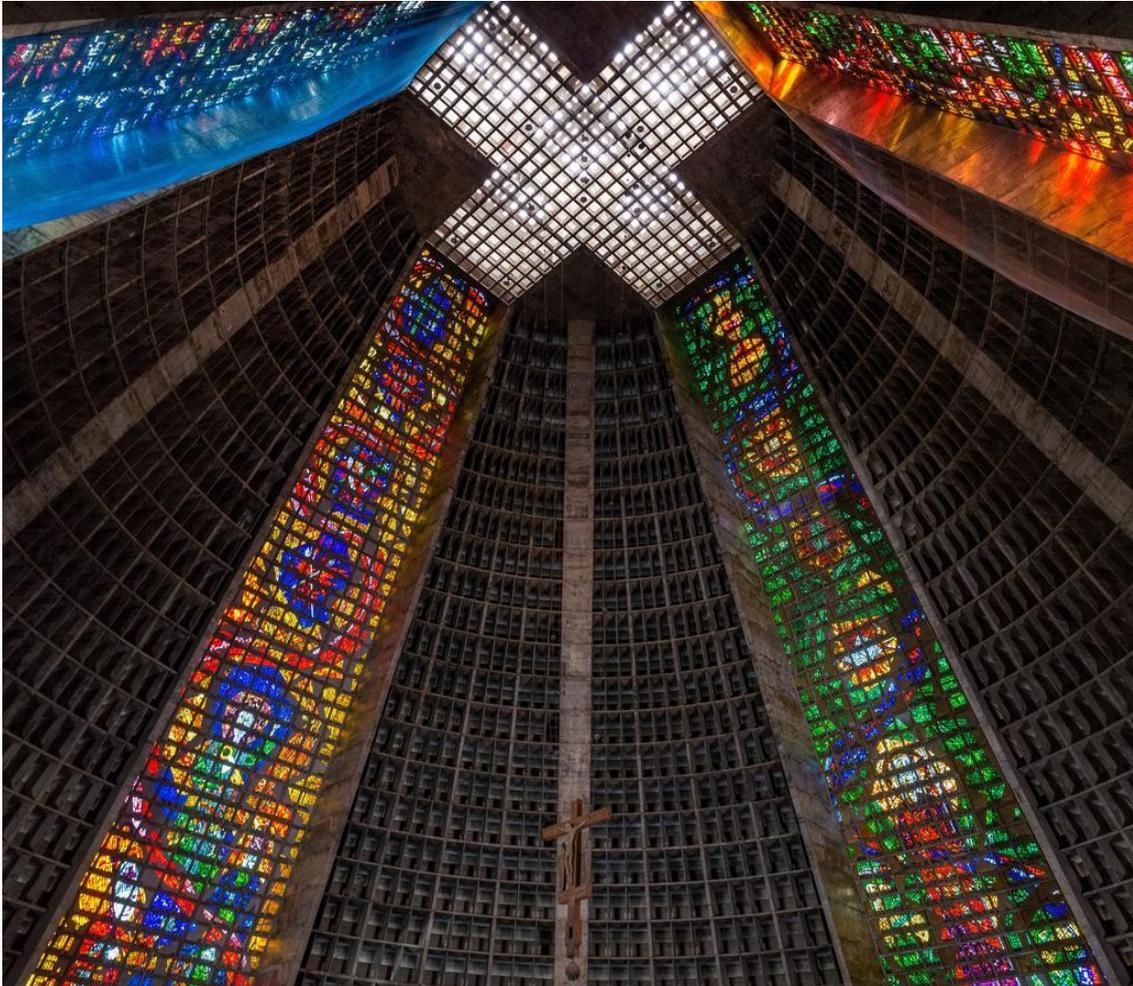


## Lenten Study 3

**LOOK...**



A chook looked at a duck and clucked...yet no quack was returned! It looked the other way!

Therefore, a crack developed between them.  
Communication is all about offering, listening, then hearing,  
and the recipient responding accordingly using language we  
can understand, in order we're all be on one page.  
When communications nonexistent, surely a crack appears!

How closely do we look, at what's going on round us as  
Christians?

Listening, then hearing Gods Word, is vital to bridging the many cracks occurring in life...both between God and us, and each other.

At times, God encourages us to look, in order good communication transpire... (with an outcome unlike what occurred between chook and duck!)

God surely provides wise and discernable Words, for we simple beings!

*Chat/meditation*

*Now to...*

**Proverbs 17:24**

'The discerning person looks to wisdom, but the eyes of a fool to the ends of the earth'

Do we sometimes try to look way too far, and miss what God has placed before us for our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others?

What might this say to us as disciples of Christ Jesus?

*Chat/meditation*

*Ponder now...***Matthew 1:23**

An Angel of God spoke the following words on Gods behalf ...

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God with us"'

God entices those to whom this direction is given, to 'look' at something they as yet, weren't able to see!

What might this mean for you?

What does it remind you of as a Christian?

*Chat/meditation...*

As Jesus ministry concluded, ponder the following Old Testament words fulfilled at His triumphal entry into Jerusalem before crucifixion upon the Cross...

### **Matthew 21:5**

“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your King is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey”

These words were as spoken by Gods Prophet long before!

What’s God saying here to Jerusalem...His beloved child?  
Is this a declaration...that surely salvation was coming, yet they couldn’t see it?

*Chat/meditation...*

Sadly, at times, we look for Jesus, our Saviour, with the wrong intent.

This is emphasized somewhat, in **John 6:26**...

‘Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of loaves”

Our intent should be about what God in Christ wishes we see and do...not just satisfying our human wants.  
In Christ, we’re called by God to fulfil need...share His love.

*Chat/meditation*

At this time as we gaze through the Cross, ponder now what occurred following Jesus resurrection, when He reappeared to Mary Magdalene.

### **John 21:15...**

Jesus ‘said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said

to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

How often daily, are we unaware God in the risen Christ is standing there before us?

*Chat/meditation...*

In conclusion, lets ponder what occurred a little later When Jesus appeared to His disciples and spoke to Thomas who doubted He'd risen again...

**Luke 24:39** (NRSV)

"Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

*Chat/meditation...*

## **PRAYER**

Almighty God, Gifter Divine of all sight, mercy and Good deed...guide us we pray to open ourselves to not look too far, something inciting us to become anxious and lost.

Place within in the power of the Holy Spirit, Divine guidance, that we more clearly see the true fullness of life granted all given faith in our risen Christ Jesus. Encourage us to look more definitively at what's close before us, remembering all the while to trust You'll reveal all we as yet can't see, in Your own Good time, as per Your Good Will.

This we pray in Jesus Holy name

**AMEN**

Which do you see more clearly, that which is near, by Your side, or far away?



God by grace gifts amazing hope, given faith and trust in Christ Jesus, where a wondrous future vision Divine, will be revealed!