**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

3rd February 2019

*Step out of your comfort zone*

There are many people that think that Jesus was just a ‘good guy’ and that He did nice things for nice people and then we come across a passage like today’s.

In last week’s Gospel reading we heard about Jesus performing miracles in Galilee, where he was ‘glorified by all’; but in today’s reading Jesus in in His hometown of Nazareth and things have changed. The message that He proclaims makes people uncomfortable and angry, to the point where they want to throw Jesus off a cliff!

Sometimes Jesus’ teachings challenge us, the Bible can push us out of our comfort zone. It’s true for the message we hear from St Paul’s letter to the Corinthians today. It can come across a lovely passage that we often hear at weddings and other special occasions but in reality it is so much more than that.

‘Love is patient, love is kind…love does not insist on its own way, it is not irritable…’ Perhaps it’s just me but I know that I am not always all of these things. Sometimes I am grumpy and rude, I can be stubborn and short tempered (particularly first thing in the morning!). But Jesus calls us to love others!

So today take the readings as a challenge to love others to the full. God is love (1 John 4:8) and as we grow closer to Him, we become more like Him.

Sophie

SYMT