



into the Melting Pot

the question is more important than the answer

Sunday 10 March 2019

Sharing Our Ideas About God and Faith

Following on from the Housegroup theme (talking about our faith), and with Robin Meyer's talk in mind (see MPot 39 and 40) where 'being' trumps 'believing', we tackle 'sharing our ideas about God and faith'.

- *How do you put this into words?*
- *What are the key elements?*
- *How well formed are your ideas and understanding?*
- *Can you share them?*

Here are some notes taken from the meeting. They do not read cohesively as a wide range of views is encompassed at Melting Pot.

It's more about belonging to a community than anything else.

I've become less religious with age.

Why do we 'do'? – is it based on faith? To help others seems natural.

Les Miserables: "to love another person is to see the face of God" – this defines my motivation.

I'm a non-theistic follower of Jesus – I don't believe in a supreme being engaged in some creation activity.

I can't believe that life is random accident, so have to believe in God.

There is often too much theology and not enough Christian living.

We are often asked to go back to basics – but it's always the wrong basics, ie what the church tradition has formed over the centuries rather than the original teachings of Jesus.

A deity seems to be a human need, in most cultures.

There is talk of describing a 'Christchurch way of life' – how can we encourage a better way of life?

Our faith is very personal, and so individual, and it is always changing as it develops.

The Old Testament records multiple gods; a singular truth and binary thinking is very much a Greek view, which shaped the New Testament world view.

Christianity has a closed canon; other world faiths have an open canon which allows for development of ideas (see MPot 36).

Diversity is precious.