

December 2024

If you're anything like me you long for a quiet life where everything moves along smoothly and all is hunky-dory. But real life isn't like that – there's always something which comes along to disrupt things be it illness, bereavement, redundancy, or just a difficult phone call when you're hoping for a quiet evening – that's life! So earlier this year when I came across an article which said that God is most likely to be found in the disruptions of life, I read it with great interest.

Disruptions are nothing new! Just over two thousand years ago a baby was born and whilst that's nothing unusual, this was a very special baby and people must have wondered why he was visited by shepherds and magi; why the skies were filled with angels singing and a special star; why an angel told his mother that he would be called 'the Holy One, the Son of God'. And *maybe* they *just* wondered if this baby might be the biggest disruption in human history, wrapped in the most surprising way.

Ever since this baby was laid in a manger, Christmas - and all the events of Jesus' life - have captured the hearts of countless people who believe that Jesus is God's rescue plan for our world and that one day all that is wrong will be righted. It might be difficult to believe when we look at the wars, the famines, the issues around climate change and so on, but that is what God has promised. This year I pray that you may see Christmas with fresh eyes and come to understand that this tiny baby is the greatest disruption of all time – a disruption that leads to hope, healing and wholeness.

'And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth' (*John 1:14*).

With every blessing for a peaceful and happy Christmas

Revd Sue

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