

# THIS IS YOUR SPACE TO CONNECT

## REFLECTION POINTS 22 MARCH 2020

### Reflection points:

- Read the text through twice. And slow down as you read!
- What is leaping out at you? Is there a word or a phrase?
- How is it speaking into what's happening for you right now?
- How do you react to the different people in the reading?
- What are other reactions?
- Can you see other ways to understand their behaviour?
- How is it possible to love God and others so completely?
- Read through the text once more.
- Are you noticing a different word or phrase leap out now?
- Ask yourself why this word?

### Final prayer:

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path.....

I incline my heart to perform your statutes  
for ever, to the end.

(from psalm 119)

### Mark 12:28-44 (NRSV)



One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup>you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." <sup>31</sup>The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' <sup>32</sup>Then the scribe said to him, 'You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that "he is one, and besides him there is no other"; <sup>33</sup>and "to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength", and "to love one's neighbour as oneself",—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.' <sup>34</sup>When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' After that no one dared to ask him any question.

<sup>35</sup>While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, 'How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? <sup>36</sup>David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet.' "

<sup>37</sup>David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?' And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

<sup>38</sup>As he taught, he said, 'Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.'

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.

<sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'