



Clincarthill Parish Church  
*a church for the community*

**2021: The 5 Marks of Mission Series**

Mark 3

“To respond to human need by loving service”.

Teaching Sunday: **10<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

Sharing Sunday: **17<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

This guide will help you to reflect on each Mark of Mission, and the associated Bible passage. Find some quiet time and pray that God would help you as you reflect on the Scripture readings and questions. You can record your thoughts in this booklet in whatever way suits you, such as writing or drawing.

On Sharing Sunday, you will have an opportunity to:

1. Hear the answers to some of the questions asked about the passages/Mark;
2. Tell others in the congregation how God has spoken to you;
3. Share your reflections on a written/drawn prayer board.

If you have a question and want to hear the answer, you can send this in advance, and anonymously, to [questions@clincarthill.org.uk](mailto:questions@clincarthill.org.uk).

**Remember to bring this with you on Sharing Sunday!**

Scripture Reading 1: Luke 5: 17-26 (NIVUK)

<sup>17</sup>One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal those who were ill. <sup>18</sup>Some men came carrying a paralysed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. <sup>19</sup>When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

<sup>20</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven.'

<sup>21</sup>The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, 'Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?'

<sup>22</sup>Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, 'Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? <sup>23</sup>Which is easier: to say, "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Get up and walk"? <sup>24</sup>But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.' So he said to the paralysed man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.'  
<sup>25</sup>Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. <sup>26</sup>Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, 'We have seen remarkable things today.'

Scripture Reading 2: James 2: 14-17 (NIVUK)

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? <sup>15</sup>Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup>If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup>In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

What questions are raised from these passages?  
Did you find anything difficult or surprising?



How do these passages speak personally to you?  
Do you feel God is saying anything to you?



How do these passages encourage you?  
What is God calling you to be or do in light of these passages?



1. In what ways does Clincarthill Church “respond to human need by loving service”?

2. How could Clincarthill Church develop this further?

3. What does it mean for you to respond to human need by loving service?

4. How could you be challenged or supported to take this further?

### **Closing Prayer**

Loving God, help me to let you have your way within me so I can be your hands and feet in my community by bringing hope, healing and a future to your people. Prepare me for action when I see and hear what the needs are. Help me not to be afraid by reminding me of Jesus when he was confronted by the needs of so many. May all I do and say bring you the glory. Amen