

From the Minister

We have just bought some new furniture, and yes, its all come in boxes. Each box containing assorted pieces of wood, plastic and metal, which on correct assembly, it is promised, will become the furniture purchased. So then comes several hours, ok days, of fun!

When it comes to putting things together I have a definite approach, open it all up, quickly scan the instructions and get stuck in. Usually this works, as I have a fairly logical mind and some practical skills. But occasionally something will be a bit obscure and then it's back to deciphering the instructions.

I think this also applies to life! Sometimes we can get by without the instructions, but when it comes to putting together a life that reflects the goodness and wisdom of God, we can't afford to ignore the directions He's given to us in the Bible

For instance, when the Israelites returned to their land following their Babylonian captivity they need to re-establish themselves in their home land. And as they .began to re-establish worship, they prepared to do so "in accordance with what is written in the Law of Moses" (EZRA 3:2). By building a proper altar and in celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles as prescribed by God in Leviticus 23:33-43, they did exactly what God's directions told them to do. In other words went back to the instructions!

Christ gave His followers some directions too. He said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." And "love your neighbour as yourself" (MATT. 22:32,39). It seems to me that these are also the best instructions for us to follow today. To first of all look to Jesus, believe in Him and come to Him, so that we can then understand what it means to love others. Not always easy, and maybe sometimes we may struggle with a step or too, but ultimately the One who made us knows far better than we do how life is supposed to work.

So read the instructions (the bible), get out the tools (prayer), and let's build our lives as disciples of Jesus.

Rev Rick