

# EASTER

## at Orangetfield

### **Holy Week 2025 Devotional**

#### **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> – The King Who Calls Us To Apprenticeship**

*By Jackie Davey*

#### **Read:**

Matthew 11:25-29, John 14

#### **Reflect:**

What is an apprentice? Someone who gains the skillset required to perform the role they shadow.

As a young adult, Jesus was an apprentice carpenter under the watchful eye of his earthly father, Joseph. No doubt Joseph spent many hours teaching his son the tools of his trade, such as hammering nails, sawing rough wood and measuring joints. As a loving parent, Joseph may have comforted Jesus if He cut His finger on a sharp nail or grazed His hand on a splinter.

Joseph would have felt so proud when he accompanied his eldest son on visits to the local synagogue, a place Jesus called His Heavenly Father's House, watching in encouragement and awe as Jesus spoke with authority to the teachers of the Law.

Around the age of thirty, Jesus commenced His main apprenticeship, seeking and saving the lost for the Kingdom of God. His Carpenter hands now healed the sick, cast out demons, fed the hungry, touched the outcast and raised the dead.

Three years later, Jesus completed His final assignment, giving up His life as a ransom for sinners. Crucified on a wooden cross, with sharp nails driven into His hands and feet, His Heavenly Father watched from above, as Jesus called out "It is finished" and breathed His last breath.

According to Orthodox tradition, a detachment of Roman soldiers stood watch at the foot of the cross whilst Jesus was being crucified under the command of a man named Longinus, who suffered from a disease which impaired his sight. It is reported that it was Longinus who pierced Jesus' side with a spear whilst He was on the cross, before a drop of blood spilt onto his body, instantly curing his condition and restoring his sight. As the tradition states, He was so moved and impacted by Jesus' power and sacrifice that he became a follower himself. No

longer was Caesar the King of Longinus, but Jesus Christ. His apprenticeship to Jesus began the day he encountered His power and mercy.

As we follow Jesus on our own path of faith, may we allow Him to be our King, learning at His feet, and working in His service.

**Respond:**

- Think of the skills that God has given you. How could you allow Jesus to develop these gifts for His Kingdom and glory?
- Is there someone you could mentor as they learn to be an apprentice of King Jesus?