

19th July Intro

2 Cor 5. 14-21-

Empowerment and Responsibility

Good morning and a very warm welcome to our morning worship here at St Swithin's We're encouraging you to worship wherever you are, with a mixture of video, song, prayers, a reading and a talk. We pray that this morning that you will meet with the living God

We're continuing our series looking at our values, and this morning we're looking at empowerment and responsibility. (long words) Both these values are about ensuring we make the most of the unique God-given gift of our lives. As a church we're saying we want to make available all the tools [tools illustration] to live the Christian life and help you get them – love, joy peace, patience, self-control etc forgiveness, strength and (em)powered that God wants us to have. Why because As Christians we are Christ's Ambassadors, called to shine brightly in the world.

Have you been a good Christian this week? Whisper this quietly, but I haven't been a good ambassador for God or you this week? Why? Because in a serious business meeting I broke out into a fit of giggles and I couldn't stop laughing, and the harder I tried, the funnier it got. Not good.....but very funny

Thankfully we know a God who is gracious and forgiving and gives us a clean slate when we say sorry, and who also gives us the power to live the lives we're called to.

Let's pray

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of your Spirit, given through your son Jesus, would you pour your love and grace out into our hearts, to shine brightly for you. AMEN