

Dear Friends,

Isn't it interesting how two very different experiences can lead you to draw just one conclusion? The first was trying to make a letter fit on one page. I'd changed the margins to make them 'medium' as opposed to 'normal.' Then I'd made the space between paragraphs 10 point font size as opposed to 12. This was all to try and make more fit on a page without it seeming to be crowded.

The second experience, just an hour or so later, was when the shop assistant said, 'I'm sorry to keep you waiting.' It hadn't seemed like a long wait at all. I was second in the queue for two checkouts after all! It had been quite pleasant to pause in the middle of the day.

Whether it's the margins of the page or a break between one activity and another, each of these experiences had prompted a reflection on space. Is space something to fill, by trying not to make it look full, or is space something to be welcomed, even if it was only a few seconds waiting in a queue? What about when we find there is too much space?

This conclusion created a sacred space all of its own. The activities of the day and our lives change. Sometimes they alter within the day and sometimes over the seasons of our lives. For some people, it might be trying to fit more into the same amount of time but for others, it might seem there's more space, especially if something has forced a change in routine. If we realise these times are a sacred space, we can find God within them.

Jesus took time to find part of the day to pray and to be with his Father. It is in the spaces that the Holy Spirit can work, prompting and guiding us into new ways. As we recognise God in the spaces of the day, we will learn more about his nature and character and this can only be good. Our view of God is enlarged as we take the time to stop and reflect.

Where are the spaces in our day? Are they bigger or smaller than we'd choose? Can we consider those spaces as sacred spaces? These are important questions to ask ourselves. If we were to find these times as being sacred spaces allowing God to work through them, seeking and noticing God at work, all our lives could be so much richer. We can use these spaces to pray for the world, our country, each other and spend some time resting in the company of God.

Let's allow ourselves the sacred moments of space, whether large or small, increasing or decreasing, as times to be with Jesus and to allow the Holy Spirit to prompt us. In and through them all, God will draw us to him and meet us where we are. My encouragement to us all is to embrace the space!

God bless,  
Chris