

Dear Friends,

The days are getting longer which is a sign of Spring being just around the corner. At the same time, dusk and dawn seem to come at the times where I'm finding I'm really noticing the transition from day to night and night to day.

It's fascinating to watch how the day emerges from the night. There are some truly amazing and gorgeous sunrises with deep reds, oranges, pinks and purples. Being able to watch this and see how creation is beginning to wake up is really quite awe-inspiring. I've also noticed the soundtrack of creation as well. The birdsong seems to be that little bit brighter and louder. At the other end of the day, twilight is noticeably getting that little bit later and the period of natural light extending once again.

I'm also noticing the move from night to day when I go out for a walk. I leave the house in the dark and when I return it is light (or sometimes almost light). The birdsong sometimes gets a little swamped by the sound of traffic but to walk in this time of 'in-between' is varied and, on occasions, very special.

God's presence is as much in the in-between as in the day and the night. We may use metaphors of light and darkness to express how we're feeling, the state of the world and many other things. It's easy for it to become only about the day or the night, the light or the dark. God's presence is in all things including the places of transition and the in-between. In the liminal space between one thing and another, God's presence and work can be incredibly profound.

When we're in a changing landscape, whether this be literally in creation, or in the times and seasons of our lives, we can find we question more. Through the Holy Spirit, God works in these spaces to bring new truths and understandings of the character of Jesus and nature of God. Through these sorts of times, we may experience a closer sense of God's presence, greater clarity over a particular issue or situation, the revelation of something new we'd not noticed about God before. It is as we search for God, we seek something more and this can only be good. As God is revealed to us in Jesus, our connection to God through the Holy Spirit becomes stronger.

God will draw us closer to him through Jesus and it can be the times of transition where we are more open to God working in our lives, sometimes without entirely realising it. There are times where we naturally resist times of transition, whatever they might be, because we want a greater sense of certainty within the circumstances we face. At the same time, just as we can stop and wonder at the glory of God's creation through the dawn and dusk, let us also open our hearts once again and embrace all that God has promised through Jesus. As the days become longer, let's continue to look for signs of God's work in and through creation, our lives and the world once again.

God bless,
Chris