



Worship: Foundations

JESUS – THE VIDEOS

Part 4 – How can we inspire people with the story of Jesus?

The video by Revd Dr Calvin Samuel, which lasts 16 minutes, can be found here:

<https://vimeo.com/248150811>

Outline:

In this video, Calvin Samuel explores how we can inspire people with the story of Jesus in our leading of worship. He confesses that he gets really worked up when he hears worship that is flat and uninspiring. He encourages us, firstly, to use stories – Jesus was a master storyteller and stories, especially open-ended ones, have great power.

Secondly, he invites us to draw on our personality – recognising how the story of Jesus has moved us and sparked our interest.

Thirdly, he reminds us of the need for passion – we tell this story because it matters. Calvin encourages us to help people find points of connection between the story of Jesus and their everyday lives. Our storytelling needs to be fresh and creative, with the confidence that the story of Jesus is world changing.

Reflection:

Calvin Samuel mentions the humour that features in the story of Jesus. Look at Matthew 7:3-5 or Matthew 19:24 – how might you best bring out the humour of the passage when you read it publicly in church?

He complains that preachers sometimes sanitise the gospel message and present it devoid of emotion. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

How passionate are you when you lead worship or preach? Are you sometimes too passionate/ not passionate enough? What might you do differently from now on?

Finally, an invitation from Calvin Samuel –

Dig deep... engage with the person of Jesus... fall in love with Jesus again... wrestle with the texts... immerse yourself in them... offer your passion, your personality... and then offer that to God... and let's see what happens... tell the story, because it's the wonderful story of Christ.