

In these days of reliance on satnav we are at risk of passing on to technology the responsibility of choosing how to get from A to B.

It is done for us and we only have to follow instructions. Map-reading may become an activity of the few! But what is true in the car is not true in life. All of us have to make decisions about the way we live our lives.

From September 8-11 this year the Archbishop of York and around 25 Bishops from across northern England will come to the County for the Crossroads Mission ... a weekend of events in the Diocese of Blackburn (The Church of England in Lancashire).

'Crossroads', the title of the Archbishop's mission, is taken from one of the Old Testament prophets, Jeremiah, and is found in chapter 6 verse 16: 'This is what the Lord says: stand at the crossroads and ask for the ancient paths; ask where the good way is and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.'

The Crossroads Mission is an Invitation to review the direction of our lives. A crossroads is a place to review and reconsider the road we are on. The four days in September invite the people of Lancashire to go to the crossroads and ask whether there is another route through life; a different and better route for their lives.

At this crossroads we hear the call to walk on an ancient path; not one that is new, but one that has been well trodden over the years, because it is the path of faithful response to God and has been proved to be a 'good way'; a way that takes us to the cross of Jesus Christ and then to the eternal presence of God.

The decision to respond to Jesus Christ is the most important decision anyone ever makes in their life. My prayer for Crossroads, and I hope many are praying, is that the crossroads will be very busy, with large numbers reconsidering their response to God.

There will be many hundreds of events taking place in parishes during Crossroads. You can find out more about it at [www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org)

May it be a 'life-changing' time for many.

+Julian