## **WEEKLY SERMON**

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## The Greatest Love Story ever told!

We all love a love story, don't we?

What is the greatest love story you have ever heard? Well, how about Jesus the Groom, and we Christians (the Church) being the Bride?

We hear week in and week out from the Bible just how much we are loved to the point of being saved by Jesus. Even with all our wrongdoing/sin, we gained salvation through our Lord; to be baptised in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We all now belong.

As the bridegroom, Jesus clothes us in His righteousness; seeds planted are grown and He looks to each one of us to grow and produce good fruit.

Recently the word 'belonging' has been ringing in my ears; heard from Bishop Philip during our Mission 2022 week in Fleetwood; Janice Risely who led a ladies evening of praise at St Peters and St David, Fleetwood on June 10; Canon John Hall in a Wednesday morning service the following week during an address; to an Authorised Lay Ministry mentee I was mentoring later that day.

We all want to belong, and Jesus has made this happen; we all point to Jesus, and through Him we do not lack anything in mind, body, or spirit on this earth.

When I meet people I attempt to point them towards Jesus. As a trustee of the Blackburn Diocese Mosamaria Trust Fund, I, along with the Chairman, other trustees and members encourage people to engage with the Mosamaria AIDS Ministry in our Link Diocese of Free State, South Africa.

This is where orphans and vulnerable children cry out to be included, through funding for their health, education, food, or clothing. We help to make them feel as if they belong as Jesus does.

Please take a look at <u>www.mosamaria.co.za</u> and see where this charity can be included in your prayers and giving in the days ahead.

Amen

Gloria Birdsall, LLM (on sabbatical); Blackburn Diocese Mosamaria Trust Fund Trustee

## HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES