

PRAYER: God of steadfast love and mercy, remind us once again that in Jesus Christ everything has become new. For far too often, things seem as they have always been: old habits die hard, difficult situations linger, failures from our past linger. We look for your promised newness but cannot see it. Speak to us again of your new creation. Open our eyes to its presence in our lives. Call us forth to claim this newness, that we may be healed and made whole. Amen.

### ***LOOKING AT LIFE THROUGH GOD'S GLASSES: –***

#### ***“Seeing the World Through God’s Colored Glasses”***

Have you heard the phrase ‘looking through rose-tinted glasses? It’s quite often used in relation to looking back on something that, at the time it was happening, was seen from a different perspective entirely. Often it has a negative connotation, we use it to convey that someone has lost all perspective of a situation and has forgotten how bad things actually were.

I recently heard a talk where this phrase was seemingly thrown in but it really struck a chord with me. It was used in the context of how God sees us. He sees us through the eyes of Christ – the sacrifice of Jesus means God sees us at our very best.

We know that we are all sinners, we have human flesh and human thoughts and desires. God is perfect and knows no sin. Christ is the rose-tinted glasses.

“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. Now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation” Col 1:21-22

Through the perfect sacrifice that Christ made on the cross, we are made clean and perfect in God’s eyes. Our sins are washed away ‘as far as the east is from the west’ Psalm 103v12

It is this willingness of God to see us at our very best that, by his grace, will afford us a place in his kingdom.

“Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” Matt 25v34

The challenge comes when we realize God expects us to do the same for each other.

‘Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God’ Romans 15:v7

Ouch that one’s a little uncomfortable to read, isn’t it? It’s an incredible thought and one we are so very grateful for, that God chooses to see us at our best. However, when was the last time that, instead of thinking the worst, you thought the BEST of those around you? I’ll leave you with that challenge.

In Jesus Name, Amen.

