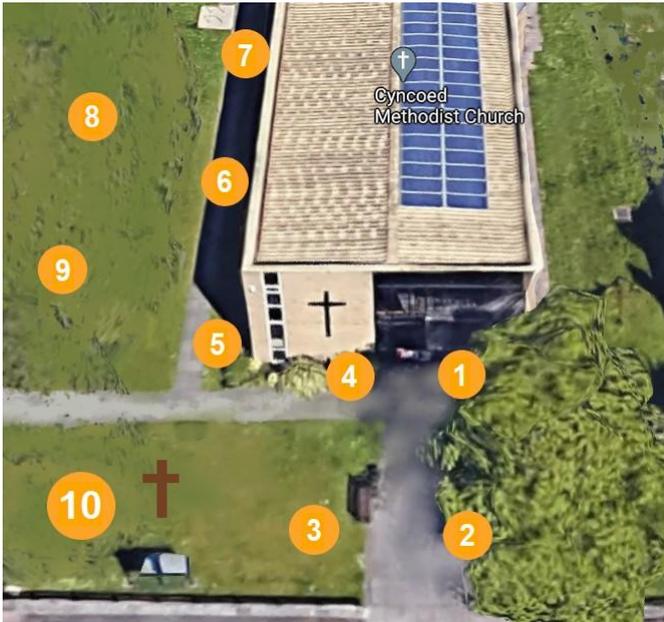


# The Mission of Jesus

Welcome to our story of the Mission journey of Jesus. Well, only part of it actually as Jesus' Mission started when he was in His early thirties and lasted for about three years (before His Crucifixion – and Resurrection), so telling the whole Mission would need a much larger church garden. Here we have ten stations which will begin from when Jesus first started His Mission work, showing us how God wants us to live our every day lives. The narratives of each station are accompanied by links to videos and music which will hopefully enhance the retelling of the events, and the journey is mapped-out as shown in the picture below.



To get the most out of this Mission Walk, it's best if you can visit the church garden and follow the stations. The links to the video and music clips are through YouTube, which can be accessed either by clicking on the links or QR codes. To use the QR codes you will need to download a "QR code reader" from your app store.

Alternatively you can enjoy this Mission Walk at home by accessing it on the church website.

- 1 The Baptism of Jesus
- 2 Jesus faces temptations
- 3 Turning water into wine
- 4 Jesus heals the servant
- 5 Feeding the five thousand

- 6 The Transfiguration
- 7 The Good Samaritan
- 8 Jesus heals the blind man
- 9 Forgiveness
- 10 Jesus' Mission today

Please contact the church office if you have any queries or would like to know more about worship at Cyncoed Methodist Church. Telephone: 029 2039 3439

# 1

## Station 1: John Baptises Jesus

*Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying “I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness”. Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And then a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”*

Matthew 3 vs. 13-17

Why was John reluctant to baptise Jesus? Maybe it was because Jesus was the person that John had been telling others about, the Messiah who was to come and save people, and that he felt unworthy to do such an act. And baptism is the forgiveness of sin – how could God’s own Son Jesus need forgiveness if he is sinless? Some scholars believe that Jesus’s baptism was necessary to accomplish God’s will. His baptism is different to the “baptism of repentance” that John was doing, helping people prepare for Christ’s coming, it was a step of obedience at the start of His public ministry, setting an example for all of His followers.



[John the Baptist meets Jesus](#)



[When Jesus came to Jordan](#)



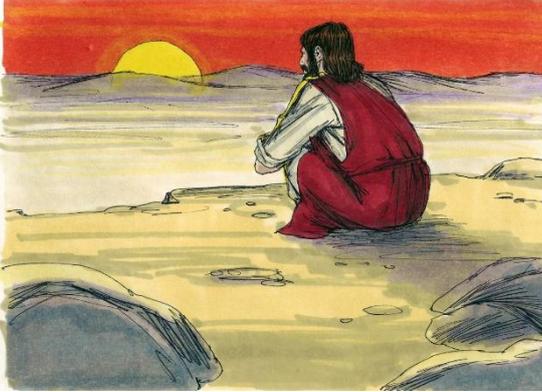
[Something in the water](#)



# 2

## Station 2:

### Jesus faces temptation in the desert



After being Baptised by John, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert to prepare for commencement of His ministry. He stayed there for forty days and forty nights, fasting, and as you would expect He was very hungry and His body was weak. The devil came and spoke to Him three times, tempting Jesus to use His miraculous powers for selfish reasons, saying:

*“If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread”*

Jesus replied: ***“It is written, one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”***

Then the devil took Him to the temple roof and said: *“If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written the angels will protect you.”*

Jesus replied ***“Again it is written, Do not put the Lord your God to the test”***

Then the devil tested him a third time, taking him to a very high mountain showing Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour and said to Him: *“All these I will give you, if you fall down and worship me.”*

***Jesus replied “Away with you Satan! For it is written ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.***

Matthew 4 vs. 1-11

Jesus overcame these temptations by finding power in the word of God and through the strength of the Holy Spirit, which provided mastery over those weaknesses occurring from His human form. But how can we measure up to temptations in the same way that Jesus did? **Romans 8 vs. 9-10** gives some encouragement to those who follow Christ:

*But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.*

[Jesus faces temptations](#)

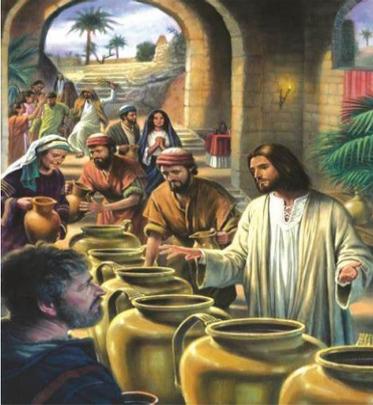


[Forty days and forty nights](#)



# 3

## Station 3: Turning water into wine



Jesus, his mother Mary, and some of His disciples were invited to a wedding. Weddings in Jesus' time were great social events, where the whole town might be invited; to run out of wine at a wedding would have been a massive social blunder that would have embarrassed the bridegroom and his family, possibly for years. Mary tells Jesus the wine had run out.

*Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification. Jesus said to them "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them to the brim. He said to them "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. The steward called to the bridegroom and said to him "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the best wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. John 2 vs. 1-11*

In the Old Testament the wedding feast was often used as a reference to the anticipation of the Messianic age – symbolising a time when the Messiah will come, bringing universal peace and an absence of evil. At this wedding Jesus is a guest, but also the host – He provides the wine. Mary tells the characters in the story to trust Jesus' word. The six stone water jars in this story carry significance; seven was considered to be the perfect number and six represents incompleteness and the unfinished nature of the Jewish rite and consequently Jewish Law. In making use of these jars to provide the wine for the celebration, Jesus has taken the explicit Jewish rite of purification and turned it into something of quality and usefulness, an act which in itself, might have been seen as controversial.

The message for this story is clear – The Messianic Age has arrived through Jesus and He is the fulfilment of Judaism. This first sign of Jesus' Ministry starts with Jesus rebuking his mother – is this not the right time to show everyone who He is? Whether it was or not, one thing is for certain, the clock of His Mission has started ticking, and can only end in one way.

[He turned the water into wine - Johnny Cash](#)



[Jesus turns water into wine](#)



# 4

## Station 4:

### The healing of the Centurion's servant

*When he entered Capernaum, a Centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralysed and in terrible distress." Jesus replied "I will come and cure him." The Centurion answered "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed." Jesus said "Go, let it be done for you according to your faith." And the servant was healed in that hour.*

Matthew 8 vs. 5-9 & v. 13

The first sign (where Jesus turns the water into wine at the wedding) shows Mary having unconditional faith in the word of her son. This second sign, contrastingly, shows how someone as different and separate as can be from being a Jew (a Gentile but also a Roman Centurion, a member of an occupying Roman force, and disliked by the Jews) - show complete faith in Jesus. The importance of faith, the mission of Jesus bringing life to all who believe, and the power of Jesus to achieve the miraculous by simply speaking are all important factors in this story. But the video link below gives a much better translation of events than can be written here.



[Faith of the Centurion](#)



[I stand amazed](#)



# 5

## Station 5: Feeding the five thousand

This is the only miracle to be told in all four of the Gospels and whilst this describes an impressive event, it also tells the reader about Jesus' identity, mission and continuing significance. The background of this story sees a large crowd following Jesus because they saw the signs He was doing for the sick. The Passover was near - how could they be fed?

*One of the disciples, Andrew, said to Him "There is a boy here who has five loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said "Make them sit down." Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."*

John 6 vs. 8-14



[Jesus Feeds 5000 People](#)

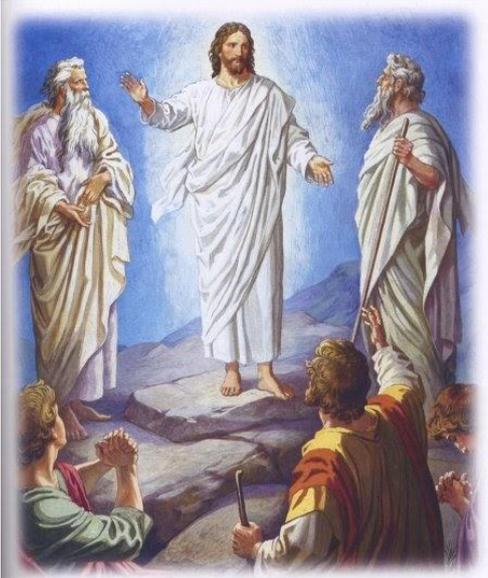


[I am the Bread of Life](#)



# 6

## Station 6: The Transfiguration



*Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him.” Suddenly, when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.*

Mark 9 vs. 2-4 & vs. 7-8

Transfiguration – a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual form. Here we see the transfiguration of Jesus, from looking like anyone else (albeit anyone else who could perform miracles) to a Divine being. His physical appearance changes and his clothes become dazzling white, and this is where Jesus’ true identity is revealed. Elijah (representing the prophets) and Moses’ presence indicate the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets respectively, but Jesus tells the disciples not to tell anyone about it *...until after the Son of Man Had risen from the dead* (vs. 9). This happened during His second year of Ministry and at the time the disciples did not know what this might mean, only understanding it after Jesus’ death and resurrection. The “old” Covenant described in the Old Testament always pointed to the coming of a new Messiah – here is Jesus showing He is the Messiah, the beginning of the new Covenant, greater than the Law or the Prophets. The Transfiguration is probably only second to the Resurrection in showing Jesus to be Divine.

[The Transfiguration](#)

[3 Minute Theology -  
The Transfiguration](#)

[Christ Upon the  
Mountain Peak](#)



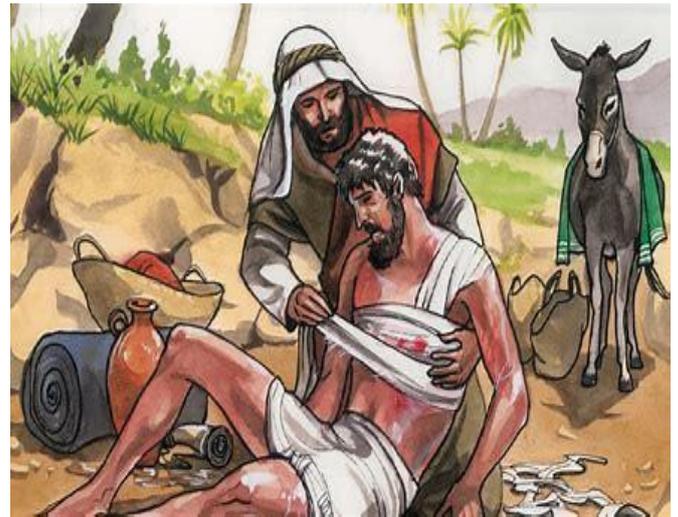
# 7

## Station 7: The good Samaritan

You may know the story of the Good Samaritan – a story based on love, told by Jesus:

One day a Jewish man was beaten by robbers and left badly injured on the side of the road. A priest and a Levite – both Jews - saw the man and passed by, not stopping to help him. The next person to walk by happened to be a man from Samaria. The Jews despised the Samaritans, but despite this, when the Samaritan saw the man in obvious distress he stopped and helped. This act showed true love and compassion, ignoring any social prejudices. Jesus said we should show love to all around us – even our enemies.

*Love never gives up.  
Love cares more for others than for self.  
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.  
Love doesn't strut,  
Doesn't have a swelled head,  
Doesn't force itself on others,  
Isn't always "me first,"  
Doesn't fly off the handle,  
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,  
Doesn't revel when others grovel,  
Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,  
Puts up with anything,  
Trusts God always,  
Always looks for the best,  
Never looks back,  
But keeps going to the end.*



1 Corinthians 13 vs. 4-7 The Message (Eugene Paterson)

[Love divine](#)



[Love is all you need](#)



*Love your neighbour as yourself.*

Matthew 22 vs. 39

# 8

## Station 8:

### Jesus heals the blind man



In the third year of His Mission, Jesus met a man who was blind from birth.

*His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind?” “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no-one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” Having said this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam.” So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.*

John 9 vs. 2-7

The Pharisees argued that it was a trick, that the man could see before, but was pretending so he could avoid working and beg for money or that it was a different man, even though he tells everyone that he was truly blind before Jesus performed the Miracle. There is also an association with the saliva and mud that Jesus used to correct the man’s sight with the Old Testament Book of Genesis when, during Creation, God makes man out of the dust of the earth and His breath. Whatever interpretations are made, it was a remarkable event, with Jesus again repeating his miraculous powers, saying again that He is the Light of the World.

[Jesus Of Nazareth  
\(Blind Man\)](#)



[Come As You Are  
by Crowder](#)



[Shout to the Lord](#)



# 9

## Station 9:

### Jesus talks about forgiveness



*Peter came to Jesus and asked: "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."*

Matthew 18 vs. 21-22

Whilst Jesus may forgive our sins, for most of us forgiving others doesn't come easy. When we feel someone has wronged us our first reaction might be self-protection - and this doesn't sit well with those things that Jesus has taught us - mercy, grace or understanding. But forgiveness is a choice we can make. The New Testament of the Bible tells us to forgive as the Lord forgives us and part of the Lord's Prayer says, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those of others".

*Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

Colossians 3 vs 13

But how can we try and forgive others if we don't feel we can? We forgive by faith. We must trust God to do the work in us that needs to be done so our forgiveness will be complete. Lewis B. Smedes wrote in his book, *Forgive and Forget*: "When you release the wrongdoer from the wrong, you cut a malignant tumour out of your inner life. You set a prisoner free, but you discover that the real prisoner was yourself." When we do forgive, the Lord sets our hearts free from the anger, bitterness, resentment, and hurt that previously imprisoned us.

Jesus' answer to Peter makes it clear that forgiveness is not easy for us. It's not a one-time choice, and then we automatically live in a state of forgiveness. Essentially, Jesus was saying, keep on forgiving until you experience the freedom of forgiveness.

[Signs of Forgiveness](#)



During the Second World war Eric Lomax was a prisoner of war and forced to work on the brutal and inhumane Thai-Burma railway where he, and many thousands of others, suffered. The film "The Railway Man" describes his journey of incarceration, suffering, and ultimately forgiveness.

[Railway Man  
Final Scene](#)



# 10

## Station 10:

### How does Jesus' Mission affect me today?



Jesus Mission is thought to have lasted over a period of some three or four years, from His early 'thirties until his death on the Cross and subsequent Resurrection – the time we call Easter. During His Mission He showed us through His teachings, miracles and signs how we can get closer to God, how we should live our lives and how we should act and behave to others. People are very much the same now as they were when Jesus walked the earth – despite there being over 2000 years since this time and His relevance in our lives continues. People still experience fear, sadness, doubt, happiness, illness, death, birth, loneliness along with many other emotions and experiences – Jesus has been, and always will be, there for us.

[You Say](#)



[God of the moon  
and stars](#)



[The Lord Bless You  
and Keep You](#)



**We hope you've enjoyed our Jesus Mission Walk!**

[The Blessing](#)

