

***A pre-written action plan!***

Nehemiah 8<sup>1-3,5-6,8-10</sup>; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12<sup>12-31a</sup>; Luke 4<sup>14-21</sup>

*'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'  
[Luke 4<sup>21</sup>]*

Just imagine it - Jesus in the Synagogue, the one in which he grew up and where he was known. He's starting to teach and he was setting out his action plan. He reads:

**'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'**

That's me (says Jesus)! Wow!

(The Gospel doesn't include the bit where Jesus is rejected as 'Joseph's son' and they try to kill him by throwing him off a cliff, which was why he said that **no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town**).

Then Paul ends his 12th chapter on a cliff-hanger!

**And I will show you a still more excellent way.**

And, because it is Candlemass next week we miss it: the way of love (1 Cor 13), which is a gift of God's Spirit. Because we can't love the way Jesus does without the help of the Holy Spirit.

- ✦ What links love and the bit of Isaiah that Jesus read?
- ✦ If Isaiah has been fulfilled, what difference should that make to what the Church does?

The link is the Holy Spirit - Luke tells us a number of times that Jesus is filled with the Spirit, Isaiah says so too, and 1 Cor 12,13&14 are all about the Holy Spirit.

This is God's action plan - love and change!