**Thursday 9th July**

2 Corinthians 4:6-7

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness ,” a made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

As anyone who has ever had a sleepless night, waiting for the day to break, knows, light has extraordinary transformative properties. It totally changes our ability to see and function and radically alters our perspective. Hence, Paul uses this analogy for the way our inner world is transformed when we invite Jesus into our lives. Many Christians have experienced that lightbulb moment, when suddenly it makes sense - when we are flooded with the realisation that we are loved beyond all we could imagine, that we desperately need forgiveness and a fresh start, and that hope is only found in Jesus. We see the glory and wonder of all that God has done to save us from a life of darkness, through Jesus. We become vessels, carrying this brilliant, precious light. And the wonderful thing is that even with all our weaknesses, the light shines out. In fact, in a clay jar, light shines through the cracks and chips.

*Father, thank you for the light that you have shone in our hearts, transforming our whole lives. Thank you that you choose to use us to radiate your light to others, even though so often we feel weak and not up to the task. We ask for your grace to represent you well. Amen*

