

Acts 25: 13-21

John 21: 15-19

“The Lord has set his sway in Heaven.” To me these words of scripture suggest that God, our Father, holds the purpose of our lives in his hands. He made us out of love to live in love, and each of our lives has a purpose which, if we stay aligned to his guidance, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can fulfil. The route is before us, but we need to follow the signs.

In yesterday’s Reading Paul was given the direction by Jesus himself.

“Courage, you have borne witness for me in Jerusalem, now you must do the same in Rome.” From that time, his route was laid out...King Agrippa arrived in Caesarea and Festus discusses Paul’s case with him. The wheels are in motion. Paul’s work for God is unfinished. Now for the next stage in Rome.

When, in the Gospel, Peter is asked three times by Jesus, “Do you love me...,” his route too is revealed in the words, “Feed my lambs; Look after my sheep; Feed my sheep.” Simon, through his statement of love for Jesus, has confirmed his desire to also follow his will. And Jesus reassures him. “When you grow old (and therefore wiser) you will stretch out your hands (in order to follow God’s will) and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.” ‘In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said,’ “Follow me”

When we express our love for Jesus and a desire to follow him, we can trust in the knowledge that, for us too, the wheels are in motion in the way we, personally, will give glory to God. The way we are to follow is in **his** hands.