w/b 27th January

**Luke Chapter 5 - Miracles, Healings and Parties**

Again a few questions from Tom Wright to get the little grey cells working - we've been watching Poirot over the festive season!

**The Miraculous Catch of Fish**

* Put *yourself* in the place of Peter in this story - What might be going through your mind during the events described in 5: 1-4
* Why does the huge catch of fish cause Peter to react the way he does in verses 5-11?

**The Healing of the Leper**

* What is so significant about how Jesus heals the leper?
* What do we learn about Jesus’ priorities as we read 5:15-16? – and in the light of this, how would you assess your own schedule and the demands on your time?

**The Healing of the Paralytic Lowered Through the Roof**

The Pharisees were a pressure group, not an official body. This is the first time Luke has introduced us to them and here we see this influential organization is in force, from all over the small country. The Pharisees’ agenda was to intensify observance of the Jewish law. That, they believed would create the conditions for God to act, as He had promised, to judge the pagans who were oppressing Israel and to liberate his people.

* Why would the Pharisees gather like this to check out this young prophet?
* Upon seeing the faith of the friends, Jesus forgave and then healed the paralyzed man. How does Jesus connect faith and the power of God?

**Questions about Table-Company and Fasting**

* Who are the characters and what are the points of tension present in the episode found in 5:27-39?
* Luke 5:34 describes a party – the first of many in Luke’s Gospel – and like all Jesus’ parties it is a sign of the new age. It is, for those with eyes to see, a miniature messianic banquet. Luke then attaches to this story a string of short sayings in 5:36-39. How do these sayings reflect how new his kingdom message actually is?