







really a very nice place filled with very nice people. We believe in the existence of evil and we admit that we have our share of it.

But because our lives belong to Jesus Christ, we hold on. Because we have seen Jesus Christ carry human sin and get the better of it, we hold on. Because we are called to live in Christ and let Christ live in us, we hold on.

We live and work and love and dream in hope; hope not in what we could be and in what we could do but hope in what Jesus Christ can do in us. We do not shrug our shoulders and give up on the world and on ourselves. We hold on.

And because our lives belong to Jesus Christ we are not afraid. Yes of course we get nervous about what might be expected of us, anxious about other people, scared stiff at times at what might happen in the world but not ultimately afraid that our life will come to nothing; that what we are might be destroyed, that it will all be worthless. And it is people with hope and people without fear who change the world.

You will be glad to know that my friend in the ministry who found other people and himself such a disappointment is still a Minister twenty-five years later. After all, it is not about him, is it? And it is not about them. It is about Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Saviour of the world. He is the reason for holding on.

Amen.