

The Good News According to Kleenex!

Cherish Restore Dream Thrive

Since arriving as the Vicar of Rowlands Castle in February 2025 I have been talking about four words that I discovered on boxes of Kleenex! These words featured at my interview process. They seemed to hit the nail on the head so as a church we've had a season of learning and thinking about them.

What follows is a brief summary of this journey together.



Our first word **Cherish** is used in the bible in a number of places but it's not a common word today. The biblical word for cherish is a compound words that combines two concepts love and protect. As a church we want to grow in our ability to cherish one another, to both love and protect our church family.

In the bible, John 13:35 says 'By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love (Cherish) one another.'



The second word **Restore** reminds us that in the world we live in things don't always go well, accident can happen, things get neglected or broken and that can include relationships. We are becoming a church that is committed to restoring and being restored.

In the bible, 1 Peter 5:10 says 'The God of all Grace, who called you [...] will himself restore you and make you strong and steadfast.'



Most people understand what it means to **Dream**. We go to sleep and sometimes we have a dream. It's a natural part of sleeping. However for Christians we also believe that dreams can be spiritual and not just natural. God speaks through dreams, in fact he promises to do so in ways that help us to be all that he wants us to be.

In the bible Acts 2:17 tell us that 'God says I will pour out my Holy Spirit on ALL people. Your sons and daughter will prophesy. You young men will see visions and your old men will dream, dreams. We are wanting to become a church who by God's Spirit will have dreams and visions that inspire us to be all he is calling us to be.



Lastly **Thrive**! We don't want to be a church that is just plodding on or caring for itself but not the rest of the village or world. We want to be an active thriving church that is living out God's plans and purposes for us. We don't want to just survive we want to thrive.

In the Bible Psalm 1:3 paints a beautiful image of what it means to Thrive. It says

They [the righteous] are like a tree planted by streams of water which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither, whatever they do will prosper and Thrive.

As a church family as we continue to look to God and the future may we grow to become a thriving church family.