

Drifting or Sailing?

A Question about Life



I'm glad you enjoyed watching *Libera Ocean* on one of its days out!

The model is based on one of the Whitbread round-the-world racing boats of the early 90s. It has most of the essential fittings of the original and

is scaled at 1/25 full size. I am grateful that this boating pond is available.

In one sense life is very much like a yacht taking to water. It's either in full wind, under rudder control, or simply drifting as the waves take it. Most of us are like the latter, tossed to and fro by whatever comes across our paths.

We need good sails and a firm rudder to put us on the right course.

I'm a Christian so let me tell you what that means to me. Always thankful for a secure home where there was food on the table, a holiday every year, attending good schools with plenty of interests and friends, there still came a point in my life when I realised that something, or rather, someone was missing – and that someone was God.

I learnt through other people, as you are doing right now, that God made us to depend on Him. Sadly because of our neglect and selfishness, we decided to turn our backs on Him and do our own thing. I wonder when you last had any thought of God.

But God did not reject us. He did something about it. He sent His Son Jesus into the world (which we remember at Christmas) who would die an awful death (which we remember at Easter), so that all our selfishness, greed and all the other sins we commit and which one day we will have to give an account of, could be forgiven; so that we could be brought back to the place where our lives would be totally dependent on God as our Creator and Saviour.

But there has to be a response. We need to tell God that we are sorry for our neglect of Him and trust that what His Son did upon the cross, 'He did for *me.*'

And that's what I did many years ago. Since then life has not been simply drifting but sailing through both special times, and sometimes not so special times, but through it all I've come to know God more and have learnt to trust Him, whether on calm waters or stormy seas.

Graham Pickhaver

P. S. If you would like to know more about what being a Christian really means, please email me...

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