

Afternoon Zoom small group – Mark MacDonald’s talk
Robson Valley

Questions: What stood out from Mark’s talk? What does it mean to grasp urgency and promise of this moment, as disciples?

I am comforted to hear there won’t be further separation, just different way of being church

Urgency, as disciples of Christ, to stand beside oppressed, marginalized

Important to remember we are a country of mosaics, all different peoples in Canada, so many different immigrants who all have their own way. We have to be that mosaic and appreciate each part of the whole. Respect each is the urgency

We privileged need to zip it, that’s the urgency

What I liked in terms of Mark’s address was that we need to braid together difference to co-exist. And a self determining Indigenous church does not mean we want to separate. I remember hearing a lot of fear about breaking away, take our money, are they Anglican still – I was surprised at GENEAL Synod to hear that so I like what he said, we don’t want to be separate, we want to co-exist with our ministry, our spirituality. The way I was taught is our spirituality and Christian faith are very similar and they can be interwoven. My grandma used to say when you have both, you are stronger in your faith. Our cultural ways and spiritual ways are ways of our people and speak to us but we can be in Christian faith and be stronger together. So when people can be open and in dialogue, better for everybody and then that coexistence can happen. We have been blending a lot of our cultural practises into our services and prayers and hymns and it has been really wonderful and keeps me strong. When we can have both it can be good for all.

Fear . . . what to keep and what to let go for both Indigenous and non Indigenous people. How do we let go of control and trust God and move forward.