**Friday 21st August**

1 Peter 1: 6-9

In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

There are several Biblical references to the refining process that we sometime experience as Christians. Being refined is not a comfortable process. It is one of the things that I think God has been doing through this year when we have had more time on our own. He has been placing His finger on areas of our lives that are not yet fully given to Him, on other sources of security than Him, on choices which are inferior to His good plans. God is less concerned that we feel comfortable than He is to restore His original design within us! Sometimes I’d rather feel comfortable! But He has such great plans for us! And He is the Master at refining. He is invested in the process, having paid the price in His Son, Jesus. Sometimes He uses the trials that we face as part of the refining process. Those things can either make us bitter or better! He is a Master at taking the tough stuff and bringing out beauty. We can trust ourselves in His hands, and know that the outcome will be awesome!

*Use this song to lead you into prayer today:*

[*https://youtu.be/BLyQAx8DpBI*](https://youtu.be/BLyQAx8DpBI)



‘Refiners Fire’