Sermon:

Do you like watching crime series? Remember Dixon of Dock Green, The Sweeney, The Bill, CSI, etc?

Imagine them descending on the scene of our story – what kind of evidence would they find and what would it tell them? There would be blood, fragments of clothing, signs of a scuffle, but no body.

There would also be several sets of footprints.

[1] First set of footprints came from bushes/rocks beside the highway. They were, of course, the robbers’. They left a trail of words which said, **“What is yours is mine and I will take it”.** Which is what they did (v30).

[2] Then there were two sets of footprints that came along but did not go to the place of scuffle. They approached but then moved on steering clear of the trouble. At most they were witnesses, probably after the event. They, of course, belonged to the Priest and Levite. They were busy or perhaps feared becoming unclean by touching what they supposed was a dead body; so they just moved on.
They left a trail of words too, which said, **“What is mine in mine and I will keep it”.**

[3] The final set of footprints also came along the road, along with the hoof-prints of an animal, and moved towards the trouble spot, but did not veer away. It looked like there was some kneeling involved and when the hoof-prints went away they seemed to be heavier. The footprints were those of the Samaritan, and they words as well, “**What is mine is yours and I will share it**”.

Do you know you leave a trail of footprints? I wonder, what are the words?

Are they ones which say “**What is yours is mine and I will take it**”? In an increasingly selfish society these seem to be the words of many

Or could they be “**What is mine in mine and I will keep it**”? It is often a deal of trouble to get involved, and there are many reasons not to. It is so easy to look away, declaring this is not my problem.

Or are they the words “**What is mine is yours and I will share it**”? Do you counteract the injustice and violence of the world with random acts of kindness? Do you stop and get involved, no matter the cost?

So what is written on the soles of your shoes…?