

Change of mind

Afterward he changed his mind

That sounds so simple but can be so very difficult

So much out of character as to appear impossible

But all things can be attempted

The attempt often more challenging than achievement

Trapped by circumstance

Contained within a mould of expectation

Inhibited by fear

To change your mind can be a frightening prospect

The scribes and the Pharisees are challenged by Christ

They are trapped within traditions formed from the corruption of faith

They are contained within the expectation of what they or others see as their role

They are frightened by what will become of them if they abandon the security of their status

To change your mind can be a frightening prospect

The alcoholic is challenged by Christ

Trapped within the comfort and delusions of denial, subject to the demands of dependence

They are contained within the low expectation, or condemnation of self

They are frightened by the pain, or the recognition of the reasons for their drinking

To change your mind can be a difficult prospect

The workaholic is challenged by Christ

Trapped within the treadmill of earning and spending

Contained within the expectation and demands of self-justification

Frightened to step out of what they know, and find time for what is different

To change your mind can be physically unpleasant
The complacent are challenged by Christ
Trapped within a body that resists effort
Contained within acceptable norms of activity
Frightened to push beyond, to gasp, to sweat, to hunger and to try

In the Gospel the first son changes his mind
He swallows his pride
He breaks out of his defiance
He has the courage to change direction

Are you afraid to change?
Christ challenges you