

Homegroup Notes

Saints on the Move

Called to be disciples – Called to go and tell

To go with sermon preached at 9.15am & 11am on Sunday 30th October 2016

These are suggestions for your group – feel free to use them as flexibly as is helpful.

Welcome

Some questions to get talking around the topic:

How do you feel about sharing your faith with others?

Have you been praying for a long time for someone to come to faith?

Have they come to faith?

Worship

Spend some time worshipping in your group and focusing on God in whatever way works best.

Topic Introduction

This week we are thinking being disciples of Jesus and how Jesus sent his disciples to go and tell.

If you have all listened to the sermon, you could think together about what it means to be accountable to God and each other as Noel and Francios Van Niekerk in the story.

Word

Reading: Matthew 9: 35-38. 10: 1-10

2 Timothy 1:3-9a

Have someone read the passage to the group before talking about it together using the questions over the page or, if it works well in your group, engage with the reading in the 'Lectio Divina' style.

'Lectio Divina':

- Pray
- One person read the passage
- A few minutes of silence for people to think quietly
- Another person read the passage
- Each person in turn speak out a word or a phrase from the passage that has struck them
- Read the passage again
- Discuss together

Some things that might help your discussion:

- What does being a disciple of Jesus mean to you? How does that affect the way you live your life as you think about what 'Christ in me' means to you.
- What excites you about being a disciple of Jesus?
- What do you think about Archbishop Welby's comments:

“I want to start by saying just two simple sentences about the church.

First, the church exists to worship God in Jesus Christ.

Second, the Church exists to make new disciples of Jesus Christ. Everything else is decoration. Some of it may be very necessary, useful, or wonderful decoration – but it’s decoration”.

- Where do you think your harvest field might be? Pray for Ripley and your neighbourhood to come to know Jesus .
- Think together about questions that might get a conversation started about God / faith.
eg. Do you have a faith?
- Pray for each other to be filled again by the Holy Spirit. ‘Come Holy Spirit’
- Commit to pray for one person in your life to invite to an Alpha Course or to church during the Christmas period, or to a Christian event, or to spend time with and share your faith.

Stir up the Gift that is in you!

We believe that this is a time for faith and courage to rise among us at All Saints. As part of this, it is important that we all commit to stirring up faith and asking for God’s Holy Spirit to come and fill us again and again.

We cannot do this on our own and homegroups are a great place to encourage one another to:

“fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline”. (2Tim 1: 6,7)

Sharing the stories of what God has been doing since you last met is a great way of encouraging each other to ‘go for it’ and tell your story to someone with no faith.

It would be great if we could get into the habit of sharing those moments, however big or small they might seem, but all signs of God at work and faith in action.

You could practice on each other! 2mins to say what Jesus means to you!

Sometimes that’s all the time we have and people don’t want to hear a polished script, they simply want to know why you love Jesus but we need to have a few thoughts in our hearts to share when the opportunities come.

Think about how else you can encourage each other to live by faith day by day trusting in God’s Holy Spirit to equip us and go ahead of us into this new season together.

Pray together ‘Come Holy Spirit’.

Marian Brookes 31st October 2016