

Home Group notes for the week following 27th May 2018

THE HOLY TRINITY

AS WE GATHER

When we recognise how great God is, how sinful we are, and the extent of God's love and forgiveness, we receive the power to do His work.

READING SCRIPTURE **John 3:1-17** [optional readings Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17]

THINKING TOGETHER

The creation story tells much about the Triune God, [optional readings Genesis 1:1-3 + 26
Psalm 104:30-31 John 1:1-4 + 10 + 12-13 Colossians 1:1-17] who throughout history has revealed His great power through mighty miracles over nature [Genesis 6-9 Ephesians 1:17-23]. This same power is available to every believer.

Why is the Bible's view of God important to us in our daily lives? Discuss

Do you believe that Jesus was, and is, the embodied mind of God? Discuss

How would you explain the presence and working of the Triune God in your life? Discuss
[optional readings Titus 3:3-7 2 Corinthians 5:17 John 1:12 John 14:21]

The story of Nicodemus (John 3:1-17) demonstrates that no matter how intelligent and well educated a person may be, it is essential to come to Jesus with an open mind and heart so He can teach us the truth about God. Any encounter with Jesus not only helps us to learn more about Him, but also we learn more about ourselves.

Why do we need to meet personally with Jesus? Discuss (Luke 17:21)

**Do you regularly make time to have quiet, unhurried and uninterrupted time with Jesus?
Discuss (John 3:1-2)**

**Why, do you think, like Nicodemus (John 3:1-7), you sometimes find the Lord's teaching /
parables difficult to understand? Discuss**

What does belief in Jesus mean to you? Discuss (John 3:14-15)

The Holy Spirit first became available to all believers at Pentecost, who now have the power of God available to them [optional readings Acts 2 Romans 8:16].

Before that, the Holy Spirit empowered specific individuals chosen by God for specific purposes [optional reading Isaiah 6:1-8].

What does rebirth / spiritual birth mean to Christians? Discuss (John 3:3 + 5 + 16)
[optional readings 1 Peter 1:3-4 + 22-23 James 1:2-3]

**Is it necessary for you to understand how the Holy Spirit functions for His effect on your
life to be seen? Discuss**
[optional reading 1 Peter 2:1-3]

IN CLOSING

The initiative in all salvation lies with God, and salvation comes through faith / believing: A story of sin and grace.

“The Spirit of God takes the Word of God and when the sinner believes, imparts the life of God”

What does this mean to you?

PRAYER

God of unchangeable power,
you have revealed yourself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Keep us firm in this faith, that we may praise and bless your holy name,
for you are one God, living and reigning in glory now and for ever.

Amen