

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 1 May 2016

THE EASTER SEASON – EXPECT THE HOLY SPIRIT

As we Gather

Fellowship with God and the revelation of God are dependent upon love, and love is dependent upon obedience – the only proof of love.

Reading Scripture **John 14:23-29** see also **Acts 16:9-15** **Psalm 67** **Revelation 21:10 – 22:5**
and **John 5:1-9**

Thinking Together

To those who are receptive of, and who treasure the word of God and obey it, the Father and the Son will share their love and make their home, as Christ reveals Himself through the Holy Spirit.

Discuss the quotation ‘Salvation means we are going to heaven but submission means heaven comes to us’ (see John 14:23 + 26-27 Revelation 21:22-23 + 22:1-2 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 Matthew 5:8)

Not everyone understands Jesus’ message and they are not receptive to the radical nature of grace (John 14:22 Ephesians 2:1-10).

What place does grace, as revealed by Jesus, have in your life and relationships? Discuss

No matter how helpless or hopeless you may feel, Christ can minister to your deepest needs (see John 5:1-9 John 14:26-29 1 Corinthians 2:10-14).

How does the Holy Spirit help us in our times of pain / trouble? Discuss (John 14:26 Philippians 4:4-8)

In Closing

For many their problems have become a way of life, and in their helplessness they do not know how to access Christ’s power (Acts 16:1-9).

Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide and help us (John 14:26).

The first imperative is that we are receptive to and hungry for Jesus’ revelation of Himself. The second is that we make an effort. When we persevere, are determined to overcome adversity, and call upon Christ, His power enables us to achieve wholeness and peace.

Are you able to recall an instance in your life when this happened? How did you feel? (Psalm 67)

PRAYER

Eternal Father, your reign extends beyond space and time; grant that in this world of changing things we may hold fast to your promises that endure forever. Amen

