

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 1st November 2015

ALL SAINTS DAY

As We Gather

God's promise to make Israel His people and to be their God is found throughout the Old Testament (Leviticus 26:11-12 Isaiah 65:19 Ezekiel 37:27).

The New Testament emphasises that God keeps His promises through / in Jesus. True faith relies upon God's promises, as faith unlocks our understanding of Scripture and releases the activity of the Holy Spirit in our lives (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Reading Scripture Psalm 24 Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44

Thinking together

Everything belongs to God, and Psalm 24 is a battle cry for the Church as it looks forward to the second coming of Christ, the King of Glory, and asks 'who is worthy to worship the Lord?' [Psalm 24:7 + 9-10 Revelation 19:11-12]

Who is worthy to worship the Lord? Discuss
(see Psalm 24:4 Isaiah 25:6-9 Isaiah 33:15-17)

God promised His people a new heaven and a new earth, and this was a constant Jewish dream (Isaiah 65:17 Isaiah 60:10-20). This promise holds good for the Church today (Romans 8:18-23 and Revelation 21:1-3), as God and believers will be united to live together forever in the new earth

Will you be a citizen of this new creation?

In the beginning God made His home with His people in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8-9). Later, during the Exodus from Egypt He dwelt in the Tabernacle, and after the Jews settled in the Promised Land, in the Temple. Today the Holy Spirit dwells within believers and in the Church (Acts 7:48-50, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and Ephesians 2:21-22). True faith relies on God's promises and thereby releases God's power

How does the presence of the Holy Spirit manifest

- **in your life? Discuss**
- **in the life of the church? Discuss**

We worship a God who cares [John 11:35]. Jesus showed us a God who cares so deeply for us that He enters into our pain / our every experience. Everything Jesus did was due to the power of God and designed for God's glory [John 11:40-42].

Share with the group your experience(s) of answered prayer

In Closing

What began in Genesis is brought to completion in Revelation. Just as God finished the work of creation (Genesis 2:1-3), and Jesus finished the work of redemption (John 19:30), so the Trinity will finish the plan of salvation by inviting the redeemed into a new creation (Revelation 21:6).

