

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## **OUR FATHER - THY KINGDOM COME... The First Disciples**

### **As we Gather**

The history of the Bible is the history of salvation – a story of relationships and identity. When Jesus appeared on the public scene He was proclaiming the beginning of God's promised restoration of all things, and the salvation of God. From the start of His mission it was clear that Jesus connected God's kingdom with Himself, as did John the Baptist and the disciple Andrew.

**Reading Scripture**      **Isaiah 49:1-7**    **Psalms 40:1-14**    **1 Corinthians 1:1-9**    **John 1:29-42**

### **Thinking Together**

John, the cousin of Jesus, experienced a spiritual revelation at Jesus' baptism in the river Jordan which left him in no doubt concerning the identity and mission of Jesus

**What was this spiritual experience? Discuss (John 1:32-34)**

**Have you ever had a spiritual experience which makes your faith and trust in Jesus absolutely clear and without a shadow of doubt?**

John was wholly convinced concerning the purpose of Jesus' mission (John 1:29-31)

**What were the implications of John referring to Jesus as 'the Lamb of God'?  
Discuss (Exodus 29:38-42    Isaiah 53:7    Jeremiah 11:19    1 Corinthians 5:7)**

**How does the word "Lamb" sum up what you know about Jesus?**

John's job was to prepare the way, and to point people to Jesus (John 1:29, 31 + 35)

**What is your job, and how well do you do it? Discuss**

The first disciples left John and followed Jesus – He did not call them, but in fact asked them what they wanted (John 1:37-39)

**What made you follow Jesus? Discuss**

Following Jesus is not enough, we must follow Him for the right reasons

**What do you want out of life? What would be your reply today to Jesus' question 'what do you want?' Discuss**

The more often, and the longer time we spend with Jesus the better we get to know Him, to understand and appreciate who He is. Words of faith come easily but deep appreciation of Christ comes with living by faith (John 1:39    Psalm 40:6-8)

**What is the impact of Christ's righteousness on our lives? Discuss  
(Psalm 40:9-11    1 Corinthians 1:4-8)**

From the beginning of his relationship with Jesus – after spending the day with Him and listening to what He had to say – Andrew had no doubt about who Jesus was (John 1:40-42), and he went off and fetched his brother to come and meet Jesus.

It has been said that Andrew had a missionary heart

**What does this mean? Discuss**

**Have you got a missionary heart? Discuss**

### **In Closing**

The lives of those who followed Jesus were never the same again – they were radically changed

**How has your life been changed since you met Jesus?**

### **PRAYER**

Lord God, in the desert places in which we walk, the streets we roam, the paths we cross, guide our feet.

Take us to places you would go; give us words you would use, that like John we might point the way, and like Andrew we may bring others, to the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Amen