

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 30th April 2017

ROOTED IN CHRIST – Understanding and Certainty

As we Gather

Christianity is in its very essence a resurrection religion: A religion of praise and prayer as those who believe and trust in Christ Jesus can live a new life because He is alive and gives His power to them.

Reading Scripture Acts 2:14a + 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4 + 11-18 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35

Thinking Together

Luke wrote his Gospel for sinners. It brings out Christ's compassionate love as we see God manifest in the flesh as Luke reveals the Saviour as a man. He speaks more about the prayers of Jesus than any other Gospel – prayer being the expression of human dependence on God.

How does prayer grow our faith in, and love for, God? Discuss (see Psalm 116:1-2)

**How can we show our love and gratitude to God for His forgiveness and salvation?
Discuss (Psalm 116:16-18 Luke 24:32-33 1 Peter 1:17-19)**

What does true love (agape love) entail? Discuss

The two disciples left Jerusalem deeply distressed and disappointed as they felt that Jesus had not lived up to their expectations

Do you sometimes feel downhearted and hopeless when it seems that God has not answered your prayer / things are not going your way? Discuss

Why did Jesus call the disciples foolish? Discuss (Luke 24:25)

Do you sometimes fail to understand the difference between Kingdom values and world values? Discuss

Jesus listened patiently to the account Cleopas gave of the events in Jerusalem, even though Cleopas was revealing their unbelief with every word he spoke. Jesus listens just as patiently to us when we bring Him our trouble / pain / hurt and fears, even though He already knows them; just as He knew all about the events in Jerusalem that day (Luke 24:17-24).

The key to understanding the Scriptures is to see Christ as the thread woven throughout. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). The two disciples needed a fresh understanding of the Word of God, and Jesus gave it to them (Luke 24:26-27 see also Genesis 3:11-15 Psalm 22 Psalm 110 Isaiah 53 Jeremiah 31 Zechariah 12:10 Malachi 3:1 and 1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

How are we given a new understanding of God's Word? Discuss

The more we receive the Word of God, the more we will want to fellowship with the God of the Word

How do we do this? Discuss

The disciples only recognised Jesus when He shared their meal (Luke 24:28-31)

Why do we sometimes find it difficult to see Jesus in some situations? Discuss

Where / when do you most experience /find Jesus to be present? Discuss

Is Jesus a guest or the host in your life? Discuss
your local church? Discuss

The best evidence that we have understood Scripture and met the living Christ is that we have something exciting to share

What did the disciples do? Discuss (Luke 24:33-35)

What do you do? Discuss

In Closing

As Jesus opened the Scriptures, He opened the eyes of the two disciples, so they knew for themselves – with certainty – that He was alive: they had their own personal experience of the Lord.

Having Bible knowledge can lead to pride, but receiving the Bible truth and walking with the Saviour will lead to a burning heart (1 Corinthians 8:1-3).

PRAYER

Risen Christ, you revealed yourself to the disciples and calmed their fears;
meet us in our uncertainties and walk with us into the new life you bring.

Amen