

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Sermon: Hebrews 13:20-25 - Ted Rastatter

Notes/Questions: Phil Demeter

Sunday marked the end to a very encouraging book of the Bible; diving deeply into the supremacy of Christ and how we have been equipped to go forth with the gospel! Pastor Ted shared a title “Happy Christmas Yoko, the war is over” which on Sunday we all chuckled at, but in truth does hit home on what the book of Hebrews is saying; which is that we now have peace in Christ Jesus if we’ve accepted Him as our Lord and Savior. The writer prays at the end of the letter that God would equip his people with every good thing to do his will! And spread the Gospel of hope which is in Christ Jesus (Mathew 28:18-20)

So how do we as followers of Jesus (or followers of the Way as it is called in the book of Acts) remember we are equipped? And what does being equipped even look like to us today? Let’s chat!...

1) In quite a few New Testament letters Jesus is called the God of Peace: Hebrews 13:20, Philippians 4:9, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Romans 15:33. What do you think of when you hear that God is a God of peace? It was said in the sermon, “peace is much more than the absence of war”. What does that mean and what should “peacemaking” look like for Christians in our world today?

2) Peace comes in the realization and hope that Jesus not only came, was crucified and rose again John 3:16, but also in the knowledge of His imminent return Mathew 19:28. In your life today, who is Jesus in your life? If we understand how much Jesus’ return impacts everything, how much more should we be wanting to share the good news of Jesus?!

3) In Acts 2 we catch a glimpse of what it looks like to see how the church is moved by the Holy Spirit and speaks to the crowds sharing the gospel and seeing thousands come to the Lord at that time. There is another part though that we see which is in verses 42-47 where the people are in love with the church. They are from different backgrounds yet all shared a common goal and that is the love for one another John 13:34-35. How will our love for one another as a body of believers be a light to the world which promotes individualism, almost a lone wolf mentality? The western civilization is the farthest it has ever been from even a basic knowledge of who God or Jesus is, how much more would our love be an example to others?

4) Colossians 3:12 tells us to clothe ourselves in compassion, kindness, and humility. In Matthew 9:36 Jesus has for people who are like “sheep without a shepherd”. What does compassion look like to us when we see the world? Who are the most difficult people for you to have compassion on?