



LIFE GROUP NOTES
For week commencing: 23/06/2024

Holy Spirit

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit

Life Group Activities

Use the Three Thirds structure for your gathering together.

Looking Back

- Mutual Care – How are you doing?

- Worship & Prayer
 - Worship
 - Pray
 - Communion

- Loving Accountability
 - How did you follow?
 - How did you fish? (Ask how many gospel shares in the last week)

- Vision Cast – Why are we meeting like this?
 - Talk about your vision for social events / outreach and how you will care and encourage one another.

Looking up

Discovery Bible Study Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Discovery Bible Study Notes can be found below for reference.

- Follow the DBS notes below:
 - Can you summarise the teaching from this week?
 - Do you think that you can teach this to those you are discipling?
- How are you going to apply this teaching to your life?

Looking Forward

- Practice – Practice the Three Circles or your People Map
- Set Goals:
 - Use C.O.S.T.
 - Connect – How am I going to connect with God this week?
 - Obey – How am I going to be obedient this week?
 - Share – Who am I going to share the gospel with or pray with this week?
 - Teach – Who can I encourage with this message this week?
- Pray together for the filling of the Holy Spirit

Discovery Bible Study Notes for Reference

- Review the teaching so far
 - The coming of the Holy Spirit
 - The Person of the Holy Spirit
 - How to be Filled with the Holy Spirit
 - The Fruit of the Spirit – Part 1 – Love, Joy, Peace

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit – Part 2 – Patience, Kindness, Goodness

- The Fruit of the Spirit is one Fruit but revealed in many different ways.
- Galatians 5:22-25 NLT – Living by the Spirit's Power
 - LOVE is listed first, as the attributes of spiritual fruit that follow can all be seen as practical expressions of love in action for our benefit and those around us. God blesses us in such a powerful way with the Fruit of the Spirit that I wonder if it can also be understood as a gift.
 - I believe it is a gift to truly understand and experience God's love for us, which we can share with others. What a gift it is to feel the joy of appreciating God's love. To experience the fruit of peace in times of trouble and patience in times of testing and persecution are other powerful ways to experience God's love for us.
 - The Fruit of the Spirit overcomes the power of difference to cause division, strife and abuse.
 - God has made us all unique and different.
 - Sometimes our difference can cause division, misunderstanding, fear, strife, abuse and even violent encounters.
 - It can cause us to only seek friendship and fellowship with those who share our values, beliefs, culture, customs, language and ethnicity.
 - The Good News is that when we choose to follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives, we can use the fruit of the spirit to overcome the temptation to only fellowship with those who share our commonality as opposed to those we consider to be different to us.
 - We need patience, kindness and goodness if we are to have empathy for those who do not share our language, culture and our life experiences.
 - It is essential if we are to demonstrate God's love for all and to effectively spread the Gospel.
 - How can we show that God is love if we allow our differences to divide us?
 - How can we love others as we love ourselves if we do not seek to understand others and how they experience love?
 - We can't love them how we think they should be loved, as we do not want to be loved this way.

- But if we allow love as the fruit of the Spirit to lead our interactions with those who are different to us, I believe we can love them in such a way that it leads them to repentance and glorifies God.
- An example would be kindness.
- It's kind to tell the truth in love to unbelievers or fellow believers who are following a wrong path.
- We pray that our use of the fruit of the spirit in this way will open their eyes to the truth of God's love and His desire to save and restore them.
- In this instance, it becomes essential to know how to demonstrate and manifest the fruit of the spirit in our relationships if we are to overcome the discomfort and disunity that difference can cause and the apathy and fear that prevents us from sharing the Gospel with strangers.
- Questions: Please review one or both scriptures in relation to each attribute of the Fruit of the Spirit and answer the following questions:
 - PATIENCE
 - It implies that we endure such afflictions, not with grim resignation, but with “gentleness of mind, which disposes us not to be easily offended”.
 - Our response is tempered by what God in Christ has done in our own lives.
 - Patience is ready to forgive, it refuses to retaliate. - Ephesians 4:1-3, 2 Timothy 2:24-26
 - KINDNESS
 - Sympathetic kindness or sweetness of temper which puts others at their ease, and shrinks from giving pain.
 - We gain inspiration from the great kindness of God shown toward defiant sinners by sending Jesus Christ to redeem us from our sins (Titus 3:3-7) - Colossians 3:12-15, Ephesians 4:29-32
 - GOODNESS
 - Active goodness, benevolence. Goodness carries the idea of generosity including financial gifts, but also the giving of our time and energies to others in practical ways to show our care and concern for them. Acts 4:32-35, Galatians 6:8-10
 - What do we learn in the scripture about this particular attribute of the Fruit of the Spirit?
 - How can this attribute of the fruit of the spirit help us to overcome the differences we experience in our relationships?
 - How might the demonstration of patience, kindness and goodness help lead the lost to repentance?
 - How can the Fruit of the Spirit help us to show love to refugees and immigrants coming to the UK?
 - How can the Fruit of the Spirit lead us to use the spiritual gifts given to each of us by God in service of the Church?
 - Please share any testimonies you have of how the fruit of the spirit has powerfully impacted your life and those of others. Be encouraged by Colossians 1:6:



- This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace. (NLT)
- Holy Spirit, please help us to not quench your Spirit as we allow You to bear fruit in our lives for the spreading of the Gospel and for the Glory of God. Amen.

The 3Thirds Discipleship Model		
Look back	Look up	Look forward
<p>1. Mutual care: How are you doing?</p> <p>2. Worship: Praising God in a simple, relevant way.</p> <p>3. Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Follow:</i> How did you obey the lesson from last time? ◦ <i>Fish:</i> Did you pray with anyone who was in need? ◦ Did you share your story and/or Jesus' story? ◦ Did you find a person of peace? <p>4. Casting vision for reaching lost people and making disciples.</p>	<p>5. New lesson: Enough Biblical content to obey and pass it on.</p> <p>Use the Discovery Bible Study Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Read the Bible Story b. Ask them to re-tell the story in their own words c. Ask four questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What does this story tell us about God? ii. What does this story tell us about people? iii. Is there a command to obey or an example to follow or a promise to live by? iv. How does this apply to my life? 	<p>6. Practice the lesson until everyone is confident and competent to apply the learning. e.g. Retell your story, Jesus' story, or this week's story.</p> <p>7. Set goals</p> <p>Goals for personal growth, sharing the gospel, and training others.</p> <p>C.O.S.T. Connect Obey Share Teach</p> <p>8. Pray and Share Communion</p>
<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>	<p>1/3 of your time (e.g. 30 mins)</p>