

Small Group Questions

Sermon: 3 September 2023



SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:1-2, 6-8

Our Scriptures, the Bible tell God's story from Genesis to Revelation, revealing Jesus throughout. As believers, we are integral to the ongoing drama of God's story. The Bible isn't just a historical record; it's our story too and is a whole life story from workplace to worship and culture to church. Realising this should fill us with excitement and purpose. Scripture, in its wonderful and complete form, should be central to the way we live and we should approach it with devotion.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Honestly share the place of the Bible in your life

2. What are you looking for when you read the Bible (e.g. information, comfort, guidance, a word from God?) How does what you are looking for affect the way you read the Bible?
3. Does God speak to you through the Scriptures?
4. Does the Bible affect all the areas of our lives, the secular as well as the sacred, does it have something to say everywhere?
5. Share times when the Scriptures have spoken to you specifically and brought you into the presence of God.

AN EXERCISE FOR SMALL GROUP OR INDIVIDUALLY

Practise the slow reading of Scripture

- Choose a passage of Scripture (e.g. John 1:1-14, Mark 10:46-52, a Psalm...)
- Open yourselves to the presence of God
- Read the passage aloud slowly
- If a word or words stand out for you, reflect on these
- Read the passage aloud and slowly a second time
- Use your imagination to enter into what you are reading

- Read the passage in the same way a third time
- Prayerfully listen and respond to God
- End with silence followed by sharing if appropriate

For those who like a framework for reading – as you read Scripture use SPEC

- Is there a **S**in I need to confess?
- Is there a **P**romise I need to receive?
- Is there an **E**xample I need to follow?
- Is there a **C**ommand I need to obey?