

Dependence means we are not Wiped Out when we are Wearied

SMALL GROUP NOTES

Tim Wilson - 9th November 2014

Theme

As part of the 'Divine yet Dependent' series this looked at how dependence play its part when Jesus is at his most physically vulnerable to date, demonstrating he is clearly human – yet in this moment of exhaustion and tiredness he still has enough in the tank to follow the Father's leading into an encounter which demonstrates that God's grand plan isn't going to be limited to the Jews – it's for all of us. By being dependent Jesus doesn't get wiped out despite his weariness.

Scriptures

John 4:1-14

(Referred to Luke 10:38-42, John 21:9, John 13:1-20, Mark 10:45, John 7:39, John 14:16, Acts 1:8, Romans 8:14, John 15:1-9, 1 John 4:13)

Outline

1. Jesus is Wearied - Setting the Scene to Understand Jesus' situation and helping us to see when we are in similar positions and what our response is.
2. ...But Not Wiped Out – Jesus demonstrates dependence in 3 ways
 - a. He Stops and Pauses – he is living life at a pace where regular and frequent times with his father are a feature of his day to allow the development of listening prayer – What stops us from doing this?
 - b. He Asks for Help – and in this crosses the social divisions of his day based on race and gender – What stops us from doing this?
 - c. Dependence on 'Living Water', the Holy Spirit

Questions for discussion

1. Read the verses mentioned in the talk on the specific role of the Holy Spirit and share real examples of how you have done this and discuss ways in which this can increase
 - a. Helps/Comforts (John 14:16)
 - b. Empowers (Acts 1:8)
 - c. Leads Us (Romans 8:14)
 - d. Enables us to Abide in Him (John 15:1-9/1 John 4:13)
2. Share with one another if some of the reasons identified in the talk as potential barriers to living a simpler life resonate with you:
 - a. Independence
 - b. enjoy the other things I do
 - c. value myself and/or perceive I'm valued by others by what I do rather than who I am
 - d. Doubt the Father really wants to spend more time with me-'orphan spirit'

Discuss how you can mutually support each other to address these and pray for one another.

3. Similarly with the reasons shared for not asking for help:
 - a. Don't like to admit weaknesses in something I think I'm good at – pride?
 - b. Won't delegate – perfectionism
 - c. Over protective of others – over functioning
 - d. Let down when asked for help before – self-protecting

Tags

Weariness, Weary, Dependence, Independence, Slowing Down, listening prayer, stopping, pausing, help, asking, asking for help, living water, Holy Spirit