

Small Group Notes 11 June 2017. Theme: “The Great Invitation”

Key Words: Great Commission, Teaching, Learning, Baptism, Doubt

Welcome

- What aspect of the Christian faith has caused the greatest doubt or uncertainty for you?

Worship

- Read Genesis 1:1-5. Get group members to read vs 10, 12, 18, 25, 31. Allow God's delight in creation to lead you into worship.

Word

Read Matthew 28:16-20

1. What do the disciples do when they see Jesus?
2. Sunday's message, in the morning service, focused on the words “but some doubted”. How did God speak to you on Sunday?
3. Have you thought of your doubts as integral and helpful to your journey of faith? Why?
4. What “doubts” do you think the Church should address?
5. According to the passage “making disciples” involves a) Baptism and b) Teaching. In our Small Groups the focus is on learning to “obey everything [Jesus] commanded” (that is why in the “work” section we often give ideas of various disciplines to practise). Spend some time reflecting what you have learned in this group about obeying Jesus command.
6. Without looking at your bibles quote as many of the “beatitudes” as you can. What chapter are they found in? What is this block of teaching called?
7. The reason the previous question was asked is because the “Sermon on the Mount” is so important to living out the Christian faith. We really are meant to be pattern our lives around this teaching. Read the quote from Willard copied below. What is helping you live change the way you habitually think and act? What is stopping you?

Works

- Pray for those affected by storms and fires.
- Ask Wendy, of Social Concerns Commission, where our collections of blankets etc go. Ask what else is needed.
- Commit to an act of love or service this week in the continued effort to open yourself to the Holy Spirit and to train your body to follow Jesus.

Quote

“Consumer Christianity is now normative. The consumer Christian is one who utilizes the grace of God for forgiveness and the services of the church for special occasions, but does not give his or her life and innermost thoughts, feelings, and intentions over to the kingdom of the heavens. Such Christians are not inwardly transformed and not committed to it.” (Willard in “The Divine Conspiracy”).