

Growth Teams

Week Beginning
Sunday 26th February 2017

Growth Team News

The daytime Growth Teams are back for another 5 week run this time focussing on 2 Corinthians. Why not join one if you can?

There are no official evening Growth Teams running, but why not get together with one or two others and discuss together today's talk using the questions in this sheet?

Going deeper

Ephesians is another letter written by Paul, although it is much less personal and heartfelt than 2 Corinthians! Nonetheless, it too speaks of reconciliation through the work of the cross, both with God and with other Christians. In this passage the focus of the reconciliation is between Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews).

Read Ephesians 2:11-22

4. What different terms and phrases are used to describe Jews and non-Jews through this passage?
5. What according to these verses has Jesus's death on the cross achieved?
6. What different terms and phrases are used to describe the 'one new humanity' in this passage?
7. Focussing on the image of the temple (vs. 20-22), how does it add to what we learnt in 2 Corinthians 6:16-18?
8. How does this passage help encourage us 'to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace' (Eph. 4:3)?

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Who should we join with?

2 Corinthians 6:11-7:16 (page 1161)

Space to take notes on the talk

Separation from _____

- A _____ Image
- A _____ Difference
- What separation _____:
- What separation _____:

Reconciliation with _____

- Be _____ about yourself
- Don't _____ others
- _____ in the good, _____ the bad

Starter question

- ❖ What stories of reconciliation do you know that are particularly heart-warming?

Responding to the talk

1. What about this week's talk most encouraged, challenged or informed you?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
 - a. What is wrong with yoking different things together? (cf. Dt. 22:10)
 - b. Why can't you mix or find a compromise between the pairs of opposites in vs. 14-16?
 - c. What is so good about being the 'temple of the living God'?
 - d. In what ways do we need to be separate from non-believers in today's world?
 - e. How can we take steps to 'perfect holiness'? (7:1)
3. Read 2 Corinthians 6:11-13; 7:2-16
 - a. In what ways does Paul seek a stronger connection with the Corinthians?
 - b. How has Paul been open with the Corinthians? (cf. 6:3-10)
 - c. Why is Paul's integrity so important? (cf. 2:17; 11:20-21)
 - d. What does Paul rejoice about the Corinthians?
 - e. Why was Paul pleased that he had grieved them with his 'severe letter'?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

9. Someone has just become a Christian and still has a number of Christian friends. Which activities might it still be alright to join them in and which should they avoid?
10. A Christian friend reports that she is feeling estranged from other members in their church. From what we've learnt, what might she do to repair those relationships?