

Growth Teams

Week Beginning

Sunday 22nd May 2016

Growth Team News

This is the last week for Growth Teams before the Half-Term break of two weeks. Growth Teams are back on the week beginning Sunday 12th June.

That is also *Thanet Bible Week*, so evening Growth Teams may choose to attend one of those meetings instead for that week and start back as normal on the following week.

Going deeper

Last week we looked at a passage in 1 Peter that focussed on how to relate to the rest of the world despite the fact that they may treat us badly. This week we focus on a passage that deals with our attitudes to suffering more generally.

Read 1 Peter 4:1-6

5. What was Christ's attitude as he suffered (cf. 2:21-25)?

6. How does a Christ like attitude to suffering lead us to be 'finished with sin' (4:1)?

7. Can you think of modern examples of the kinds of sins that Peter says we should no longer practice?

8. How are we to deal with the fact that non-Christians may be surprised that we don't join them in these practices?

9. How does the gospel bring both judgement and life (4:6)?

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



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

Numbers 21:4-9 (page 158)

How to respond to suffering

Space to take notes on the talk

The Wrong Way: _____

The Right Way: _____

Starter question

- ❖ What is your least favourite food?

Responding to the talk

1. What from this week's talk did you find most encouraging, challenging or disturbing?
2. Read Numbers 21:4-5
 - a. What wrong attitudes did the Israelite's complaint show?
 - b. Whose fault was it that they had spent so long in the wilderness? (See Numbers 14:1-4, 33)
 - c. What lessons were they meant to have learnt from this?
3. Read Numbers 21:6-9
 - a. How is the Israelite's response so different this time?
 - b. How is the Israelites prayer answered?
 - c. Why does God want a snake on the pole rather than another symbol?
4. Read John 3:14-16
 - a. What are the similarities between God providing salvation through Jesus's death on the cross and through the snake on the pole?
 - b. How does the linking of these stories help us understand 'faith'?
 - c. How are God's judgement and love connected?

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

Applying it to our lives

9. How might what we've learnt change the way we respond to suffering in our lives?
10. Someone tells you that suffering in the world shows that there can't be a loving God. How might you answer them?