

Small group optional guide
Spirit filled church; To live is Christ

IN: FELLOWSHIP

The gift day is this Sunday 22nd, how do you as an individual or family decide what you will give? (there is no need to share what you give)

- good opportunity to hear how each other hear from God, involve children/partners etc...
- see the blog on the last gift day and this upcoming one <https://www.jcceg.co.uk/blog/october-gift-day-2023/>

key words from Sunday:

Jonny testimony, last week lower back and shoulder were healed after coming forward for prayer.

Nancy: Isaiah 64:4 From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

Sharon; God says he knows about the lump, He sees you, start praying as he has been praying for healing

Jonathan; Matthew 2:20...things that are dead are still holding on to us. There are things in our lives that hold us, even though they are dead! John 10:10 I came that you may have life and have it abundantly.

WORSHIP:

Waiting here for / Holy Holy / Turn your eyes upon Jesus

OUT:

(see over the page)

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UP:

Read Philippians 1:12-21

Past (v12 - 14) / Present (v15 - 18) / Future (v19 - 21)

Paul's past, present and future is all about Christ

(Brothers...Adelphoi- from the same womb (brothers and sisters)

Q) What do you live for? (high moments of life, family, career?)

There is a transparency of the gospel in Paul's life, no matter the circumstance.

- making known the gospel of Christ is a sign that the power of the Holy Spirit is in me
- A lack of concern for myself, an increase in care for others, above all a priority of witnessing for Jesus

Q) where have you been placed to share the good news of Jesus?

>> Warning: If we have no concern for seeing gospel spread during the week, only a concern that we have a good time at church...then we may be falling into selfish ambition. (v17)

- Without power we miss opportunities, the more we are filled the less we miss.
- V20...I pray that I won't be ashamed but will have courage

Additional Discussion q's

Q) In this passage, what does it mean to be a spirit filled church/believer?

Q) How might Christ be most glorified in your present/future?

Q) The last big decision you made, where did living for Christ and the gospel feature?

OUT:

The heart-breaking conflict in Israel and Gaza is something that can feel too big or dark for us to know how to pray into. In this section, consider praying in tongues, allowing the Spirit to teach us how to pray.

- With so much politics surrounding, let us focus on seeing Jesus and the gospel glorified above all else

One of our members sent this to help shape our prayers

“ When you feel the pain of my people in Israel, bring it to Me, out of the quagmire of their suffering and persecution , into My Peace.

Feel my Peace as you see them, the hostages, those in terror and mourning, and see them experience My Peace.

Also, see the Palestinians, who are being used as human shields, and equally in fear and despair, See them see Me.

You connecting their pain with My Peace, the peace that passes understanding, is the best way you can help them.

See them see Me,
the protector of their souls , their Rescuer and Healer.

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life for all peoples.

I am the One who can unite and bring healing to both sides .

Help me in this - by praying in this way.

See them seeing My Face, and be healed and transformed by My Love and My Peace, to bring Peace to My land.”

Here are 8 short prayers:

- Father, we call upon you to show mercy to the people Israel and Palestine and protect them. We pray for every life, by the power of your word, we plead salvation for them as conflict rages.
- God of light and salvation, our refuge and our strength, we pray for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the escalating violence taking place in these days. We pray for those killed and injured from Gaza in southern Israel. May your rod and staff comfort them. We pray for those who are grieving and fearful. We pray protection over those who have been taken hostage into Gaza.
- Oh God, we call on you this day to change hearts, bring an end to this current violence and protect the people living in this land that is so precious and dear to your heart. Amen
- Father God, we see images and hear stories from the unfolding violence in Israel and Palestine. Our heads are full, and our hearts are heavy.
- We watch the unfolding brutality and violence, sectarianism and hatred. Lord have mercy.
- We choose not to turn away but to turn to You as we pray the words of Simon Peter, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”
- Jesus, You love these places and these people, all of them. Speak Your words of eternal life over them today. Make your presence known.
- You died and rose from the dusty earth outside Jerusalem. Today, may Your shed blood bring healing. May Your resurrection power bring life and salvation.