## Small group optional guide: New Ground Sunday

# UP; we grow in our love for Jesus through the word & worship

#### **WORD:** Who are you?

Remember that at that time you were separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Isreal and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. Ephesians 2 verse 12

'But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ' Ephesians 2 verse 13

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Ephesians 2 verses 19-22

We are no longer strangers and aliens

We are citizens; Part of a nation, we have certain rights/privileges and we come under the protection of the King

Greater is he who is in you than he who is in the world - 1 John 4 verse 4 If God is for us who can be against us - Romans 8 verse 31

I give them eternal life and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hands. - John 10 verse 28

### Members of a household

#### Bricks in the wall

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"If we but realised exactly what we are, and who we are as Christians, most of the problems in our daily life and living would automatically be solved. It is because we do not realise this, and the privilege of our position, that the problems arise. If we did we would never envy people who are not Christians, we would never try to live as near to them as possible and sometimes almost feel sorry because we are not still in their position. All that is due to a failure to realise what we area."

If you feel like a stranger, there is a place for you. God wants to put you in his hand, we will shape you, there is a place that the Lord will fit you in.

- For those of us who know who we are, we must celebrate the truth of our citizenship, the adoption onto the family of God, the part that God has for us to be part of this body, this living wall where the Lord dwells.
- If you've lost a sense of wonder, about who you are, how far you've come, of the amazing transformation that has taken place in your life, then God wants to refresh you.

#### **Worship songs from Sunday:**

Hosanna / Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace) / Consuming Fire / For The Sake Of The World

#### IN; we connect and learn to love one another

You are either single, or you are married...there is nothing in between!

Next week Small groups pause so that everyone can attend either the Singleness night at JCC on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November at JCC or take part in the Marriage date night on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November; either in person or at home. All the info is on the website and on the following part of this guide.

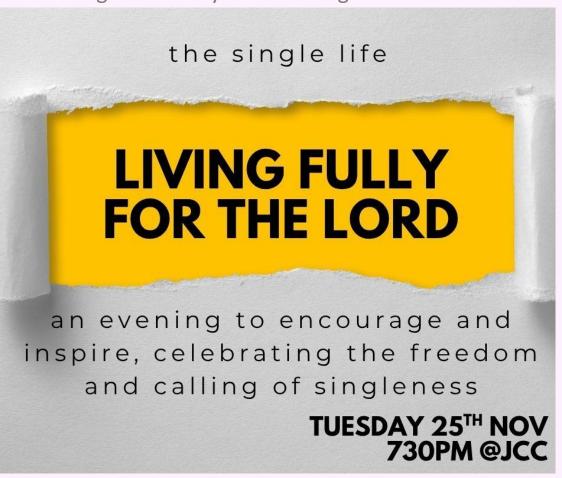
We either need equipping and encouraging in singleness or to encourage our spouse in marriage, sign up and be part of this focus week.

OUT; we reach out to show people outside of JCC that God loves them Jubilee Christmas Carols is always one of the highlights of the year, and definitely not to be missed! Invite your friends to join us for what is sure to be a special time for all. You can expect a modern take on old carols, with opportunity to sing, reflect and enjoy a night of Christmas cheer.

Last year we were extremely busy, so to secure your place, please sign up now and fill the place with people who don't know Jesus yet!



Small group focus week: we are all either single or married, on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November we have a night for everyone. Please go to the website calendar and book in for either evening:



Magiage 26/11 Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:30pm a night of encouragement for your marriage in person at Va-nak-kam in your own home

This autumn, we're once again setting aside an evening especially for those who are single — of all ages and stages — to gather, be encouraged, and be reminded of the unique gift and calling of singleness.

Our prayer is that this evening will **inspire**, **comfort**, **and bless** anyone who is single — whether you've been single for a while, newly single, or simply curious about what faithful Christian singleness looks like today.

Come with an open heart — you don't need to come knowing anyone or feeling confident. Just come. We trust that you'll leave **encouraged, seen, and strengthened** to live wholeheartedly for the Lord right where you are.

The Marriage date night is an evening that a married couple will be participate either in person at the Va-nak-kam restaurant over a meal or from your own home (no need for baby sitters!).

Either book for a table at the restaurant, or book for a gift bag with the date night activities inside to do at home.

The pack for you to collect from JCC will contain some treats, questions and conversation starters that will help bless and encourage your marriage, and point you toward signing up for the online Marriage Course.