

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, SWANLAND

SMALL GROUPS NOTES

Sharing Christ through friendship

Week beginning 19 February 2012. Sunday next before Lent, 2 Corinthians 4:5-12, Mark 2:23-3:6 Kingdom Encounter.

Welcome/ icebreaker	Share experiences of irritation with rules, or thankfulness for them.
Worship	Choose some songs/hymns on the theme of Jesus as Lord Suggestions: Jesus is Lord. Jesus is King, For we see Jesus, Jesus the name high over all. My Jesus, my Saviour. Pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal God's truth to you and for you today, as you read his word and meet him through it.
Word (<i>refs.</i> ↓)	Sermon available to listen to on www.stbchurch.org.uk if you missed it. Click on "downloads".
Mark 2:23-24 Encounter 1	What is your first impression of the Pharisees? What is the real problem here?
Mark 2: 23-26	Why do you think Jesus brings David into the discussion? (See 1 Samuel 21:1-6)
Mark 2:27	Why do you think this statement would be controversial? What is Jesus claiming? (see Daniel 7:13 and Revelation 1:13) Is Jesus saying, in effect, that rules don't matter?
Mark 3:1-6 Encounter 2	How does this healing link with the previous passage? (What is being demonstrated?)
Mark 3: v2 and v6	Why do the Pharisees behave in this way? Do we have examples of this kind of behaviour in our own day - even within the church?
2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Encounter 3... and more	What event in his life enabled Paul to write and encourage the Corinthians in this way? (See Acts 9:1-6) Do life-changing encounters with Jesus still happen? What is our story? Could we share it, to encourage others to find that Jesus is alive and Lord of all?
Prayer and Witness	Read 2 Corinthians 4: 5-10 slowly. Spend some moments listening to God, encountering Jesus. Allow his Holy Spirit to prompt your prayers. Pray that the Holy Spirit will make God's light shine in our hearts and radiate out from us. Pray for those who especially need to know the reality of verses 8-9 just now. Pray for opportunities to share your encounter with Jesus with someone this week.
Challenge	Who might you invite to the Pancake Party, Dance Finje, Coffee Chat, Friday Night Live or Kids Club?