

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, SWANLAND

'Sharing Christ through friendship'

SMALL GROUPS NOTES - Week beginning 13 May 2019.

Bible passages

Colossians 1 v 9-20

Welcome/ icebreaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share any moments in your life when you felt at complete peace and rest with the world.• What characterises those moments for you?
Worship	Left blank for your group to choose what it is appropriate.
Word	<i>NB: 9am/10.45am Sermon available to listen on www.stbchurch.org.uk (click the 'downloads' tab).</i>
Col 1 v 9-12a	Paul starts his letter with a wonderful prayer for the church. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pick out one phrase, promise or offer that you want to take hold of from these few verses and share them with the group (e.g knowledge of His will, bearing good fruit, being strengthened with all power, having patience and endurance etc.)
Col 1 v 12b-14	Paul's prayer is ultimately that we would be able to give thanks for all that he has done for us in Jesus. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For what in these two verses can you give thanks for God?
Col 1 v 15-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why do you think Paul goes to such lengths to stress the centrality and supremacy of Jesus to this early church group?• Paul speaks of God as being 'invisible'. Do you have an image of God in your minds? In what ways can this be helpful and perhaps unhelpful (or limiting)?• Paul says all God's fullness dwelt in Jesus – reflect on the significance of that statement in the light of what Jesus went through.
Prayer and Witness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return to the opening prayer (v9ff) and pray for each other into any areas where we need to experience his peace and reconciliation.