

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, SWANLAND

'Sharing Christ through friendship'

SMALL GROUPS NOTES - Week beginning 24 June 2019.

Bible passages

Colossians ch 3 v 22 to ch 4 v 6

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| Welcome/ icebreaker | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In what situation or with which people do you feel most able to be yourself?• How does this make you feel inside? |
| 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 3 v 22 -24 | Paul speaks openly about slavery (as does Jesus) as part of society. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does this make you feel?• Do you wish he had condemned the practice as ungodly?• Do you just accept it as a norm of the day? |
| | The 18 th century slave masters used NT passages such as this to argue that slavery was not morally wrong. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do we hold views on social issues today that we justify based on out of context use of scripture? Or... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss any areas where we have to strike a balance between 'biblical principles' and accepted cultural practices. |
| | Paul urges us to do the right thing even when no-one is watching <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share any examples of people you know who do just that.• How conscious are we through our day of God being right there with us?• How would our actions and attitudes change if we could be 100% aware of his presence?• Do we consciously or subconsciously hide ourselves from God?• If so, why do you think we do this?• How might we change our current experience in this area? |
| Prayer and Witness | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take time to pray for a fuller awareness of God's presence at all times.• Download the 12 steps of the recovery programme (link below) and share how these may help us in our spiritual journey |

Suggested reading – Breathing Under Water (A spiritual discovery using the 12 step recovery principles) by Richard Roar

<https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/About-AA/The-12-Steps-of-AA>

Group notes 24.06.19 R Swain.