

Connect Group Bible Study

Bringing God & People Together



07.06.2013

Living Social

Love your neighbour

Open with invitation of the Spirit (prayer/music)

Big Idea: If we love God, we will love our neighbour

Background info:

Relationships can be good, bad or ugly. They can build us up or tear us down. Relationships can be healthy or sick, broken or reconciled, strong or weak. No matter how relationships are in our lives, they are unavoidable!

Explore:

Genesis 1:27 (ESV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 3:8a (ESV) And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day,

Genesis 2:24-25 (ESV) Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Genesis 2:15 (ESV) The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

***In the above verses we see the relationship we have with God, with the Earth and with each other.**

Gen 3:22-23 (ESV) Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.

Gen 3:7 (ESV) Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

Gen 3:17b-18 (ESV) cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

Q: The above three verses are after Adam and Eve have sinned. What has sin done to our relationships?

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Apply:

***As Christians, we aren't called to only relate to God. We are called to relate to the people and the world around us.**

Matt 17:4 (ESV) And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."

Q: Peter's amazing God experience made him want to stay on the mountaintop. Have you had an experience like that in which you wished to stay? How did you respond?

1John 4:20-21 (ESV) If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Q: How does the above passage challenge the relationships you have and your feelings towards them?

John 13:35 (ESV) By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Q: How are you loving those in our church?

Q: How are you connecting and embracing people in our church? What things can you do to help this occur?

All about Jesus:

It is always, only, ever about Jesus! He makes a way for us to back in relationship with our Father God. The disciple John wanted to call down fire and burn up a town that rejected Jesus (Luke 9:54), yet near the end of his life, after all he had been through, John declares that we must love one another. There is great comfort in that for all of us, because through Jesus, John's heart softened and changed. If we are struggling with relationships in our worlds, we can look to Jesus for help. He is the great reconciler!

Further challenge (optional extras for the group):

Read Leviticus 19:9-18 and discuss the following questions:

Q: Can we relate the above to our lives today?

Q: Does your life reflect the above as a result of Jesus in you?

Prayer Points:

* Relationships within the C3 Thirroul

Praise Points:

* Build to Reach offering

Up & Coming Events @ C3 Thirroul: Let us all be praying for, inviting & bringing people

* New People Dinner on July 22, 2013 6:00 pm (RSVP @ the Bookstore)

* D'vine Women's event: Fighting Depression on July 24, 2013 7:00 pm

* On the Board Walk – SRE Fundraiser on July 27, 2013 9:00 am

C3 Thirroul Connect Groups are meeting places of
Discipleship | Prayer & Praise | Pastoral Care | Loving Community
You will find studies at <http://c3churchthirroul.com/connect/connect-groups/>