

Word notes Sunday 21/11/2010 Simon Matthews
“And the Word of the LORD came...”

Summary (read this bit out to remind cell members what was said on Sunday)

Key Text: Romans 12:1,2

God has a plan, a purpose and a destiny for each of us, a will that is good, perfect and acceptable for our lives. How many of us know what that is? Having God in the driving seat of our lives is the best we could hope for yet it's true that most of us want to do it our own way to some extent – great or small.

The first step in finding God's will is to have a surrendered heart, to say we are willing to hear what He has in mind to bless us. And we have to keep surrendering, asking God what he wants for me next. Simon's desire is not to wind down in life but to wind up!

We should remember too that God Speaks in different ways, through dreams, visions, The Word, job offers, other people, prophetic words and so on. It would be foolish to rely on just one snippet – we should of course test prophetic words against scripture for example, similarly it is wise to assemble all God is saying into a coherent picture, sharing with mentors or in prayer pairs/triplets, not just rely on one piece of the jigsaw. This way we can protect ourselves from going off on the wrong tack.

We see many times in the Bible that God's word can catapult us into the purposes of God. “The word of the LORD came to... ..” – appears 92 times on the KJV Old Testament. So we see that the Word goes first and then the supernatural follows. God's word spoken in to our lives gives us a sense of adventure, both as individuals and as a fellowship.

Simon brought the following word to NCC: A spirit of sleep has tried to rob us of our destiny. The Lord says it is time for that to end and for a new breakthrough in the Holy Spirit which requires each to be alert the Spirit and an attitude to “go for God” with no compromise, not letting anything of the past drag us down. This has already started, you are already rising up, will you determine to be known as wild radicals for God? It's time for an end to tiredness, weariness and slumber – your destiny is much bigger than this building.

Application (this is the bit where cell members get to participate. Lead discussions around these points)

1 (a) On a large piece of paper list the kind of things might God call individuals to do?

1 (b) How do these fit into the categories of gifts in Eph. 4:11 & 1 Cor. 12:28. Have you listed have any “mundane” callings such as to “business”, to “serving in the community” “raising family”? If not can you make you list bigger?

2, Ask each to circle one or more areas they believe God has called them to, ask them to share how they heard from God.

3, Discuss the following questions as one: Is being a Christian exciting, does Eastenders/Corrie/Neighbours have more life & excitement than your Christian walk?

Witness (this is the bit where the cell talks and prays about how to share the Good News)

(Did you do the activity below? If yes then look back over previous weeks and use a “Witness” section that you missed)

Draw a quick and rough pie chart showing roughly how you spend your day, averaged over a week. (eg sleep, work, play, church/cell, housekeeping, TV/Internet). This will be different for everyone, some will be solitary, others interactive with other people.

Which ones have opportunity to witness? Do you feel “equipped and empowered” to witness in those situations or “lacking and reticent”?