

Word notes Sunday 28/11/2010 Clare Reed
Capacity for Community

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

Key Text: Matt 28:18-20

Clare spoke about building church community in the context of evangelism. The Great Commission as it's called doesn't command us to go out and convert people or drag them along to meetings but to make disciples. Discipleship is not a one-off event but a journey of faith and growth in relationship with others. We may feel that our lives are full, maybe there's no time to invest in relationships, meeting up, going out. Perhaps what we need is to grow, to be selective and work as a team. Clare looked at how Jesus set an example and shows us how to grow in three ways.

- 1, Be Motivated. Why did the Father send Jesus, why did he heal people? For Love. (Jn 3:16, Lk 7:11-15)
- 2, Be Preparation. (a) Make room for God's purpose in your life. (Jn 15:2). (b) Rest (Jesus did – Matt 8:24). (c) Pray (Phil 4:6,7).
- 3, Be Part of a Team – The Body. (a) Receive help - Jesus asked for help too (Mk 14:33). (b) Notice needs around you (Lk 19:5). (c) Be willing to make yourself available (Jn 4:34).

Clare finished with a story from another Plumline church, of how a willingness to serve in a simple way (giving out free coffees from an office just off the high street) had led to people being added into the church, growth of the church and getting a sizeable building which meant they could now serve coffee for free from a church building right on the high street.

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

If you did the pie-chart of your lives in the witness section a couple of weeks ago was there space to grow? Discuss these points:

Motivation:

Read Luke 7:11-15. God's motivation for sending Jesus was love, what does God's love in you motivate you to do?

Preparation:

Read John 15:2. Do you allow God to prune things away from your life to make room for what he wants next? What things might he be working on now, are you holding on to them beyond their use by date?

How does rest figure into your life? What does Sabbath rest mean to you?

Do you easily become anxious about things, what are the tell-tale signs? How do you apply Philippians 4:6 & 7 to these situations?

Be Part of the Body:

Read Mark 14:33. Are you part of a team, do you ask for help in difficult times or keep things to yourself? What is God's way?

Can you name all those you sat next to, in front of and behind on Sunday? How might you minister to them? What about people at school or work or at the Gym?

What wins in you decisions to do something new – busyness or willingness?

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

What simple project can the cell initiate to reach the lost? Who can do what? Roles within the project might include practical serving, prayer, hosting, meeting people, inviting, just being there.....