

GROWTH GROUP NOTES

w/c Sunday 28th June 2009

WELCOME

- Icebreaker: *Who did you first hear about Jesus from?; OR; What was the first time you ever told anyone about Jesus?*

WORD

- If you haven't already done so, pray for God's help as you discuss His word
- Choose one or more members of the group to read **Luke 5:1-11**
- You may find it helpful to refer to this sermon summary to refresh people's memories

Sermon Summary

1. Jesus' surprising authority

- Listening to Jesus teach is listening to the word of God (v1)
- Jesus has the authority to tell an expert fisherman where to fish (v4-5)
- Jesus' has the authority to cause the fish to be where he wants them to be (v6)

2. Peter's surprising reaction

- We expect Peter to ask Jesus to help him with his fishing business
- But instead he recognises his sinfulness and is afraid in the presence of God (v8)
- But Jesus says to this fearful man - "*Don't be afraid - come and join MY fishing business*" (v10)

3. Jesus' call for a wholehearted response

- Jesus was God's missionary (Lk 19:10) and God's mission is a fishing business
- We are called to join Jesus in catching sinners with the 'net' of the gospel of Christ crucified (v10-11)
- In your mind, why not put up a sign on your door every time you go out, that says 'Gone Fishing!'

- *Allow people 2-3 minutes to think about the passage - then ask each group member in turn to share briefly ...*



One thing that 'shines' from the passage. What strikes you, or grabs your attention?

- *Allow a few more moments of meditation on the passage, then ask each person to share ..*



Anything you find hard to understand in the passage, or a question it raises that you'd want to ask the writer or the Lord about.

- *Then ask each person to share and discuss more thoroughly ...*



One thing from the passage/sermon you think you need to apply to your life, e.g.

- *How is the authority of Jesus and his teaching seen in your life?*
- *How does your view of your own sinfulness compare with that of Peter's?*
- *Are you afraid of God, or have you heard Jesus say to you "Don't be afraid?"*
- *How do you think you could play a more active part in Jesus' fishing business?*

- Finally, ask each person to ...



Write the name of someone you know who might benefit from you sharing with them in the coming week what you've learned from God's word

WORSHIP

- Suggested Hymns/Songs/Music: *We have a gospel to proclaim; Hear the call of the kingdom; From the sun's rising; Jesus the name high over all; Tell out my soul; How lovely on the mountain*
- Pray:
 - about any important issues which have been raised in discussion
 - for those who live in the area around your Growth Group, for contacts and opportunities to show Christian love and share the hope of the gospel
 - for your link area of ministry at St. Luke's and/or your adopted mission society
 - about items on the church prayer diary or news sheet
 - about special events in church life

WITNESS/WORKS

- Sunday rota: **Alastair** is on sound system; **Peter Steadman** is doing the bible reading; **Lynn & Alex** are on refreshments.
- Please consider how your group could help out with the catering arrangements for the ABCD Fun Day on Sunday, and appoint someone to let Jean Shinton know who's doing what.