

Homegroup Notes - Sunday 3rd March 2019

Prayer and decisions

Luke 6:12-16

The homegroup questions for this week take on a slightly different format.

In my talk this morning, using the Luke 6 passage as a source, I suggested that when we come to pray, we need to consider the following:-

- Prayer is important. If Jesus, the Son of God prayed, then we should too. His motivation to pray was from His love of the Father and His love of the disciples. We need to be motivated in the same way.
- Time of day. While we are encouraged to pray throughout the day, there is something very special about praying very early in the morning, when the house and neighbourhood are still. Jesus and many of the characters in the Old Testament modelled this method of praying.
- Despite Jesus' persecution from the Pharisees etc. and despite the people praising Jesus, he always spent time in prayer. These were not a distraction... He knew He needed time alone with God. Do you have time alone with God, away from family and friends?
- The special place to pray. Jesus often prayed on a mountainside, away from distractions. Do you have a special place away from distractions? Could it be improved?
- Prayer is the start of the Kingdom work. We can easily feel that we should pray about things and then get on with the activity / work of the day. We need to move to a mindset where we can appreciate that prayer is the start of the activity / work of the day.... it's not a separate thing that needs to be 'ticked off first' so that we can then get on with everything else.
- Prayer is not an optional extra. We need to understand that prayer is vitally important and that there might be occasions when we don't go out and do things, so that we can spend time praying. Jesus often withdrew from a crowd, even though they were still calling out for healings and miracles.

Within your homegroup you will have a wealth of experience and wisdom when it comes to praying. Spend some time talking through each of these bullet points, sharing 'good practice' and encouraging each other in things that are difficult.

It would be good to spend time praying for each person in the group, in whatever way would help with prayer and decision making.