



January 2012

Gen 6: 5-13 / Luke 24:46-48
"Our Days"

Community Group Questions

Introduction

The story of Noah is a great Old Testament picture of what God expects from His Ecclesia (Church) today. Noah found favour with God and showed tremendous faith as he stepped out in obedience. Jesus had the same expectation on His disciples when He commanded them to 'go into the world'. What other appropriate response is there for a Christian but to obey and go...?

Discussion

- Describe a time when you took a 'risky' step of faith

Explanation

Gen 6: 5-13

- What were the days of Noah like? (v5, 12, 13)
- How do they parallel to today's world? Give some examples.

1. The Favour of God

Luke 17:26

- Why does Jesus refer to Noah's time as "the days of Noah"?
- In the light of what we have learnt about Ecclesia could the present time be called 'our days'?

Gen 6:6; John 15:16

- In what way has God shown us favour?

Luke 24:46-48

- Why is this a significant time for the disciples and Jesus?
- Why would the disciples be more convinced than ever that Jesus was the Son of God?

2. Radical Obedience

Gen 6:22 - God's favour for Noah resulted in a request for radical obedience – build an ark!

- Why was this an example of radical obedience?

Matt 29:19-20

- If Christians have found favour with God, are called out, see Jesus as worthy and Lord, why are we often reluctant to be obedient and 'GO'?

3. Reckless Faith

God asked Noah to build something that had never been built before.

For a function never dreamed of before.

For an event on a scale never experienced before.

On a scale never seen before.

- What if He asked you?

- How is this a picture of Christ's call on us as His church?
- How is the ark a picture of the church?

4. 'Go!'

**Is Jesus who He said he was - the Christ and the son of the living God?
In the light of our answer, is He worthy of our full surrender and obedience?**

If 'Yes!' is the answer to both these questions then we can't just sit around and wait for His return. We have to follow His command to radical obedience and 'go' (Matt 29:19-20)

- What stops us?
- What can we do to overcome the challenges that stop us?
- What would life be like if we lived with a 'go' mindset?

Acts 17:24-26 - How does this scripture encourage us to 'go'?

Application

1. Remind yourself of the favour of God— read the gospel, sing the gospel, listen to the gospel... immerse yourself
2. Remind yourself that you don't 'go' alone – Holy Spirit in us!
3. Pray for those that God puts on your mind to 'go' to...
4. Start building relationships
5. Look for divine appointments
6. GO! Step out! Speak up!

What is a community group?

Community groups are small gatherings of people that meet regularly for friendship, accountability, study and prayer, laughter, and occasionally tears. Community groups are an essential expression of the mission of The South. They're a place where we learn more about Jesus and life together. They're the place where we wrestle with the truths of the Bible and encourage one another towards the life that God intends for us.

Each community group is unique, shaped by its neighbourhood and the people who attend. However, you can expect a regular gathering in a residence to involve conversation, prayer, discussion for applying the Bible to practical living, service in the neighborhood and probably something to eat!

At the heart of each community group is the desire to see an authentic community marked by love for Jesus, one another, and the neighbourhood.

Why should I join a community group?

We are made for community and friendship. And when we are not living in community we suffer because life in a sinful world is too complex and tempting to journey alone. Therefore, community groups are a place where we can live in relationship with one another through the ups and downs of life.

How do I get connected to a community group?

The easiest way to get connected is on Sunday: before or after the service, stop by Coffee Central. The volunteers will take your details and our coordinator will be in touch. Alternatively, you can fill out a 'Comment Card' (found in the back of the seats) and place it into the offering bag.

You can begin participating in the community of The South at any time, and we are glad to welcome you.