



LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: Sunday 13th



God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. Use those abilities. Romans 12: 6

Warm Up

Eric Liddell (in Chariots of Fire) famously said: *I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure.*

How would you say God created you? How or when do you "feel His pleasure?"

Background and context

The backbone of the church is made up of "ordinary people" doing "ordinary things"? So that includes you, or so it should. In Exodus we read about two guys becoming the arm support for Moses in order to win the battle. Being an arm-support might not look grand, but without it ... no victory. So whether you realise it or not, the body of Christ needs you. "All of the members of the body are important and all of the members have a function."

What might be stopping you because your mind / other people have told you, for too long, that you can't, .. whilst God has said: "You can!"

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

Readings to discuss: Romans 12: 6 / Exodus 17 / Matthew 25: 31-46

What are the surprising things in these passages? What is new? What don't you really understand?

1. Have you ever been in a situation like Aaron and Hur (Exodus 17), where someone else seemed to be the 'main' person and you were their support? How did that feel? Do you find it hard or easy to assist others with gifts God has given you?
2. How do you react to Matthew 25 - do you see yourself serving 'the least of these' when you go about your daily business? Remember it is God who gave you your abilities!
3. Have you ever realised that you might have stopped certain things and maybe need to 'pick them up again'? Have a time of prayer to ask God to reveal to you how to use the abilities He has given you for His Kingdom.
4. What can we learn from Moses and leadership in the Exodus account?
5. **EXTRA** (if time allows) In the words of Matthew, what does it mean to "be watchful" in relation to the coming of the Son of Man in His glory, do we think? How watchful do we feel we are? What would we need to do to be more watchful / alert others?

Growing in discipleship: Practical application

Hold a gift audit (natural and spiritual) in your group and see how you can complement each other and thus the wider body of Christ.

Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.

