

**The Parish Church of ST. BARNABAS, SWANLAND - 'Sharing Christ through friendship'**

**CELL GROUP NOTES: Easter 6, w/beg 6 May 2018. Scriptures: Col. 1:21-29 and Mark 3:7-19.**

**Life in the Community of the Kingdom (3): Discipleship**

<b>Welcome/ icebreaker</b>	What do you do to 'recharge your spiritual batteries'? – does it involve nature/ silence/ socialising? withdrawing from others or engaging with people? – etc.
<b>Worship</b>	<i>Song suggestions:</i> 40 Be still; 50 Break thou the bread of life; 215 I heard the voice of Jesus say; 261 I want to walk with Jesus Christ; 842 I want to be out of my depth; 1013 Teach me to dance; 2211 All the room was hushed and still.
<b>Word (refs.↓)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NB Sunday's 9am Sermon is available on <a href="http://www.stbchurch.org.uk">www.stbchurch.org.uk</a> (via 'downloads' tab).</li> </ul>
Mark 3:7-19	<p>v.7 – note that Jesus here 'withdraws' with his disciples i.e. for a time of reflection and learning together – only later is he drawn into ministering to the crowds (vv.8-12) – and Jesus even withdraws from them (v.9).</p> <p>What does this teach us about the importance of pacing times of rest with time to serve others?</p> <p>Look at vv.14-15. What these verses say were the three things Jesus called the 12 apostles to do?</p> <p>What does 'to be with him' mean? Do you see this as a necessary first step before being sent out in ministry? How can we apply this to our own lives?</p>
Col. 1:21-29	<p>The Colossian church was well-ordered (2:5) and 'firm' in the faith (1:23) but Paul still seeks to 'present everyone perfect (mature) in Christ' (v.28) – i.e. to see the church grow deeper in their discipleship.</p> <p>How do vv.25-27 suggest this growth can occur?</p>
<i>Ref. sermon at 9am on Sunday 6 May (this is available to listen to on the church website - starts at 5m40s, sermon is 19 minutes long)</i>	<p>Sunday's sermon identified three areas of growing in discipleship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Godliness</b> (avoiding sin and practising holiness)</li> <li>• <b>Obedience</b> (practical outworking of godliness)</li> <li>• <b>Devotion</b> (taking time to pray, listen to God through Scripture and meet with others in worship and for teaching)</li> </ul> <p>Read Col. 3:5-14 – how is the first area ('Godliness') highlighted here?</p> <p>Read Gal. 5:22-26 – how does these verses identify what 'obedience' means?</p> <p>Read Hebrews 10:19-25 – how do these verses spur us on to greater Devotion in our discipleship?</p>
<b>Prayer and Witness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pray for your mission link partner or ministry</li> <li>• Pray how you can grow in your discipleship - as individuals and as a group</li> <li>• Pray about how you as individuals and as a group can play your part in seeing the church grow as the community of the Kingdom in this area</li> <li>• Perhaps plan a social to invite friends/ family to over the spring bank holiday weekend (26-28 May) or half term (26 May – 3 June)?</li> </ul>