

Welcome	Who do you know who has experience of living in wartime? How do they feel about those times now? Was it in any sense 'better' (eg community spirit? Why/ why not?)
Worship ideas	<i>Worship suggestions:</i> 381 Make me a channel of your peace; 514 Such love; 865 Jesus Christ. I think upon your sacrifice; 953 O God beyond all praising; 1015 Thank you for saving me. (NB: 20 files containing about 30 newer songs are available to borrow from the office for groups)
Word (refs.↓)	NB Check the church website www.stbchurch.org.uk (click on the 'downloads' tab) for Sunday's sermon. Some suggestions for discussion here – you might prefer to focus on just 2 or 3 questions
<u>Read</u> John 15:9-13 John 15:13-17	<p>If you were at the Remembrance Day service on Sunday, how did you feel about it? Is it right still to remember the fallen in this way, or should we rather emphasise praying and working for peace? (Alternatively, share thoughts on the 'Remembering Service' from the evening).</p> <p>Does Jesus promise a place in heaven for anyone who 'lays down their life' (eg by dying in war) for others? How important is it that the sacrificial love/action of Christians is done from a state of remaining in Jesus' love, loving one another and obeying his commands? (vv. 10,12,14)</p> <p>What and who is Jesus really talking about in v.13? Himself, his own death, his disciples, the whole world? Does this mean we should always surrender in the face of opposition?</p> <p>What did Jesus achieve objectively by laying down his life? Why was this the supreme example of love (see 1 Jn 3:16 – a good verse to learn if you've already learnt John 3:16!)</p>
<u>Read</u> Micah 4:1-5	<p><i>If time...</i></p> <p>Should we take Micah's vision of beating swords into ploughshares (v. 3 – i.e. weapons of war being turned into farm implements) to mean that Christians should not be involved in military affairs? What about supporting moves towards peace-keeping in e.g. the Middle East/ Iraq/ Syria that might involve air strikes or 'boots on the ground'? How do you feel about investing in shares or pension funds that involve 'arms manufacturers'? Does BAE Systems count? (Be respectful of each others' views!)</p>
<u>Witness</u>	<p><u>Pray and act</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pray that as a church community, St Barnabas may increasingly be known as people who love and care for one another, and those 'outside'. ➤ Pray for your mission link(s), and for any serving in hostile situations ➤ For all who suffer as a result of war at home – e.g. relatives of servicemen & women - or abroad (e.g. those supported by the Barnabas Fund, Open Doors, etc.), especially refugee victims of war. Pray and consider how you might take some action as a result. <p><u>Plan</u> – start looking at the Advent/ Christmas events and services and discuss how you might get involved as a group and invite others along (details from office/ on website)</p>