

Parish Church of **St. Barnabas, Swanland** *Sharing Christ through friendship.*
Small Group notes for week beginning Pentecost Sunday 20 May 2018.
 Bible passages: Acts 2:1-21 & 42-47 - *“The community of the Kingdom (5): Mission”*

Welcome <i>(ice-breaker)</i>	How many languages do you speak between you in the group? Between you, how many ways can you say ‘Hello/ Good day’?
Worship ideas	<i>Suggested songs: Songs of Fellowship 40 Be still for the presence; 188 Holy Spirit we welcome you; 451 O thou who camest from above; 1202 Come down O love divine (NB: 20 files of ‘newer’ songs are still available to borrow from the office for groups)</i>
Word (refs.↓)	<i>some suggestions for discussion here – you might prefer to focus on just 2 or 3 questions</i>
<u>Read</u> Acts 2:1-21 (read the whole chapter if you have time)	Why do you think Luke goes to the trouble of listing all the places in vv.9-11? (If you have maps in your Bible, you might try to locate them). How is this list linked to Jesus’ words in Acts 1:8? If you were one of the crowd, would your reaction have been more like v.12 or v.13? Notice how many times the words ‘all/ each/ every’ are used in vv.1-8. How is this reinforced by the words Peter quotes in vv.17-21? How might our lives prompt other people to ask ‘what does this mean’ (as does the crowd in v.11)?
<u>Read</u> Acts 2:42-47	What is the reaction to the new church fellowship by those outside? How far is their ‘mission’ characterised by verbal proclamation of the gospel? Do the other aspects of the church’s ‘mission’ (ministry/ service) such as ‘wonders and signs’, and their common life together, make a lesser/ greater / the same impact? What can we learn from the rapid growth of the church in Acts (2:41; 2:47) that will help us grow as a church in our community and across the nation?
<i>If you have time</i>	If any of the group prayed in the 24/4 prayer room last week, perhaps some would be willing to share their reflections/ experiences.
Witness	<u>Pray</u> for one or two of the following ❖ for your mission link person(s) or project ❖ for opportunities to reach out to family/ friends/ neighbours in the days ahead (eg half term, the Spring bank holiday). <u>Plan</u> ❖ an activity as a group during June or July to which you can invite friends neighbours and family who are not yet Christians (eg picnic, garden party, etc.). Father’s Day (17 June) might be a good day to plan for.

If you have internet access, why not watch one of the ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ videos on Youtube (eg ‘Day 11 – Pentecost, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=lh6liU9OJw)