

DARE TO BE A DISCIPLE

Sunday 9th October 2016



5: DEMONSTRATION – Jesus showed them how to live

Small group notes:

- ‘The big mountain for the church is to breed radical disciples – Christians who are willing to serve brittle and broken people rather than themselves, and who seek to be transformed so that they can transform society.’ (Michael Moynagh)
Take a few moments to reflect on the ‘big mountain for the church.’ What is the transformation that needs to take place in order that society might be impacted and transformed?
How do we stay motivated in order to fulfil the big picture that is presented to us of transformation?

The theme this week is **DEMONSTRATION**.

- What are some of the areas of ‘demonstration’ that you have been involved in? It might be demonstrating how to cook a particular meal or training a new recruit in the work place. What is it like to be responsible for imparting knowledge, experience and practical help because this is what we find Jesus doing with the disciples?
- In what way is ‘apprenticeship’ a good way to describe the ministry of Jesus with his disciples?

There are a number of areas by way of illustration of this principle of demonstration in the life of Jesus.

1. DEMONSTRATION – enjoying connecting with God in prayer.

Jesus clearly had a different approach to prayer that impacted the disciples.

Luke 11:1 (MSG) One day he was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said, "Master, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples."

- What challenges were they faced with as they observed Jesus praying? When they asked Jesus to teach them to pray – he gave them a model prayer, ‘the Lord’s prayer.’

Why not pause with your group and use the different parts of this prayer to pray in a way that celebrates kingdom life of the gospel.

2. DEMONSTRATION – releasing the power of scripture.

Jesus was brought up in a home that honoured the scriptures and they would have been a daily feature and part of his education.

Jesus used scripture to defeat the enemy – Luke 4.1-13

Jesus used scripture to sum up his mission in Luke 4.17-19. It certainly brought about a distinct response.

Jesus used scripture in teaching the disciples – clearly seen in the Sermon on the Mount.

Jesus used scripture to warm the hearts of the Emmaus Road disciples Lk 24.32

3. DEMONSTRATION – naturally sharing the good news

Jesus drew alongside people and the disciples saw how he opened them up to spiritual truth

- Take one of the encounters that Jesus had detailed in the gospels and see how he demonstrated to the disciples how they too could connect with ordinary people.

4. DEMONSTRATION – revealing the glowing colours of his life.

Alan mentioned the rainbow colours of Jesus’ life: service, gentleness, love, joy, humility, compassion, anger, authority.

- How do we face the challenge of such radiant colours being reflected from our own lives?

Remember these are notes of Sunday’s message and you are not expected to go through every section – you may find that you only cover one section or a couple of questions.

Your notes