

11 February 2018



ALL INVOLVED

These weekly notes are intended to provide a helpful resource for home groups. You know your group members, so focus on the questions that are right for them, rather than simply ploughing through them all! Please let Matt have any feedback via the church office.

Home group notes will not be circulated on Sunday 25th February. If you take a half-term break, you will be able to use notes from 18th. Alternatively, you may wish to take the opportunity to review the first two values: All Welcome and All Involved.

Welcome

How do you feel when somebody invites you to get involved with something?

Worship

Give thanks to Jesus for the reality that we are dearly loved children of the living God, and there's nothing we can do to make Him love us more, and there's nothing we can do to make Him love us less.

A Prayer of Relinquishment by Richard Foster

Today, O Lord, I yield myself to You.
May Your will be my delight today.
May You have perfect sway in me.
May your love be the pattern of my living.

I surrender to You my hopes, my dreams, my ambitions.
Do with them what You will, when You will, as You will.
I place into Your loving care my family, my friends, my future.
Care for them with a care that I can never give.

I release into Your hands my need to control, my craving for status, my fear of obscurity.
Eradicate the evil, purify the good, and establish Your Kingdom on earth.
For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Word

1. We read in Isaiah 64:8 (NIVUK)

“Yet you, Lord, are our Father.

We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.”

What images does this verse bring to mind?

Are there any challenges raised by this verse?

2. We read in the gospels that those first disciples of Jesus, an ordinary yet eclectic bunch of people, were moulded and shaped into willing servants with surrendered hearts, minds and wills.

When it comes to being *All Involved*, which Bible character really encourages you?

3. Matt shared a memory of his Granny knitting squares out of wool, then joining the squares together to make beautiful blankets that were sent around the world to children in need. Even at 100 years old, Matt’s Great Grandmother shared her talents with others and embraced an All Involved ethos.

How could St Mark’s better facilitate an All Involved ethos, from the youngest to the oldest?

4. The writer of the book of Hebrews (10:24-25) urges us:

“... let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...”
Discuss.

Witness

"If we truly remain like soft clay in the Master Potter's hands, we will not be crushed or broken when things don't go our way. We'll allow God in his sovereignty and wisdom to mould us, reshape us, and redirect us according to his plan, as he sees fit."

Pray for one another in the light of all we are learning together.

40acts.org.uk - 40 challenges to make a difference, starts 14th Feb.

Notes by Matt Roberts