

Lent at



Rhythms of Grace

Life Group/Personal Study Notes

Rhythm 5...I will sensitively share my faith with others and support God's mission both locally and globally

Read... 1 Peter Ch3 v 8-15 and Matthew Ch 28 v 18-20

(If you are taking part via a life group you might find it useful to have read these passages ahead of your gathering - jot down from the readings; links with the topic of thought for the week; anything new you have learnt; anything that you don't understand or disagree with or anything the Holy Spirit speaks to you about and personal thoughts. If you are using this study on your own, then your thoughts on the readings will feed into the study and reflections below)

Sharing our Faith

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

(Matthew 28:19-20)

These days, I'm more convinced than ever that the absolute highest value in personal evangelism is staying attuned to and cooperative with the Holy Spirit...my objective is not to contrive ways "to get someone saved;" rather my objective is to walk when he prompts me to walk, talk when he says to talk, fall silent when I'm at risk of saying too much and stay put when he leads me to stay put"

(Bill Hybels: Just walk across the room)

For Reflection.....(30 mins)

With the quotes on the previous page in mind

- How do you feel about sharing your faith or witnessing with others?
- Why do you think Jesus asked us to go and make disciples rather than believers?

Bill Hybels in his book *Just walk across the room* describes three distinct concepts for us to consider as we step out to share our faith:

- **Develop friendships** - by engaging in the lives of people around you
- **Discover stories** - take time to listen to people's stories before sharing your own story
- **Discern next steps** - by following the Holy Spirit's direction

How could you adopt these concepts for yourself as you seek to step out and share your faith

What does scripture say?...(20 mins)

Read 1 Peter Ch3 v15; 1 Corinthians Ch9 v22; Matthew Ch5 v16; Matthew Ch 10 v19-20; Acts Ch1 v8

Discuss what you think each verse tells us about sharing our faith.

Chat...(20 mins)... The London Institute of Contemporary Christianity's (LICC) uses the term 'frontline' to help Christians see where God has placed them to join in God's mission. Some of you will remember this if you took part in the "Fruitfulness on the Frontline" studies

Your Frontline: the place where you spend much of your time

Your Frontline: the place where you meet people who don't know Jesus

Your Frontline: the place God has called you

Your Frontline: the place of possibility and potential

Complete the exercise in this week's 'Live it Out' ideas and chat about the opportunities and challenges it identifies.

Live it Out and Pray...(30mins)

Look at the "Live it Out 5" exercises for this week and as in previous weeks select one to commit to for the next week/fortnight. Pray for each other that our lifestyles communicate the correct message about our faith. Pray that God would show you and/or your group ways you can continue to challenge each other/be challenged and made accountable regarding the Rhythms of Grace as you, by God's grace, grow as a disciple of Jesus.