

1 NOVEMBER 2009

EVERY MEMBER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME: Share with the rest of the group the greatest regret of your life?

WORSHIP: The theme of this could be God's love and ours.

You could begin with some songs on the theme of God's love and then read 1 Corinthians 13.4-6 replacing the word 'love' with the word 'Jesus' and inviting the group to meditate/reflect. You could then invite them to read it through again to themselves replacing the word 'love' with the word 'I' and then to ask God to challenge them on any area in their life where they are not becoming more like Jesus and ask God to help them.

WORD: Read 1 Peter 2.1-10

- v 1 What 5 things does Peter say we should get rid of? What does each one mean (put it own words, can you give examples of your own)? Why should we get rid of them?
- vv 2-3 Why do you think Peter says we are to see ourselves as 'newborn babies'? What is 'poor spiritual milk'? Can you give some examples of the 'goodness of the Lord'?
- vv 4-5 Explore the image of 'living stone' to describe Jesus and ourselves as the community of God's people. How are we to 'come to him'? How are to we to 'let ourselves be built'? What is our purpose as a community?
- vv 6-7 What does it mean that Jesus is the 'cornerstone'?
- v 8 Why would builders 'reject a stone' and how might this image apply to us today? Why do people 'stumble'?
- v 9 Explore the descriptions/images that Peter uses to describe the community of God's people and what our purpose is (compare with vv 4-5)
- v 10 What is the significant reminder to us in this verse?

1. Do you think that what we are becoming in community (as individuals/cell group/church) is more important than what we do? How should we measure this?
2. When there is misunderstanding/tension/disagreements between Christians, how should we think about it? How do we remember that the community of God's people is a 'work in progress'?
3. If the community of God's people is described as a building (by Peter and Paul), then what should our relationship/attitude be towards the actual building we meet in?
4. In what ways does the architecture of St. Luke's speak of the reality of the living God and in what ways does it deny the same reality?

WITNESS: How could your group contribute to the community of Crosby?