

Lifegroup Notes – Guest Speaker Rev. Dave Newton

Read Colossians 3:12-17

- In this passage the apostle Paul teaches us about what it means to live as God's chosen people. On Sunday Dave highlighted four ways in which we can do this; which aspect of kingdom living stands out to you the most? (The four that Dave highlighted were: Forgiveness, Peace, His Word and His Name, but there are many others in the text)
- Out of all of the aspects of kingdom living highlighted in this passage, which do you find the most challenging and why?
- Look again at verse 17, what do you think Dave meant by "It's OK to do whatever, when it's the whatever you want to do"? Do you agree with his statement?
- What steps can we take to ensure that our circumstances do not dictate our attitude?
- On Sunday Dave suggested that the secret to reaching people for Jesus was simply to choose to represent Jesus wherever we go. Where do you think you represent Jesus well and where do you find it more of a challenge?
- Why do you think Paul puts such a heavy emphasis on thankfulness in this passage? In what way does having an attitude of thankfulness change our outlook on life?
- On Sunday Dave told the story of 68 year old arthritic Frank who beat him in a five mile run while on holiday in France. The reason he gave for his success was that he'd been running every day of his life since I was 17, he added "my muscles just know how to run". What are some of the ways that we can train ourselves in thankfulness? (Hebrews 12:11)
- On Sunday Dave finished with the following poem:

I don't mean to try and be clever,
and don't get me wrong I'm not saying that I never,
but if we're going to represent Jesus we've got endeavour,
to be people who are thankful, whatever.

If we want to last the race, keep going forever,
be a blessing to others, whoever, wherever
when our whatever leaves us facedown, under pressure
needing a pick me up, or a quick refresher
if our summer feels like a dark November,
and we could be knocked down easier than a feather
if life feel more like cheap plastic than genuine leather,
people do your head in and you can't get on together,

I don't mean to try and be clever,
and don't get me wrong I'm not saying that I never,
but if we're going to represent Jesus we've got to endeavour
to be people who are thankful whatever.

Spend some time praying for each other that we might become the best representatives of Jesus that we can be whatever the circumstances of life.