

Small Group Material

Week of 20th March

Last week we had Lynn Downing with us who works for Briarwood Presbyterian Church in USA as the pastor for church revitalisation. The talks are all on our website if you missed any and want to catch up.

The foundations for Biblical church health raised a number of important issues and it seems like the right thing for us as small groups to think this through together. It is vital that we take the Biblical principals but make them our own, condition them for our environment.

I'm sure that you have questions and observations that would be valuable to talk through together as we look to what God is calling us a church to be together.

1. Lynn talked about Jesus begin our

Justification

Atonement

Expiation

Propitiation

Redemption

Righteousness

Reconciliation

Adoption

Sanctification

Glorification

Were any of these terms new to you?

Do you understand the implications of them all?

What excites you about the work of Christ here?

2. How do you understand the phrase 'Salvation, Christianity and Church are about God' rather than about us?

3. There are 3 basic Biblical ways in which we grow in grace, reading the Bible, prayer and the church (meeting with other Christians). Where are the strengths and weaknesses for us as a church and you as an individual here?

4. How do you see your role in the church? Is it obvious in Sloan Street that we are here to feed into each other's lives with the gifts God has given us to allow God to work through us in them?

Do you know where you can or do serve in the church?

5. How does the power of culture operate in our church? How do we imbibe from the world attitudes that permeate our church life?

6. Where does the power of personal preference effect the way that we live together as a church family? When have you seen people give up their personal choice for the benefit of others?

Where do you find your preference difficult to concede for the good of the church?

6. Where does the power of personal preference effect the way that we live together as a church family? When have you seen people give up their personal choice for the benefit of others? Where do you find your preference difficult to concede for the good of the church?

7. On Sunday morning we looked at never being satisfied. Do you feel this is a danger for us/you? What is the joyful future that God holds out in front of us that should make us never satisfied?