

Surrey Chapel Fellowship Groups 28th/ 29th January 2015

Living in Love

Ephesians 4:17-5:2

This study builds on the sermon on Sunday morning 18th January. Tonight we will focus on the subject of living in love and in particular how it relates to our fellowship groups using the text Ephesians 4:17-5:2 as our guide.

Life in a hostile World 4:17-19

We shouldn't need reminding that we live in a dark world that is hostile to the gospel and Christian values. - Romans 1 explores this further. We are called to live differently (v.17)

In what ways do we see what Paul is talking about in these verses in the world around us?

Are there specific examples that you can give from your experience?

What pressures does the world put upon us? How do we resist them?

Teaching one another 20-24

These verses tell us that we need to be taught "in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus". This truth rescues us from the cycle of death and destruction described in the previous verses.

Does this teaching refer to pre-conversion teaching (as part of evangelism) or post-conversion teaching (i.e. discipling) or both?

Where do we get this teaching from?

What part should fellowship groups have in this?

Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of your fellowship group in this regard.

Living a holy life 25-28

These verses remind us of some of the ways in which we must behave as Christians.

Verse 26 - We must settle our scores.

What does verse 27 mean? Where could we be giving the devil a foothold in our lives?

v.28 looks at two huge topics of work and giving that we cannot hope to explore fully here. There are however two points which should be made: firstly the Bible speaks of work as something which is essentially good, work existed before the fall, God works and so should we. Secondly we should use some of the proceeds of our work to share with those in need.

To what extent do we/ should we support each other in our work through fellowship groups?

What part should fellowship groups play in charitable giving?

Loving one another 29- 5:2

"Building each other up according to their needs" is one of the key roles of fellowship groups.

-Discuss

In what ways do we build each other up in our fellowship groups?

What could we do better?

How do we measure up to verse 32?

Chapter 5:1-2 are very challenging verses. Spend some time discussing the implications of these verses and how we can support and encourage each other in this regard.

Prayer time

Spend some time praying through the challenge of 5:1-2 and the other issues raised in this study.