

HEART FOR GOD

Week 1: Peter - The Christ-Centred Heart

Live

When you were at Primary School what did you want to be when you grew up?

Love

Listen to or sing along to a worship song. Possible songs could be The Power of Your Love or Here is Love, Vast as the Ocean.

Read out Philippians 2 v. 5-11 and thank Jesus for the things he went through for us.

Grow

Read Hebrews Chapter 12 v.1 - 13 and John Chapter 21 v. 15 – 22.

Split into two groups and take one passage for each group. Answer the following questions.

1. What is the passage about?
2. How does the passage relate to a Christ-Centred heart?
3. What attitudes and responses are required from me as a Christian?

Each group tell the other group what you have discussed.

Serve

How can you develop your love for Jesus? What makes your heart go cold towards Him? What makes your heart go warm?

We are called to follow Jesus, as seen in John 21 v.19. Share any examples of where you have suffered due to following Jesus. Was it worth it?

What verbs do you think Jesus would use to speak to you? (To Peter he used the verbs: feed, take care and feed).

Is there anyone you cannot love? Offer support and advice to each other.

Build

Some have said that the cross was the inevitable consequence of Jesus' love. In what ways will 'God's love in me' rub people up the wrong way?

How can we express God's love to people around us, in ways in which they won't be offended?

Prayer

Pray and ask God to help us live more like Christ, to have a more Christ-centred heart. Pray that we can better serve and build the community around us with Christ at the centre.

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Week 2: Isaiah– The Willing Heart



Live

Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions? E.g. I always wanted to go sky diving and have a Blue Peter badge.



Love

Listen to or sing along to some worship music on the topic of surrendering all to Jesus.

Reflect and think about any areas of our lives where we are reluctant to give to Jesus.



Grow

Read and think on Isaiah 6v. 1 – 13 before discussion.

Does anything speak to you? Is there anything you don't understand?

1. Describe the qualities of God revealed in Isaiah's vision?
2. Why do you think God visited Isaiah in this dramatic way?
3. In what way did Isaiah respond in the chapter?
4. What was Isaiah's message that he had to take to the people?



Serve

Isaiah was in the temple when he had his vision. Praise and worship is a continuous practice for the Christian. Do we find this easy? What help can we offer each other?

Isaiah felt unworthy but still he found himself saying, "Here am I send me!" How can feeling unworthy be helpful and how can it be unhelpful?

Have you ever had to deliver bad news? Do you, as a Christian, ever have to deliver bad news?

What things stop you saying to God, "Here am I send me?" Do you feel God is worth the effort of your obedience?



Build

Someone once said, “Would I do more evangelism if I was paid £1000 for every new disciple?” How willing are you to be used to bring family, friends, work colleagues to Christ?

Who could you ‘put yourself out for’ this week?

Prayer

Pray that when God calls us to act, that we are willing and eager to do His work. Pray that we have a sense of perspective that will encourage and lift us up when we find it difficult to motivate ourselves.

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Week 3: John – The Waiting Heart

Live

If you knew that tomorrow was your last day on earth, how would you spend it?

Love

Listen to a worship song as we compare Jesus from the Revelation and Jesus on Good Friday. Look at Revelation 1 v. 9 -19 compare the qualities and description of the glorious risen Jesus from this passage with the qualities and description of Jesus on Good Friday.

Grow

Read Mark Chapter 13 v. 26 -37.

1. What lesson(s) can be learned from the fig tree?
2. What things does this passage tell us will happen when Jesus returns?
3. According to this passage what should our attitude be to Jesus' second coming?

Serve

1. In what way is patience a good thing when it comes to serving Christ?
2. What tensions do you feel now because you are 'not yet fully like Jesus'?
3. What changes are you most looking forward to when you get to heaven?
4. Do you long to be able to do a particular thing for God but have not yet managed to achieve or try it? (e.g. pray for someone to be healed, bring someone to faith, use a gift of the Spirit...)
5. What is stopping you from doing/getting it?

Build

1. Does the fact that there will be a second coming, affect the way you live?
2. Does it affect your attitude to those you know who are not yet Christians?

Prayer

Pray that we will be able to have patience in waiting for Christ to return and that we would have a good perspective about the importance of this life.

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Week 4: Peter – The Spirit-Filled Heart

Live

Which celebrity would you most like to be like, and why?

Love

Listen to or sing along to a worship song.

Grow

Read 2 Peter 1 v. 3 – 11 and Isaiah 61 v. 1 - 3

Split into two groups and take one passage for each group. Read the passage out and answer these questions:

1. What is the passage basically about?
2. How does the passage relate to a Spirit-filled heart?
3. What attitudes and responses are required from me as a Christian?

Each group tell the other group what things you have discussed.

Serve

1. In what ways has God the Holy Spirit been evident in your life over the last month?
2. Does it matter that you feel dry or feel full of God?
3. How can we include more of the Holy Spirit in my daily life?
4. Should we expect God to work through us to help others? How can we do this more effectively?

Ask if anyone would like to be prayed with, to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that they can be more effective in their 'ministry'. If the group agrees, lay hands on and pray for them.

Build

Read Ephesians 5 v. 18.

1. How can I pray to help my friend come to know Jesus?
2. God the Holy Spirit is with me. How can we (the Holy Spirit and us) help our friends come closer to Jesus?
3. Which of the activities listed in Isaiah 61 v. 1 – 3 are we involved in doing?

Prayer

Pray that we would be filled with the Holy Spirit afresh and that it would guide and help us in our journey. Pray that we would feel God's presence in our lives.