



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

07-07-2024		iBelong to a diverse church	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> What has been the highlight of your week? <input type="checkbox"/> Who were you most grateful for this week?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> We're becoming increasingly diverse as a church (possibly one of the most in north Birmingham). Why is this happening? Is this a good thing? What are the challenges? Opportunities? How diverse do you imagine Heaven to be? <input type="checkbox"/> Being inclusive is not a single issue, rather a value/ ethos that applies to all. How inclusive are we in regard to: Disability? Economic power? Ethnicity? Gender? Gender identity? Learning disability? Mental health? Neurodiversity? Sexuality? <input type="checkbox"/> Should we only be inclusive of those who agree with us? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> How do we create a 'safe space' for all people to encounter Christ and be affirmed as the person God has wired them to be? (whatever their ability, age, economic status, ethnicity, gender, neuropathway, sexuality...)		
 Read	<u>Psalm 133</u>	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.1</u> : Why is it <i>good</i> for us to dwell together in unity? How <i>pleasant</i> does it feel? What's the difference between <i>unity</i> and <i>uniformity</i> ? What's easier? Why? Is it inevitable that the Church reflects our polarised/ divided society, or should we be modelling something different? If so, what? How? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.2</u> : In ancient times, what was the 'hospitality code'? Why in a hot, desert environment was the 'hospitality code' so universally applied to <u>all</u> , whoever they might be? What would happen to 'others' if the 'hospitality code' wasn't practiced? After a hot, dusty/sandy day what might a traveller appreciate? Why the oil? When have you experienced <i>minimal</i> hospitality? How did it make <i>you</i> feel? How did it reflect on your <i>host</i> ? When have you experienced <i>generous</i> hospitality? How did it make <i>you</i> feel? How did it reflect on your <i>host</i> ? Is v.2 describing <i>minimal</i> or <i>generous</i> hospitality? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>v.3</u> : What does snow-capped Mt Hermon (highest mountain in Israel) do for those who live down in the foothills/ plains below? Does it only rain on/ refresh <i>some</i> people e.g. those who look like us, we think deserve it..? What does this say about God's blessing? Why is ' <i>down</i> ' emphasised so much? Down from <i>where</i> ?		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> To what extent is being 'in Christ' with others a game-changer? If you are a child of God and I am a child of God, what does that make us?		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why?		

Reflect	
 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Find out about Chester Road's Justice Hub. Look at the display board in the church sanctuary. Get involved.
 Pray	Pray for one another.
 My questions:	

*If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk.*