














## Small Group/ Reflection Notes

11-05-2025		The Three Rs: Ransomed	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> What has been the highlight of your week?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> If you were kidnapped, what amount might you be ransomed for? How confident would you be of it being paid? <input type="checkbox"/> We know that “Christ died for us”. Does it matter if we don’t fully understand how or why?		
 Read	<a href="#"><u>Mark 10:35-45</u></a>	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#"><u>v.35-37</u></a> : Christ asks us/ you the same question. How do you answer it? What happens when we use Christ for our own advancement? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#"><u>v.38-40</u></a> : What was the ‘cup’ Jesus was referring to? And what was the significance of His ‘baptism’? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#"><u>v.41-44</u></a> : What happens when one or a few try to promote themselves over the team/ community? Why are we so fixated on position and power? Have you ever felt ‘lorded over’ by another/ others? What does Jesus say is the way to true authority? How did Jesus model this? When have you seen others model servant leadership? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#"><u>v.45</u></a> : Who is the ‘Son of Man’? Why? Why is this such a radical, counter-cultural statement? Who had been kidnapped (held to ransom)? How have we/ you been ‘kidnapped’ (held to ransom)? By what? How did Jesus pay the ‘ransom’? Why? How would/ does it feel to have been released? Why might some remain in their captivity even after their ransom has been paid?		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> We should not press the ‘ransom’ image too far. It’s a metaphor. Theologians refer to it as ransom <i>theory</i> . If pressed too far, it raises some challenging questions: <input type="checkbox"/> If God is all-powerful and the supreme Being, answerable to nothing/ no one, does God have to acquiesce/ bow to Evil’s ransom demand? <input type="checkbox"/> Does this imply Evil has power over God? <input type="checkbox"/> If God is perfect love/ Shalom, could God simply choose to forgive us/ humanity without having to pay a price to Evil?		
 Reflect	<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?		
 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> When shopping (in store or online), when you see prices, take a moment to thank Jesus for paying the ultimate price for you.		

 Pray	<div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p>Almighty God, from whose love nothing can part us,          I thank You for this bread of life, my God.</p> <p>I am a traveller and stranger in the world, like so many of Your people before me.</p> <p>I trust it is Your voice I hear, the call of the Spirit, the cry of the Bird of Heaven.</p> <p>I offer You my 'yes' to risky living...</p> <p>The sea takes me; where I do not know, but I gladly go.</p>
 My questions:	

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