

## **Connect Group notes 26.5.25**

Don continued our series on Sunday – *Living in a Spiritual World*.

Don spoke to us today about Angels.

Much of what we ‘know’ or understand about them has been formed by tradition, culture and media. They are created beings (Colossian 1:16), intelligent, rational and emotional, with free will. Some even resisted Yahweh and sided with Satan (Revelation 12).

Don explained about their nature;

- They are spirits but can take on physical form
- Called ‘heavenly ones’ and ‘stars’
- Also called ‘gods’ or ‘Holy ones’

And their function;

- Messengers (Hebrew ‘malak’)
- Ministers, servants ready to do his bidding
- Watchers and protectors (2 Kings 6:16-17)
- Hosts, mighty ones in military service, ordered ranks with a hierarchy)
- Cherubim and Seraphim – guardians of God’s presence and worship (Genesis 3:24)

## **Discussion Points**

Don spoke about some things in particular in relation to aiding and increasing our understanding of angels, and how this relates to our lives as well...

1. Firstly they are participants in God’s heavenly counsel (see 1 Kings 22:19-23). God wants theirs, and *our*, participation in things!
- How does realising this change the way we view praying? Does it increase our urgency or desire to do so?
  - Don said that God is willing to change his mind for us when we contend in prayer. What do we think about the idea that God may

not move if we don't pray? Or that our prayers are more powerful than we could ever imagine?

- Angels assist in the governance and outworking of God's plans. In what other ways, aside from prayer, does God invite *us* to participate in his plans?

2. Angels show responsive obedience to divine decrees (Daniel 9:22, 2 Chronicles 32:21).

- What does this say to us about God's provision for us through his angels?
- What kinds of things do we think angels might do for us or others?
- Has anyone experienced what they believe was an angelic encounter or provision, or know of anyone who has? (Psalm 91:11-12)
- Is there the potential that there have been times in our lives where we may not have recognised angelic intervention? What is our response to the possible realisation?
- What does this say to us about God's love for us?

## **PRAY and Apply**

Don encouraged us at the end of Sunday's gatherings to place our hands on our eyes as he prayed for us to have '2020 vision' with regards to the spiritual world.

- Pray for each other that our eyes, ears and hearts would be seeing, hearing and understanding, to what is happening around us in the spiritual realm, with the aid of Holy Spirit given discernment.

- Ask God to renew our passion for prayer, and to realise that in this we are participating in ETERNAL matters.