

Connect Groups Gateway

Week starting 13/3/23

Debrief

1. Any stories from the past week you would like to share to encourage the whole group?
2. Any "aha" moments of breakthrough?
3. Any highs or lows?

Sunday Series

The Mission of God – ‘Whoever We Are, Wherever We Go’

Don spoke last week about how some theologians want to unhitch current theology from the OT, claiming it's no longer relevant. On Sunday just been, he looked at "Act V" – The Continuation of God's mission through his new creation, people – that is US.

Look at 1 Peter 2: 9-10, 12

1. What do these scriptures say to us about our purpose in this age and time?
2. How does this line up with 'The Mission of God'?
3. Are there places in our own lives/society we live in that we're aware do or don't line up with God's mission?

Don also referenced different ways people have approached their understanding of carrying out God's mission by;

- Being angry at, or defensive of
 - Embracing of, and
 - Withdrawal from
1. Discuss some of the ramifications of each response in our relationships and society in general, and how as Christ followers we might address these responses, or challenge them in our own lives.

Another option of response is to be a "faithful presence among" - read Jeremiah 29:4-7;

1. What does this look like in our day to day activities, routines and interactions?
2. Are there areas of our lives we may not have realised the significance of our faithful presence? Ie. in domestic duties, childcare/caring for sick loved ones, difficult relationships, and costly sacrificial decisions?
3. What are the challenges/sacrifices of faithfulness and how does our current post Christian society value faithfulness?
4. For personal reflection – Spend time seeking God and asking Him to show us how we can be more of a faithful presence.

“WHOEVER WE ARE , WHEREVER WE GO”.

Pray

Wednesday Morning Prayer | 6:45am - 7:30am | Gateway Auditorium

Please continue to pray for the men, women and children, living in the various motels along Ulster Street and in our CBD. Please pray that they would experience God's love from those caring for them, and that they would be introduced to and impacted by Jesus throughout this season.

Pray that we as individuals and the wider body of Christ would have a new revelation of what it means to be a faithful presence among our families, peers and in our communities, and that being empowered by the Holy Spirit, we would have the courage to live this out.

Praise Reports

As a community, our desire is to be resilient disciples of Jesus who celebrate and continually give thanks to God for what He is doing in our midst. Sharing what God is doing, retelling stories of His faithfulness builds faith and encourages us in our journeys - and this is what we want to do!

So if you or anyone in your group has a praise report or testimony, we would love to hear about it and share those stories (with permission) with our wider community! Simply email ana@gatewaychurch.org.nz.

Pastoral Care

We have a Pastoral Team at Gateway who walk alongside people in our community who may be going through tough times, need support or prayer.

Please phone **021 318 663** to let us know if anyone in your group (with their permission) needs our assistance.

