

Life Group Notes

Sunday 31st January 2021

Speaker: Various

Title: G-R-A-C-E-D

Generous (David Mosimbale)

Read Galatians 6:9-10

Don't give up being generous, because fatigue can easily set in.

How can you be generous with your time, money, energy, gifts and talents? Look for opportunities to bless people around you.

Real (Sarah Horne)

1. Real with ourselves

We can waste a lot of energy wishing we were someone else. Forget who you are not created to be, and learn to be content with who God has made you and the gifts and abilities he has given you.

2. Real with God

There is no pattern of dos and don'ts for your prayer life. How honest and real and unedited are you in your prayer life?

3. Real with each other

It is really important to be honest and vulnerable with one another. It's so liberating to know that you are not the only one who struggles! Also challenge one another – be gentle but sometimes blunt.

Accepting (Clayton Chettiar)

Read 1 Corinthians 12:25

"Accept" is an active word. It is something we choose to do. We all have different roles to play here at RFC. So we need to accept one another, warts and all. Jesus accepts everyone, whatever their background. Let's look beyond people's backgrounds, and see each other as part of the body of Christ.

Anyone can love a rose, but it takes a great heart to include the thorns.

Courageous (Josh Betts)

Read John 15:33

We believe that the message of Jesus is worth sharing, and that the message is urgent.

Courage can't exist without some kind of risk or danger. Steps of courage aren't easy, that's kind of the point.

Have courage because Jesus has won the victory over evil. Remember, you are on the winning side. Take heart, have courage. Jesus is worthy, and he is King!

Enduring (Liz Green)

Read Hebrews 10:36

Sometimes we want to quit, and shout "I'm a Christian, get me out of here!" The walk of faith requires endurance.

Endurance is the ability to continue despite setback, challenge, suffering or adversity. Jesus endured the cross by fixing his eyes on the future (Heb 12:1-3). We endure in the same way – fixing our eyes on Him!

May it be said of those at RFC, "They just keep believing God!"

Diverse (Jenny Boctor)

Read Romans 12:4-5

God created us all unique and different. God longs for the church to be united in our diversity, brought together by one Spirit. There should be no discrimination within the church (Gal 3:28). Jesus' disciples were an unlikely group of friends from different walks of life, united on one common mission. It's easy and natural to connect with others who are like ourselves. How can we adapt to help those who are from different backgrounds and move towards them?

Questions:

1. In what area of your life do you want to 'go again' in GENEROSITY?
2. Where do you want to be more REAL; with yourself, with God, with others?

3. Who could you reach out to today to express love and ACCEPTANCE?
4. Where do you need to exercise COURAGE this week?
5. Ask God for ENDURANCE.
6. "We all need to open our eyes and look out for other that aren't like ourselves and ask them how we can involve them too." Ask God to help you do this.