

WHITFIELD PARISH
St James' Church † St Luke's Church

LIFE Group Notes w/b Sunday 7 February 2010

No walls, no ceilings, only endless possibilities

These Life Group notes are not based directly on last Sunday's talk. Rather, they are an opportunity to reflect together on some of the key points in the Parish 'Way Ahead' paper. With this in mind, it will be helpful for there to be a copy of this available at your group.

1. On p.1, we describe ourselves as 'a Word and Spirit church'. This is then defined in the following way:

'That means we believe, teach, seek to understand and obey the whole Bible and desire to be open to receive all we can of the ministry of the Holy Spirit'.

What does this mean in practice? How would this be worked out in congregations with different styles of worship?

2. Discuss the following paragraphs from p.3:

'We must be careful to distinguish between worship styles and theological nuance. The theological positions of the congregations is the same but worship styles will be different'

Why is it important to understand this statement?

'We must be mindful that multiple congregations are an invitation to 'interdependence' and not "independence' They are an opportunity to explore unity in diversity. Each congregation is part of a whole not an entity in its own right.

Which N.T. ideas does this address?

3. On p.3., it is suggested different congregations may have different primary goals (casting, catching and feeding). How do you respond to this idea?

4. on p.5. it says:

'An important part of the paid staff's role is to be 'Servant Enablers'. What does that mean to you? How might it be worked out in practice? How does this affect your expectation of the clergy's role?

5. How are 'Mission' and 'Unity' closely related? (p10)

6. Discuss anything else in the 'Way Ahead' paper that has caught your attention.

Prayer suggestion: -

Read through the Parish values in Appendix A. Use them as prayer fuel.