

Cell Group Material- Sunday July 17th

As part of the “summer season” Ian and Chris are doing a “mini-series” on what in education-speak might be called “core Christian competencies” – the characteristics that all believers should show even though we spend our whole Christian life developing, strengthening and refining them. They are really aspects of discipleship under another name so fit into the long-term theme of our teaching programme. This week we will be starting off by looking at faith.

Starter

- 1) What “acts of faith” have you done in everyday life today-things that you did that you based on expectation and trust?
- 2) Your old car has finally reached the end of the road and even Roy cannot resurrect it. What factors influence your choice of a replacement? How many of these factors involve trusting something or someone?

Main course

Read Hebrews 11 v1-3, 8-19, 24-29.

What strikes you about these “heroes of faith”? Why were they able to have so much confidence in what they could not see?

Read Hebrews 6 v11-20a.

Why can we rely on God’s nature as a basis for faith? What is it about him that makes him utterly reliable?

But the sceptic will say we have never seen God – how does John 1 v1-2 and 10-18 and John 14 v7- 11 answer this?

What Bible promises are “special” for you? Why? How have they helped in the past and what do they mean to you now?

Sweet (celebration)

Pick out one or two of the “old “ hymns e.g. Hymns and Psalms 667, 677, 678 and read (some at least) of the verses slowly – then turn their confidence in a faithful God into prayer and praise. You might like to sing – either the hymns themselves or a modern equivalent.

If you have time, share something about your own special hero/heroine of faith and thank God for what they have taught you.

Leaving the party

It is great to share our “faith journey” with each other – but what will it mean back in the world tomorrow? What difference does your Christian faith make in everyday life? Can others see this basic competency of faith at work? What opportunities have you missed recently to share it – and what opportunities might come up in the next week?