

Week beginning: 11th May 2008

Theme: *'Change'*

Welcome: If you could change one thing about yourself – what would it be? (Fellow cell members – be supportive ... no laughing!)

Worship: Don't forget to worship in your cell meeting. It is through worship that we draw near to God. Has someone in the cell got a favourite hymn of praise on their heart this week? – Sing it! *Also – read 'Jesus be the centre' (Printed on Page 2)*

Discuss – 'Jesus be the centre' is a truly beautiful song but sometimes we can get carried away by the tune and miss the significance of the words! How do you think our lives would and could change if;

1. Jesus *really was* 'the fire in our hearts'?
2. Jesus *really was* 'the wind in our sails'?

And most of all

3. If Jesus *really was* 'the reason that we live'?

Word: *Read Acts 2:14-41*

If you are 'on fire for Jesus' people will be curious and will be attracted towards you – if for nothing else – just to watch you burn!

Teaching Slot:

As the disciples awaited change in the days leading up to Pentecost they devoted their time to meeting with God and praying as a dedicated group. As a result dramatic change came and, as we can see from our reading, Peter too was changed beyond all recognition! Throughout the Gospels Peter is portrayed as a rather coarse character prone to verbal outbursts and impulsive behaviour. Nothing he did in those days was particularly attractive and yet in our reading we catch a glimpse of a very different person indeed – a man ‘sold out’ for Christ – who has captured the undivided attention of 3000 intrigued listeners who are attracted to Peter ... *because he has changed!*

Witness:

How long has it been since someone actually asked you the reason for the hope and joy that you emanate? Are people attracted to you because you are refreshingly different? Are people curious about the way you live and what you believe in? How would you feel if your non-Christian friends considered you to be ‘just like them’? This week, for your own edification, try to measure how much you have changed, and are willing to change, throughout your journey as a Christian.

‘Jesus be the centre’

Jesus be the centre
Be my source be my light Jesus
Jesus be the centre
Be my hope
Be my song Jesus

Be the fire in my heart
Be the wind in these sails
Be the reason that I live
Jesus Jesus

Jesus be my vision
Be my help
Be my guide Jesus