



THE
RIPPLE
EFFECT

11 OCT - 15 NOV

It starts with Surrender



Read: Luke 22:39-46, Matt 6: 9-14

General

- Who was with Jesus and where did he go?
- What stands out to you in this passage?
- What does it mean to surrender?
- What is Jesus surrendering to?
- Why were the disciples sleeping?

Deeper

- One commentary perceives that the real battle was fought here rather than on the cross- How could you explain that statement?
- What temptation was Jesus asking the disciples to pray against? Is it the same temptation as in the Lord's Prayer?
- Where else does the Bible mention the cup and how does it compare with this passage? (Is 51:17, Ezk 23:33, Pslam 75:8)
- How can we learn from Jesus' response to his agony?

Application

- What does following God's will look like for you this week?
- What aspects in your life do you need to surrender to God?
- How can you participate in God's Kingdom this week, at work, at uni etc.?

Activity

- Pray the Lord's Prayer Together (Matt 6:9-14)
- Make a commitment to pray it once everyday this week.

Do we want a clean heart?



Read: Psalm 51

General

- In how many ways did David sin in the Bathsheba affair? (2 Sa 11:1-27)
- In light of all this how does David dare approach God? How does he seem to feel?
- What is David's desire? v10-12
- What does God delight in? v16-17

Deeper

- Since his sins involved others, what is the meaning v 4? And what does this reveal about the nature of sin?
- If God created all things "good" why does mankind tend to sin? Ro 5:12-14
- On what basis does David hope for a restored relationship? v13-17
- Why does David include the whole nation into his prayer? v18-19

Application

- Do you want God to create in you a clean heart? What things do you need to confess to him or others?
- How have you seen God's mercy when you have owned up to your sin?
- How does your personal failings affect God, others, self and wider community?

Activity

Spend 10 mins in silence before God. If possible away from others and reflect on your relationship with God and allow him to show you areas you need to confess, surrender to him.

Jesus' prayer for you



Read: John 17: 20-26

General

- What are the key themes of Jesus' prayer?
- What are some things that unites Christians all around the world?
- What does it mean to be 'in' Jesus?
- What dangers exist in disunity?

Deeper

- How can simply 'being united' help the world believe in Jesus?
vv21, 23
- How then can you balance the focus of being united and not being disconnected from the rest of the world?
- What is the glory that we receive in v22?
- Discuss the idea of such a perfect unity that Christians can be almost like a fourth member in the Godhead (v23). Why is or isn't this valid?
- Why does the world hate the disciples? (John 15)

Application

- In what areas do you think your church can improve in regards to Unity?
- Can you recall a time when you were not in unity with a Christian? How was it resolved?
- List 3 people you can intercede for this week. Pray for them.

Activity

1. Discuss what are the issues that cause disunity among Christians? What would Jesus say/do in response?
2. Make a commitment as a group to join the monthly church prayer meeting this month

Communal Faith



Read: Acts 1:12-14, Acts 2: 1-4

General

- Where were the disciples coming from? v 12
- Why did the disciples gather together in constant prayer?
- Given verses 6 to 8, how would you be praying if you were in this group? What emotions would you express?
- Why did God wait until Pentecost (a celebrative harvest festival Dt 16:9-10) to give them the Holy Spirit? v 4

Deeper

- How does being filled with the holy spirit relate to bearing witness to Jesus?
- If you had been there what would you have seen, heard, and felt? How have you responded more like those in verse 12 or verse 13, why?
- What does it mean that our faith has a communal reality?

Application

- When have you experienced and in power from God to witness about Christ?
- What can you do this week to be better prepared for God's use in your workplace, family, community?
- How can you live a life empowered by the holy spirit?

Activity

Share in Communion together as a group.
Read Luke 22: 14-20
Pray earnestly for each other in response.

Community transforming Prayer



Read: 1 Tim 2: 1-7, Luke 4: 17-19

General

- What does a mediator do?
- Discuss the differences between a petition/supplication, a prayer, an intercession and a giving of thanks. (v1)
- Which group of people might you often forget to pray for?
- Do 'all people' really need praying for? Why does Paul repeat that phrase so much?

Deeper

- How does the idea of Jesus being a 'ransom for all people' (1 Tim) connect with imagery of the oppressed people in Luke 4?
- Why do we pray for both the 'kings and all those in authority' and the ones who are poor and captive?
- What is the year of the Lord's favour? What was the original intent and purpose of this year? (See Leviticus 25, especially vv54-55).
- How does prayer align our hearts with God's?

Application

- List two different issues in your community you can pray for this week that you do not usually pray for.
- Fasting is another form of worship. If you are up for it, nominate one of the things you are praying for and fast for it this week. (Does not have to be food!)

Activity

Behind enemy lines: Who are the people that you may consider an enemy? Why? Is there a way that they need to be set free? Change it up and pray for these people who 'persecute' you today.

Prayer for renewal and revival



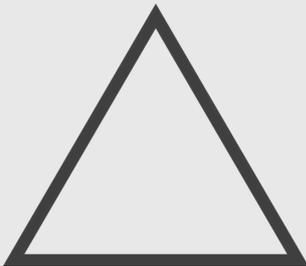
Read: Eph 3:14-21

General

- For what reason does Paul kneel before God and pray? V 14
- How does Paul start his prayer? V 15
- How have we become living temples in which Christ dwells? 2: 21-22, 3: 16-17

Deeper

UP
(Loving God)



IN

(Loving each other)

OUT

(Loving the community)

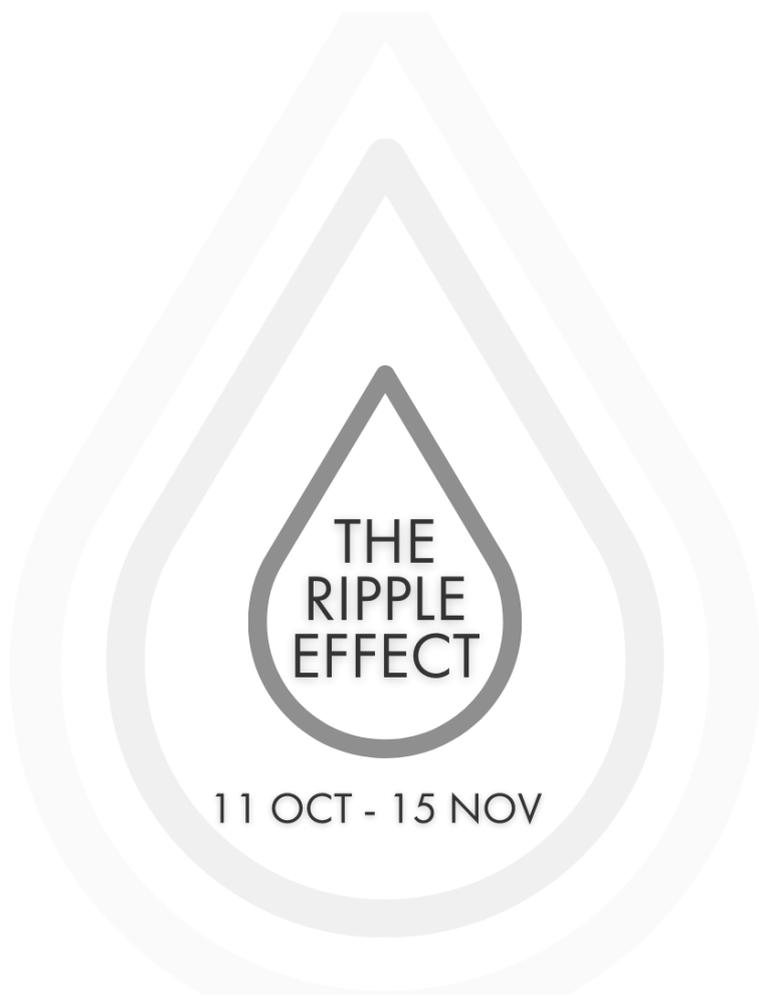
- Considering 2: 19-22, why does Paul pray as he does? What are his underlying views of God?
- What is this love that surpasses knowledge? V 19 (Ro 8:37-39, 1 John 4: 7-13)
- The UP, IN and OUT triangle of our faith is described through Paul's prayer, discuss each element?

Application

- How do you expect to change as you become more aware/confident of Christ's love?
- Do you desire to be changed/renewed by his spirit in your inner being? How can you allow God to start this work in you this week?
- How can God work through you in your family, workplace & community?

Activity

Plan a prayer walk around your neighbourhood. Pray for God's renewal work in you, in our church and in our neighbourhood (our community)



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