

Parish of Ferndown

Study sheet for week commencing 21st June 2010

Who we are in Christ: Children and Heirs – Romans 8:12-23

Welcome (Ice breakers)

- Why are dads important in raising children and why are men important in the education system?
- Whether your parents are alive or not do you have any special photo or possession of theirs that means a lot to you? Why?

Worship

It was Father's Day on Sunday. Can you create some worship that thanks God for his Fatherly care of us, and asks God to bless "earthly" fathers in their roles?

Word

- Take a moment to be quiet in the Lord's presence. Ask him to surprise you and remove any apathy on your part – so you are ready to hear his voice.
- Now read the bible passage
- What are we obliged to do?
- If we want to be God's children, who must lead us?
- v.14 – "sons of God" – If sons were the inheritors, what might they (and we) as God's children be inheritors of?
- What is an heir? What is it to be a co-heir with Christ? (v.17)
- Rom 8:15 mentions fear. There is much fear, anxiety, desire to control, and even rebellious attitudes in many churches – yes, even in ours! Why are these attitudes of the devil?
- How might a deeper appreciation of "who we are in Jesus" lead to being freed from these oppressive influences?
- When you think about anything at all at St Mary's (worship, preaching, leaders, Beacon Project etc) do you struggle in any of these areas and need freeing in the name of Jesus? Do let this inform your prayer time.
- Do you know 100% that you are a child of God? Who assures us that we are?

Ministry time

Dare you do two 4 things in prayer today?

- Firstly, could you pray prayers of repentance and ask forgiveness for any apathy, fear, issues of wanting control (or everything just as you want)?
- Secondly can you thank God that each of you (saying names out loud) is a child of God?
- Thirdly, can you ask the Holy Spirit to remind others that you know that they are being called by him to become God's children?
- Fourthly, what do you want to pray for Martin and St Mary's as Martin goes on Sabbatical?

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