

Blog 9

Dear Lock Down Rule of Lifers

Here comes your Weekly Blog on the On-line Group Meeting to Consider- A Rule of Life for Lockdown

At the Ninth Session (1st July) we continued to reflect on how we might develop a communal Rule of Life that maps our life together in lockdown and also continued reading the book of Acts together.

It was great to see 13 people online. We were Sonya Stocker, Nick and Sarah Jarrett-Kerr, Avril Chadwick, Howard Worsley, Kay Friend, Beth Ashton-Hilton, Wendy Reakes, Kirsty Bowles, Baz and Jenny Nottage, Ian Stocker and Francis Urwin.

Howard initially welcomed and hosted by

- 1) Checking in (saying 'Hi' and catch up generally and reflecting on previous week 24th June)
- 2) Flight Time (Sharing insights about the rule of life (good habits for godly living), and, facilitated by Sonya Stocker, looked at
 - a) Acts 5 v 1-16 (a difficult story of deception to ponder)
 - b) Acts 5 v 17-26 and Acts 6 v 8-15 and Acts 7 v 54-60 (Persecution)
 - c) Acts 6 v 1-7 (Delegation)
- 3) Check Out (prayer)

At the initial admin discussion, Avril Chadwick identified a growing list of all those who would like to be connected to the group but cannot (so pass the word on to her if you know of any out there who'd like to be connected....avril.chadwick@btinternet.com). The emerging list is also attached (entitled Rule of Lifers Contacts) and this is an early (and confidentially sensitive) start to identifying whether we might continue to be more inclusive to others wanting to be apart of this group.

Howard (I) confidentially shared how his Rule of Life was operating under lockdown and we discussed how different temperaments (or people at different seasons of life or with different people in the house) might have different rules.

Rule of Life in Lock Down (HW)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Teaching			/				/
Fellowship			/	/		/	/
Break Bread							/
Prayer	//	//	///	//	//	/	///
Family			/	/		/	/
Exercise	//	//	//	//	//	/	///
Leisure						////	//
Meditate & Retreat	/		/		/		
Study	//	//	//	//	//		
Mission	/	/	/	/	/		
Tasks	/	/	/	/	/	//	

In our study time Sonya continued to use the signpost formula below...

Is there something you wish to question?

Is there something about which you wish to comment?

Is there something to encourage us?

Is there something to warn us?

Is there something to help us in building a rule of life?

General Comments

We read

a) Acts 5 v 1-16 (a difficult story of deception to ponder)

The story of Ananias and Saphira was interpreted as being the early vision of the Church community having everything in common but being when two people deliberately attempted to deceive the apostles, an act that had severe consequences. We considered that although God is a God of love, the sin against the Holy Spirit was one that defied the first vision of community and therefore met with a dire warning.

**b) Acts 5 v 17-26 and Acts 6 v 8-15 and Acts 7 v 54-60
(Persecution)**

We noted how the early radical life style and the preaching of the apostles was an affront to the religious leaders of Judaism. Stephen, an early deacon, became the first martyr, and in this, his death mirrored that of Jesus.

c) Acts 6 v 1-7 (Delegation)

The early Church experienced division in their ranks (Greek speaking Jews versus Aramaic speakers) but the early Church met in a public space (Solomon's colonnade) and became visible to many and continued to grow. We pondered on how this might be contextualised for New Creation (what are our divisions, where are our public spaces?)

Next Week, 8th July we'll meet again at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81764868391>

Meeting ID: 817 6486 8391

The format will be the same as before....

We will read about the impact of the Gospel;

- a) The conversion of other cultures (1) Simon the Sorcerer Acts 8 v 9-25**
- b) The conversion of other cultures (2) The Ethiopian Official Acts 8 v 26-40**
- c) The conversion of other cultures (3) A Leading Pharisee (Saul) Acts 9 v 1-19**

- 1) Check in (saying 'Hi' and catch up generally and reflecting on previous week 1st July) hosted by HW**
- 2) Flight Time (Sharing insights about the rule of life (good habits for godly living), and looking at Acts 8-9, facilitated by Ian Stocker.**
- 3) Check Out (prayer)**

Stay in peace

Howard

Revd Dr Howard J Worsley
Vice-Principal & Tutor in Missiology at Trinity College
Stoke Hill, Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1JP
Tel: 0117 9680216
E-mail h.worsley@trinitycollegebristol.ac.uk