

Small Group Resources: Sun 21st May '23

Theme & Passages	Small Group Sunday John 17:1-11	Notes prepared by Gill Hawkins, Steve Elmes & Neil Casey
Welcome (10 mins)	What is the best team that you have belonged to and why?	
Worship (15 mins)	On Sunday Steve talked about how, in Jesus' prayer in John 17, He prayed to His Father 'they've got it' (v7), that they'd understood who Jesus was and what He was doing. To begin your worship have 1 or 2 folks share about when they 'got it' and understood who God is and what He had done for them. Then pray out your gratitude to Jesus for revealing the Father (v6) and worship using 'Glorify thy name' watch or another track of your choice.	
Working with God (20 mins) 5 marks of mission: Evangelism Discipleship Compassion Justice Creation Care	Being confident in mission is one of Bookham Baptist Church's strategic objectives. Our small groups are a place where we can be encouraged, nurtured and supported in becoming the missional people that God wants us to be. At BBC we understand mission to be multi-dimensional as described by the five marks of mission; evangelism, discipleship, compassion, justice and creation care. On Sunday Phil Hawkins outlined how mission is part of all aspects of his life, whether that is enabling discipleship through being a small group mentor, or his work with Aprender, expressing God's call to justice by ensuring every child has access to education that enables them to thrive. • Ask the group to share which of the five marks of mission they feel particularly drawn to. It is likely to be more than one so don't feel limited to just one. • Then ask the group to share how they are living a missional life, demonstrating those marks of mission in their everyday. • Take some time to pray for each other, encouraging each other as we seek to respond to God's call for us to be missional people, and see mission expressed in all aspects of our lives.	
Word (20 mins)	 Read John 17:1-11 & 20-26 In his prayer to the Father, Jesus rejoices that his disciples have believed in him and have come to know God (= eternal life). Here is the good fruit of three years of ministry. They've got it – so to speak. Now that Jesus is returning to the Father, he prays for the protection of his disciples, 'so that they may be made one as we are one' (v 11). Later Jesus prays for those who would come to believe the message of his disciples (17:20-26), praying that they will be made one and be brought to complete unity. What is important about the oneness (unity) of Jesus' disciples? (see verses 21 and 23)? What does our being one mean (Steve suggested it was more than 'getting along' or being in harmony)? How do our small groups enable Jesus' prayer to be answered? Spend a little time in prayer together for the unity of the group and Bookham Baptist Church. 	