

11/09/11 – Riding the Rapids – The Briefing

BE COMMITTED TO A Culture of Kingdom

A life that is bigger than ourselves
Community – a team in the boat
Outward looking
Mobilised
Following God's heart & priorities

BE COMMITTED TO A Culture of Compassion

Towards each other
Towards those who come in – giving the father's welcome
Towards the world – non-judgemental

BE COMMITTED TO A Culture of Honour

Feedback never goes down or sideways – only up
Willingness to address things – speak in love
Handling the prophetic well

BE COMMITTED TO A Culture of Generosity

Live generously, love generously, receive generously
First fruits, bringing God our best not our leftovers.

18/09/11 - Mission & Purpose

Love God, love others, grow in God, serve the world

Mission:

- We are sure of our identity in Christ, and we are living in our original design
- We recognise need in our community, this nation and the world
- We provide opportunities for people to use their unique gifts, talents and excellence to make a positive difference in the lives of others

Purpose:

- That we are doers of the Word (James 1:22-25)
- Our calling in life is to please God
- We are made to do good

Alan Scott: you grow as you go

Beth Moore: Goodness is "character energised, expressing itself in benevolence, active good"

25/09/11 – Riding the Rapids – Where does the boat go?

Read Mark 4:35 – 6:56

Getting in the boat with Jesus, where would you like him to take you?

Mark 6:32-34 (NLT) So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. But many people recognised them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd.

When you arrive, who do you hope to meet?

Mark 5:1-5 (NLT) So they arrived at the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus climbed out of the boat, a man possessed by an evil spirit came out from a cemetery to meet him. This man lived among the burial caves and could no longer be restrained, even with a chain... Day and night he wandered among the burial caves and in the hills, howling and cutting himself with sharp stones.

Mark 2:17 (NIV) Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

When it gets tough, what do you do?

Mark 4:36 (NLT) So they took Jesus in the boat and started out

Mark 5:21 (NLT) Jesus got into the boat again

Mark 6:32 (NLT) So they left by boat

Mark 6:45 (NLT) Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat

Acts 14:19-20 (Msg) The crowd beat Paul unconscious, dragged him outside the town and left him for dead. But as the disciples gathered around him, he came to and got up. Then he went back into town.

Romans 12:11-12 (Msg) Don't burn out; keep yourselves fuelled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder.

FOR REFLECTION:

- Are you 'in the boat' and going in the direction of the church? (If not, what can you do to 'get in'?)
- Is Jesus directing you towards a particular ministry/group/need? How do you feel about that?
- If you've experienced burnt out, what can you do to once again be 'fuelled and aflame'?