

HOUSEGROUP NOTES: Week Beginning 13th November 2016

RSVP - 'AN INVITATION TO CARRY'

Read: (Luke 9:18-27)

TAKE OFF:

Have each person in the group hold out all ten fingers and then starting with the leader go around the circle and one at a time, each person announces something that they have never done, beginning the sentence with the phrase **“Never have I ever...”** for example: a person could say, **“Never have I ever been to Europe.”** For each statement that is said, all the other players drop a finger if they have done that statement. So, if three other people have been to Europe before, those three people must put down a finger, leaving them with nine fingers. The goal is to stay in the game the longest (to be the last person with fingers remaining). HINT - To be the last person in it might be worth saying things that you think most other people have done, but you haven't.

SHARE what some would have liked to have done others have and **WHY?**

DISCUSS those things that some may have had to forgo to follow Jesus.

Q. WHO comes to mind? **Q. WHAT** did they give up? **Q. WAS** it worth it?

(It may be biblical, historical or personal but make it real and relevant.)

TAKE UP:

Q. WHO do people think Jesus is today? (Vs.18-19) **WHAT** is your experience of your family, friends and fellow workers?

Q. WHY does Jesus press His disciples with knowing who He is (Vs.20-21) and **WHERE** does such insight come from?

In (1 Corinthians 13:12) Paul speaks of knowing Jesus in part, seeing in part, understanding in part and in (Philippians 3:10) he also expresses his desire to know Jesus...

Q. HOW can we get to know Jesus more as we grow in our Christian faith and **WHAT** is required?

In (Vs.21) Jesus explains to the disciples what it will mean for him to fulfil His role as Messiah.

Q. HOW did this meet up with their understanding of Messiah do you think?

A PERSONAL THOUGHT :

An invitation to CARRY is about taking up our CROSS and going ALL the way for Him who went ALL the way for us. No holds barred and no turning back, just a steady and humble walk that follows in His footsteps, and along His path through this world.

Q. WHY is the cross (Vs.23) central to the message of the gospel, and WHAT does it mean biblically, personally & practically to take up our cross and follow Jesus?

Q. WHAT does the paradox in (Vs.24) lead us to conclude?

Q. HOW are we tempted to “gain the world” (Vs.25) and how can we continue to follow Jesus as He calls us to without (Vs.26) being ashamed of Him?

TAKE ON:

Q. HOW do we mesh self-denial with the practical need to say no to certain people and their demands?

Q. DOES self denial ,mean never having fun or enjoying life, and if not then HOW do we know when it is okay to take time for ourselves?

TAKE AWAY:

Q. HOW would you compare where you are in your commitment to Christ to a football game? HINT – are you a spectator, benchwarmer, playing defence or offence, on the injured list or fully in the game?

Q. HOW can other members in your group help you get where you would like to be in the game? That is to say, willing to CARRY your CROSS for Jesus!

Spend some time **PRAYING** for those who you know who are suffering at work, at home or in their Christian service for CARRYING THE CROSS OF CHRIST.

Shaun