

## **ICB COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY**

### **WHAT WE DO: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS**

The message last Sunday, continued our series "What We Do". Pastor Brent shared about the signs and wonders that were happening in the early church, and how people were putting their faith in God.

#### **START**

- Hand out a stick of gum to each person in your group. Ask them to share one of their favourite promises of God, eg. He will never leave me nor forsake me, God is love, etc. Then, tell them to hang onto that stick of gum throughout the week as a reminder to "stick" to what they know about God.

#### **SHARE**

*READ ACTS 5:12-16*

- How does this passage relate to the one we read last week?
- Why was the location where the believers met significant (Solomon's Colonnade)?
- Why were people afraid to join the community of believers? How did the number of believers grow anyway, isn't that a contradiction, what do you think is meant here?
- How did the people regard the Apostles? What are the good things that can be taken out of this passage and what danger signs can you see?
- Why do you think God allowed these signs and wonders to happen then? (Look back to what the apostles prayed not long before, in Ch4.29-30)
- What can we learn from this that we can apply to our lives nowadays?

Brent explained to us how the most important thing that came from these acts of healing was that many were coming to faith. God was receiving the glory and no-one else. This snapshot of the early church showed people's faith in a God of love, who met with them in power and with supernatural wonders.

- How can we show faith to those around us, whatever our present situations are? What would that look like, practically speaking?
- What biblical examples can you think of, of people whose faith was strong, despite their surrounding circumstances?

*READ JOB 19:25 and 13:15*

- In the middle of all the terrible things that happened to Job, and without a bright future in sight, we read these great words of faith and hope. Where did Job get his courage from and what can we learn from his example?

### **GROW**

- Listen to this song and short message (attached in email). When is it easier for you to trust and have faith in God, when things are going right or when things are going wrong?
- In what area/part of your life do you think God is wanting to stretch your faith and trust at the moment?

### **PRAY**

Ask God to show you where He wants to stretch you at the moment. Pray He would help you be firm in your faith, whatever is happening in and around you. And in the midst of the situations you are in praise Him for his faithfulness and His amazing and steadfast love for each of us.

### **GO**

As we go into this week rest in the promise that our God is faithful to the end. He is the same yesterday, today and forever and His love for us, His children, is infinite. We can be sure that, as it says in 2 Timothy 2:13, even when we are faithless, he will REMAIN faithful, for He cannot disown himself.

*Read more about the Apostles healing in Acts 5:12-16 and the story of Job in Job. Also here are a few verses about God's faithfulness 2 Timothy 2:13, 1 Thessalonians 5:24, Numbers 23:19, Philippians 1:6.*