



This summer's series looks at the foundations of faith and grapples with some of the basics. This series will cover areas you may have looked at before but it is always good to check your foundations and go deeper in some of these fundamentals. This last study invites us to consider our relationship to the Bible, focussing on one verse in Colossians.

- 1) Where have you seen God's fingerprints in your life this week?
- 2) STARTER: How would you describe your current relationship with reading scripture?

Read Colossians 3: 16

- 3) What do you think Paul means by his reference to "the word of Christ?"
- 4) What thoughts, feelings, or ideas does the use of the word "**dwelling**" conjure up in you?
- 5) Why do you think Paul says "**Let** the word of Christ dwell ..."
- 6) In what ways do you recognise yourself being influenced by the fast speed- reading tendencies of our culture?
- 7) What has your attitude to meditation tended to be?
- 8) Why might a slow reading of scripture help God's word to penetrate our hearts more deeply?
- 9) Can you describe a time when God spoke to you through a meditation?
- 10) Of the tools mentioned in Geoff's sermon, do you think either has mileage in it for your own devotional life?

Lectio Divina

- 1) Listen out for a word or phrase that strikes you
- 2) Reflect on the personal meaning of the word for your life
- 3) Dialogue with God about it in prayer
- 4) Rest in contemplation

Soaking in Scripture: Use the same passage of the Bible for your reading every day for a week. Soak yourself in it! Stay with it. Suck the goodness out of it.

Memorise a key verse from this reading, and repeat it to yourself as often as you can each day. Turn the words of the particular Bible verse into a prayer.

- 11) How might the experience of corporate worship engage us with the word of Christ?
- 12) What do you think is helpful / unhelpful about the content of our worship songs and hymns?

Final Prayers

- Is there anything that today's study has thrown up that you need to pray into?
- Are there any other things for which people would like prayer?
- Lift one another up to God for the week ahead.