

Bible Chat Notes week starting 21 5 23

John 17: 1 - 11

'Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

6 'I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

1. Have you experienced 'Imposter Syndrome'? If so, how do you deal with it?
2. Notice the words 'glory' and 'glorify' in verses 1 - 5. The Greek word *doxa*, translated glory, means also fame, honour, renown, (positive) opinion or reputation, and praise. What impression does this glory-language give of the relationship between God the Father and God the Son?
3. Consider verse 10. In what ways did the disciples bring glory to Jesus? How could a group of fishermen, tax collectors and activists bring glory to Jesus?
4. How much of your own potential do you think you use? Can we see suffering as one way in which God transforms us and releases much more potential within us?
5. Share some examples of ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Reflect together on applying Martin's five stages for being transformed. Share how you might put these steps into practice in the coming weeks. Encourage each other to do this in real life! Pray for one another to be transformed by the Holy Spirit.

1. Acknowledge the transformative power of the Holy Spirit & that we have potential to grow.
2. Identify what things are important to you in relation to your values. What do you care passionately about; what makes your heart ache with compassion?
3. Do something, however small or large, that might make a difference – especially something that may be extraordinary for you. Shine a light into the situation and don't give up if it doesn't work out as you hoped. If you don't feel able to do something on your own, then form a little action group.
4. Enjoy the feeling of making a difference or sowing the seeds of change. It's encouraging and motivating and it's ok to feel satisfaction or enjoyment
5. Repeat until it becomes ordinary for you. Then find a new extraordinary to grow into and expand our Comfort Zones. Don't let Imposter Syndrome deter you.