

HOMECELL NOTES

SEATED WITH CHRIST (PART 2)

12 MARCH 2023

WELCOME

Welcome all members who are joining the Homecell whether online or in person.

If HC is on Zoom only – do an Icebreaker on WhatsApp ± 15 minutes before Zoomcell.

If HC is physical – do an Icebreaker for approx. 10 minutes at start of Homecell.

WORSHIP

If Homecell is in person -1 Praise & 2 Worship. This will create the right atmosphere for your time together. End Worship 2 in prayer.

If Zoom only - Challenge cell members to spend a few minutes in worship before your Zoom/Online Homecell starts.

WORD

Ephesians 2:4-6 NKJV

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, [5] even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), [6] and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

"Knowing where you are seated will keep you from being defeated." – Ps Aidan Jeffery

Last week we looked at how in the old covenant the Levitical priests, who ministered animal blood sacrifices for the forgiveness of sins, were never allowed to sit down because the animal sacrifices were not able to strip man's sins away permanently. They had to repeat sin forgiveness over and over.

The good news of the Gospel message tells us:

"Whereas Christ, having offered the one sacrifice [the all-sufficient sacrifice of Himself] for sins for all time, SAT DOWN [signifying the completion of atonement for sin] AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD [the position of honour]" Hebrews 10:12 AMP

Ask a cell member to read 2 Corinthians 6:1.

Q: What does it mean to be a "worker" with Christ? Does it mean we are still labouring for salvation or forgiveness?

- No! Once you accept Christ and are seated with Him, you are no longer striving to achieve righteousness. Rather, you are now labouring with Him in good works to advance His kingdom.
- Old Testament law-based living was all about your own behaviour, and righteousness with God was dependent on your human effort, commitment and faithfulness to a set of rules.
- Faith- and grace-based living has nothing to do with our own efforts and has everything to do with what Christ has done for us.

Ask a few cell members to read Romans 5:8, Romans 3:21-23 and Hebrews 10:1-4

Jesus's blood was all-sufficient for sins for all time! Even our own sins – past, present and future!

Ask a cell member to read Hebrews 4:6-11

Q: What do you understand by the 'rest' referred to in this passage?

- Being seated with Christ brings rest but this rest is not a physical place. It is the ceasing of striving to earn right-standing with God.
- Rest is not the same as passivity.
- We can work hard and be at rest and we can work hard and be in unrest. It all depends on whether we are working *for* victory or *from* victory.
- Jesus said His yoke is easy and His burden is light (Matt 11:30).

Ps Aidan shared three important aspects about this rest:

1. Rest is knowing that it is finished! The blood requirement for sin cancellation was paid in full through Jesus's blood.
2. Rest is knowing that God doesn't base your righteousness on your human faithfulness to Him as the law did, but on His faithfulness to Himself.

Ask a cell member to read Hebrews 6:13-15

3. Rest is knowing we don't need to use faith to earn righteousness but use our faith to receive his righteousness.

Ask a few cell members to read Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-9 and Colossians 1:14

Q: Besides your salvation, have you ever received a lavish gift that you feel you didn't deserve?

[Ask one or two members to share.]

Ask a few cell members to read Hebrews 12:1-2, Titus 2:11-12, 2 Corinthians 5:17

Q: According to these verses, what should our response be to this gift?

"Law makes you focus on the size of your sin, where grace makes you focus on the size of your Saviour."

"Law and sin cause you to see yourself as an obstacle instead of as an instrument."

– Ps Aidan Jeffery

WORKS

(1) PRAYER - Take time to pray for (1) lost & prodigals on your prayer or target lists (2) one another (lay hands 1-1/groups of 2-3)

(2) CARE - As a Homecell, identify urgent needs (among people in your immediate world) - food needs, people who are staying alone, marriage challenges, financial needs, business/career/employment needs, emotional needs etc.). How can we meet those needs?

(3) DISCIPLESHIP - Equip the Homecell in basic doctrine (Water Baptism, Tongues, Serving, Giving, Honour, Vision)

(4) EVANGELISM - Equip the Homecell in reaching their world (Build relationship with Oikos, Identify Man of Peace, Share Your Verbal Witness, Invite to Church & HC)

NB* When there are First Time Visitors – ALTAR CALL - The main reason for having homecell is to get people saved! #WinTheLostAtAnyCost