

CONNECT GROUP GUIDE

INTO ALL THE WORLD

#mission-shaped series 2024



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THROUGH



WIDER MISSION

Living to love and proclaim Jesus we will ...

- prayerfully, financially and practically support mission in Australia and across the world
- ensure our giving to mission is at least 11% of offertory
- for each of the missions we support, appoint a coordinator to gather material to better inform our congregations
- we will encourage each of our members to take a special interest in at least one of the missionaries/mission agencies
- ask each of our Connect Groups to adopt a mission/missionary and form a personal link
- organise special events on particular missions or topics when speakers are available.

Some guidelines for Connect Group ...

- Come to the study prepared; preparation will greatly enrich your time together; it is recommended to take notes during the Sunday sermon, and to write down your thoughts as you prepare
- As part of your preparation, why not listen to the sermon again during the week (*most sermons are recorded and available on [Apple Podcasts](#), and also on the [website](#)*)
- As you prepare, pray that God will speak to you through his word
- Be willing to participate in your group. Your sharing will greatly encourage all the other members as you grow together
- Stick to the topic - this allows everyone to participate on level ground and to go deeper into the Bible
- Be sensitive to others and listen attentively; affirm others, especially those who may feel timid or don't often share
- Your leader won't be lecturing, but helping members to think through the questions. Many questions don't have a 'right' answer, especially those that apply the Bible to our lives
- Be careful not to dominate, as it could inhibit others from sharing
- Expect God to teach you through the passage and through other members, and always pray that it will be a profitable time together

INTRO

What situations around the world are you most concerned about for Christians?

RESEARCH ... *[click each link]*

[Barnabas Aid](#)

[Why are Christians Persecuted?](#)

[Latest News](#)

[Barnabas You Tube Channel](#)

Ahab, King of Israel married Jezebel who influenced him to serve and worship Baal. Jezebel set about to persecute and kill all the prophets of Israel.

Read 1 Kings 18

1. How does Elijah's boldness in facing Ahab inspire you in your discipleship?

2. How would you have reacted as a bystander on Mt Carmel?

Sermon Notes

3. How does Elijah's prayer differ from the prayers of Baal's prophets?

4. What strategies can you adopt from Elijah when faced with challenges to your faith?

Read 1 Kings 19:1-9

5. How does Elijah's response to Jezebel's threat reveal his vulnerability?

Read Romans 11:33 - 12:2

6. vv.33-36 are called a doxology. What does it tell us about how we live for God?

7. What does it mean to present your body as a living sacrifice?

8. What might it mean for those Christians across our world, who are in danger because of their faith in Jesus, to present their bodies as a living sacrifice?



- Pray for areas around the world where you are aware of persecution
- Pray that God would reveal areas where we are conforming to the world rather than being transformed

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

3. What role does Scripture play in your daily life?

4. How does it equip you for navigating the challenges of living for Jesus?

Read Ruth 1:1-18

5. How do you see the theme of loyalty playing out in Ruth 1?

6. How does the concept of 'hesed' (loving kindness) play out in Ruth 1. (vv 8-9)

7. Naomi felt that God's hand had turned against her (Ruth 1:13). How can we reconcile feelings of divine abandonment with the concept of a loving, caring God?

Additional Question

8. Why is it important for the bible to be in people's heart language?



- Thank God that he has given us his inspired word to help us live faithfully
- Ask God to open our hearts and minds to better understand the Scriptures and to be shaped by them

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

3. What is it about our own society that you don't like?
How does Jeremiah's teaching affect your attitude to it?

4. What did God want His people to do in exile? vv.5-7.
What difference would these things have made?

5. How does prayer change things?
How does prayer change us? v.7

7. How could we better understand v.11 in its context?
e.g. struggle/waiting/punishment

8. How can we seek the Lord with all our heart? vv.12-14

9. How can

- you personally
- your group
- our church

'seek the peace and prosperity' of our local area, better?,



- Thank God for our school chappies and the influence they can have on students
- Ask God to show us more ways to support chappies in their roles in state schools

Sermon Notes



*Living to Love and
Proclaim Jesus*

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