

These notes are designed to be used by small groups on Zoom, by members of a family or by a couple of friends on the telephone. They are based on our Sunday sermons and are designed to help us all think through the issues raised about “God in my Everything”. You will get the most out of them if you have heard the sermon first.

Sermon Date:

Sunday 10th October 2021 – Gordon Banks

Bible Passages:

Exodus 35:1-5 & Colossians 3: 22-24

Theme & Introduction

‘Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,’ Colossians 3:23

Partnering with God in the work of establishing His Kingdom and for His will and purpose to be done on earth as in heaven.

A couple of exercises to begin with. (Try not to make these exercises onerous)

- a) On a large sheet of paper using felt tips, (so everyone can see it) write down everyone’s gifts, skills, and talents. Note: - we can often notice, skills and talents and gifts in others that they have not recognized in themselves, if appropriate include them.
- b) Imagine if everyone in Rugby acknowledged Jesus as Lord and Saviour and lived accordingly. What might that look like? Expand to the nation and then to the world.

Questions

1. It has been said that without us God will not and without God we cannot. *‘You are a unique and irreplaceable actor in the drama of human history, and Jesus Christ has need of you to make known his salvific work in this particular place and at this particular moment in history.’* Michael Quoist ‘The Christian Response’
 - a. What do you think it might mean for God to need us?
 - b. Is there an element of ‘Good News’ in this that we might share with others?
 - c. How might we frustrate the plans and purposes of God and are you able to think of any examples in the Bible?
2. How can we practise the presence of God 24/7, and can you think of some practical steps we might take to help us move towards this as a goal?
3. To close; read Hebrews 11: 1-40 (you might want to divide up the reading)
Hebrews 11 is a gallery of God’s people whose legacy of faith we have inherited. Men and women just like us with fears, failings, foibles and yet used variously to further God’s plans and purposes.
Lay out the paper with all the gifts, talents, and skills. With Colossians 3: 23 as a frame of reference spend time in prayer offering yourselves to God. (See over for suggested closing prayer)

Closing Prayer

O Saviour Christ, in whose way of love lays the secret of all life, and the hope of all people, we pray for quiet courage to match this hour. We did not choose to be born or to live in such an age; but let its problems challenge us, its discoveries exhilarate us, its injustices anger us, its possibilities inspire us, and its vigour renew us. Pour out upon us a fresh indwelling of the Holy Spirit; make us bold and courageous in sharing faith in both word and deed for your Kingdom's sake we ask. Amen

END

GB 10/10/2021

