

*We pray that these notes are encouraging for you as you dig into God's Word.*

[ purpose - term 1 ad2004 ]

*We hope you've been encouraged by the Bible this term... it would be great for you to share with your parents, peers & leaders how you've been challenged this term.*

# TREK

journey into the bible



**TRIPLE F**

Triple F [year 7-9]  
Meets at Erina High 7-9pm Friday nights  
Bible study- 830 & 1030 Sunday mornings  
[meet at Erina High]

**FOCUS**

Focus [year 10-12]  
@ Kincumber Swim Centre Cottage  
7:15-9:15 pm Friday nights  
Bible study - various times

ccecYOUTH  
central coast evangelical church  
4367-2100  
www.ccec.com.au

**ccec**  **youth**  
central coast  
evangelical church YOUTH

[trek] is a daily tour guide to help you journey into the bible. It's aims are for you to:

- t** - train you to live God's way
- r** - remind you God is the one who saved you, through Jesus
- e** - encourage you to tell others about Jesus
- k** - know the truth so you can't be tricked by lies

**[trek]** is all about journeying into the bible because it is only in the bible that God speaks to us clearly and completely.

When we read the bible, we are hearing what God has to say to us today. Now that is a seriously special thing! So get into it.

To get the most out of [trek], work out a time each day when you can read the bible using **[trek]** for 5-10 minutes (by all means read for longer). These notes are for each day of the week, therefore you will need to pray that God would help you to make time EVERY day to read your Bible. If you miss a day, you can try and catch it up, but if need be just move onto the next day.

Here's how we suggest you use **[trek]** each day:

- 1 - Ask God to help you understand this part of the bible.
- 2 - Read the part of the bible for that day.
- 3 - As you think about the passage, answer the questions. (Writing may help)
- 4 - Thank God & ask him to help you obey what this passage says.
- 5 - Put what you've learnt into practice in your life.

We exist to **GLORIFY** to God in everything as we: **GATHER** to hear His Word; **GROW** in godliness; **GIVE** in service of God & others; and share the **GOSPEL** of Jesus' death & resurrection.

The daily notes in [trek] have been adapted from the CCEC Daily Reading Notes [*& Purpose Driven Life*, Warren]. <http://www.ccec.com.au>

Living on purpose is the only way to really live. Everything else is just existing. It means however, that some good things will simply need to make way. There are many "good" things you can do with your life, but God's purposes are the five essentials that we must give ourselves to! Because it is so easy to drift away from what matters most, it is worth developing a purpose statement for your life.

*"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."*  
[Proverbs 19:21]

Pray and thank God for the great term that we've had as we've thought about purpose in the Bible. Ask Him that you would take seriously what you have read... and that you would live a different life.

Thank and praise God for what He has done for you at the Cross of Christ. Thank God that Jesus died so that you would live. Pray that you would keep your trust in Him.

**Reflections or Questions I have:**

*[Spend some time today reflecting on everything from this term.]*

**Prayer...**

Praise GOD... Ask Him that He'd give you a desire to live for Him and His purposes beyond these 40 days!!

**[trek 38]      Becoming mission-minded      [tue 16th mar]**

Some "Christians" are so caught up in this world that they don't recognise what matters most. What matters most is the mission of Jesus - the mission of making His Name known to all people. We all need to be mission-minded. You may be too young to go over to another country as a missionary...but you can begin being a missionary in your own school right now!

**READ Matthew 28:18-20**

This is the commission given to the Disciples. Yet even though the gospel has gone to many nations... there are still many people in many nations who haven't even heard the name Jesus.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

How can you be involved in mission now?

How may you be involved in mission in 10 years times?

**Prayer...**

Ask God to cause you to grow in the boldness required to speak up for him.

**[trek 39]      Balancing your life      [wed 17th mar]**

One of the events of the summer Olympics is the pentathlon. It is composed of five events: pistol shooting, fencing, horse riding, running and swimming. The pentathlete's goal is to succeed in all five areas, not just one or two. Your life is a pentathlon of five purposes, which the mature Christian has learned to keep in balance. Remember our purpose statement and ask God to help you to make the best use of time.

**READ Ephesians 5:15-16**

What are some ways that you can make the most of opportunities?

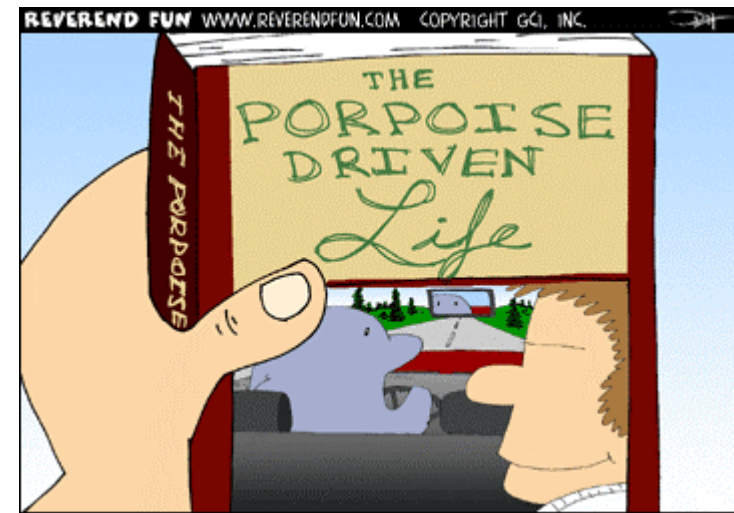
*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Prayer...**

Ask God for wisdom in your life.

We exist to GLORIFY to God in everything as we: GATHER to hear His Word; GROW in godliness; GIVE in service of God & others; and share the GOSPEL of Jesus' death & resurrection.

**[trek]      purpose**



~~**THE PORPOISE DRIVEN LIFE**~~

~~Our lives are to be shaped and driven by that beautiful sea creature... the PORPOISE. You must let a porpoise take control of your life. Life will only be fulfilling and meaningful when you let the Porpoise in to rule you.~~

~~**Woops... Sorry about that... the PURPOSE-driven life!**~~

At church this term both our morning and night congregations will be thinking about purpose. Each of the adult growth groups at church will be using a devotional 'The purpose driven life' in helping to reflect on the Bible. The book along with corresponding passages in the Bible are read over a period of 40 days. It should be an exciting 40 days as we grapple with the Bible together in understanding God's purpose for us.

If you're in **junior high school** we recommend that you use these daily reading notes for the next 40 days to dig into the Bible. If you're parents go to our church you may wish to discuss the things further with them.

If you're in **senior high school** you may like to use the book (Purpose Driven Life) as well as these daily reading notes. However, these notes will be sufficient for you to reflect upon the key ideas raised from the book in the scriptures. [If you are going to use the book, it would be good to read the appendix in the adult daily reading notes.]

Jump on board as we get to know some of God's purposes for us from the Bible.

**Intro** **WHAT ON EARTH AM I HERE FOR??**

**[trek 1] It all starts with God! [mon 9th feb]**

It's not about you. It's not about YOU!!! The TV and the world around us says that life is all about 'ME'. Just look at the PriME TV commercials where they play on this exact idea. The truth is, however, that the purpose of your life is not found in you! If you want to know why you exist... you need to start with God!

**READ Colossians 1:15-20**  
What was made by Jesus?

Why was everything made?

**Prayer...**  
You were made by Jesus and FOR Jesus. Pray that God would help you to live not for yourself but FOR Jesus.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 2] You are not an accident [tue 10th feb]**

God never does anything accidentally, and he never makes mistakes. He has a reason for everything he creates. Every plant and every animal was planned by God and every person was designed with a purpose in mind.... If there was no God, we would all be "accidents", the result of pure random chance in the universe. BUT there is a God who made you the way you are. He did so for a purpose, that our lives might have meaning. We discover that meaning and purpose only when we make him the reference point for our lives.

**READ Psalm 139:13-16**  
How does David (the writer of this Psalm) respond to God the creator? (c14)

**Prayer...**  
Praise God that you too were fearfully and wonderfully made.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 3] What drives your life? [wed 11th feb]**

There aren't many lives driven by a PORPOISE!! (See page 3) However, everyone's life is driven by something. The following are some things that your friends lives might be driven by: sport; popularity; fun; greed; need for parents approval. Can you think of any others??

The life of a Christian will be driven by the purposes of God.

**READ Psalm 139:23-24**  
How does David (the Psalmist) want his life to be lead?

What would my family and friends say is the driving force of my life?  
What do I want it to be?

**Prayer...**  
Pray Psalm 139:23-24 for yourself.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Purpose #5** **Made for a mission - GOSPEL**

**[trek 36] Made for a mission [sun 14th mar]**

There aren't many places in the New Testament where we are told directly to start a conversation with a non-Christian about Jesus. This is because once we understand the gospel (the good news about Jesus) then we won't be able to stop telling people about Jesus! When we understand what God is doing in this world... we should realise that what matters most is that people hear the life-saving news of Jesus.

**READ Acts 4:12**  
How does understanding this verse make sharing Jesus important and urgent?

**Read Acts 4:20**  
How did the early church respond to Jesus?

What fears have kept you from telling others the Gospel (good news) about Jesus?

**Prayer...**  
Pray for friends that you want to introduce to Jesus. Ask God to help you deal with your fears about doing this.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 37] Sharing your testimony [mon 15th mar]**

Many Christians feel they have nothing to say to their non-Christian friends but this is simply a deception from the evil one designed to keep believers silent. A testimony is your story about how you came to put your trust in Jesus and His death and resurrection. A testimony is less about you and more about how God has shown Himself to you through Jesus...

**READ 1 Peter 3:15-16**  
Who can you share your testimony with?

*[If you need help with working out your testimony, Ask your parents or leader for some help]*

**Prayer...**  
Consider 1 Peter 3:15. Ask God to help you be prepared to speak. Ask him to give you opportunities to do so today.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 35] God's power in your weakness [sat 13th mar]**

It is commonly the case that people hide their weaknesses; we excuse them, defend them, deny them. However, we are full of flaws...physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual and it is good news for us that God loves to use weak people. Knowing how to handle our weaknesses is crucial to God using us the way he desires.

**READ 2Corinthians 12:9**

**READ 2Corinthians 4:7**

Jars of clay are weak & not very flashy.  
What does this show us about God's power?

**Prayer...**

Ask God that he would use a weak person like you to serve Him and His Kingdom.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 4] Made to last forever? [thur 12th feb]**

You were made to last forever. This life is just the dress rehearsal before the real production. It's like the curtain raiser before the big match. Measured against eternity, our time on earth is just the blink of an eye, yet the consequences last forever. THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN JUST HERE AND NOW!!! Knowing this will shape your whole life.

**READ 1John 2:15-17**

What is wrong with loving the world?

What happens to the one who does the will of the Father?

**Prayer...**

Pray that knowing you were made for eternity will shape all of your life.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 5] Seeing life from God's view? [fri 13th feb]**

The way you see your life, shapes your life. It influences how you invest your time, your money, your talents, your relationships. If I asked how you picture your life, what image would you come up with? We need to be people who see life from God's perspective and are shaped by Him.

**READ Romans 12:1-2**

How will "not conforming to the pattern of this world help you to view your life from God's view?"

**Prayer...**

Ask God that he would help you to offer your whole life to Him.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 6] Life is a temporary assignment [sat 14th feb]**

Life on earth is a temporary assignment. Repeatedly the bible refers to Christians as 'aliens', 'foreigners' or 'strangers'. When Christians grasp this truth we stop worrying about "having it all" now...we avoid getting so attached to the world and its pleasures which are lukewarm and short-lived.

**READ 2Corinthians 4: 16-18**

Why do you think that our troubles here on earth are simply referred to as "light & momentary"?

How should the fact that life on earth is just a temporary assignment change the way I am living right now?

**Prayer...**

Ask God to help you "fix your eyes, not on what is seen but on what is unseen" and to live with eternity in mind.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**reflections...**

Hang in there... 35 days completed... 5 days to go...

Pray that God would give you a desire to LOVE reading His Word beyond these 40 days.

Jot down any Bible passages that have stood out to you...

**[trek 7] The reason for everything? [sun 15th feb]**

It's all for Him! This is a radical truth...revolutionary to sinful minds, yet the ultimate goal for which the universe was made is to display the glory of God. That is the reason for everything that exists including you! Living for God's glory is the therefore the most fitting and fulfilling way to live.

**READ Romans 11:33-36**

What does v36 tells us about the reason for everything?

How can I live for the glory of God?

**Prayer...**

Ask God that in everything you would seek to bring him glory.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Purpose #1 Planned for God's pleasure - GLORIFY**

**[trek 8] Planned for God's pleasure [mon 16th feb]**

The first purpose of your life is worship. Real worship is far more than what we do with our lips and it is not just singing songs. Worship is what we do with ALL of our lives! It is gladly and unreservedly offering ourselves to live for God's pleasure. When we worship God we are seeking to GLORIFY God in all things. Even the way that we eat and drink! (1Cor10:31)

**READ Matthew 5:14-16**

Why are we to let our light shine before men? v16.

Are there any reasons why you don't want to GLORIFY God?

**Prayer...**

Pray that God would help you to bring him glory in everything.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 9] What makes God smile? [tue 17th feb]**

What are some ways to GLORIFY God in your life? Here are some examples:  
It brings pleasure to God when:-

- we love him supremely
- we trust him completely
- we obey him wholeheartedly
- we are continually moved to praise and thanks
- we use our abilities to honour him

**READ Psalm 147:11**

What does God delight in?

What areas of your life do you need to trust God more in?

**Prayer...**

6 Reflect on this single verse and pray that you would keep your hope in God's unfailing love.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 32] Using what God gave you [wed 10th mar]**

God doesn't just want part of our lives. He wants much more than that... He wants every part of our lives. We are to GIVE our whole selves to Him in service. Don't short change God by giving Him your second best!

**READ 1Peter 4:7-11**

Reflect again on this passage from yesterday.

How can you make the best use of what God has given you?

**Prayer...**

Pray that you'd use what God has given you in service of Him & others.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 33] How real servants act [thu 11th mar]**

The world defines greatness in terms of how power, possessions, prestige and position. Jesus however, measure greatness in terms of service, not status. God determines your greatness by how many people you serve, not how many serve you! It is possible to serve for a whole lifetime without having a servant's heart. How do you know if you have one? The bible tells us some of the indicators.

**READ Mark 10:35-45**

*In vv35-40 James & John want to be great in the Kingdom of God. In vv41-45 Jesus tells them what it will mean to be great in the Kingdom. What will it mean? (vv43-44)*

How has Jesus shown us how to serve? (v45)

**Prayer...**

Thank and praise God that Jesus came not to be served but to serve and give His life up to rescue many. Pray that you too would be a servant as you look to your servant King.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 34] Thinking like a servant [fri 12th mar]**

Service starts in your mind. It requires a mental shift to become a servant... a change in attitude. This is important because God is always more interested in why we do something than merely in what we do. Attitudes count more than achievements. This means that we can't fake genuine service. The bible tells us the attitudes that matter if our desire is to please God.

**READ Philippians 2:1-11**

How do you find vv3-4 challenging?

*In v5 we are told to have an attitude like that of Christ Jesus.*

What are the examples of His attitude here?

**Prayer...**

Thank God for what He did in Jesus (vv6-11).  
*[Maybe you may like to sing the song from this passage??]*

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Purpose #4**

**Made for serving God - GIVE**

**[trek 29] Accepting your assignment [sun 7th mar]**

Life is often described as a walk. There are different ways that people like to walk. The Bible says that all people at one time have walked to please their own selfish desires. However, when you become a Christians, God calls you to walk differently. Christians are people who have been saved by Jesus and no longer walk for themselves but for Jesus who died for them and was raised again (see 2Cor 5:14-15). The assignment given to ALL Christians is to GIVE in service of God and others.

**READ Ephesians 2:8-10** [maybe read 2:1-10]  
What has God done for us in Jesus? (8-9)

How are we to respond to what God has done? (v10)

**Prayer...** Ask God for opportunities to GIVE yourself in service of Him.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 30] Made for serving God [mon 8th mar]**

Before architects design any new building they first ask, "What will be its purpose? How will it be used?" The intended function always determines the way the building is put together. Before God created you he decided what role he wanted you to play in his purposes. He planned exactly how he wanted you to serve him, and then he shaped you for those tasks. You are the way you are because God has shaped you to serve him.

**READ 1Corinthians 12:7-11**  
What is the purpose of the gifts given? (v7)

List some ways that you can serve God at youth group? [if you can't think of many... ask your Leader to help you think of more.]

**Prayer...**  
Pray for youth group. Pray that we'd all GIVE ourselves in service of God and each other.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 31] Understanding your gifts [tue 9th mar]**

We all have different gifts and abilities. No one is exactly the same as another. One of the great things about the body of Christ is the way in which its members can work together performing different functions. Although you may have things that you are really good at... sometimes there may be NEEDS that arise and you may actually serve others doing something you aren't as comfortable with.

**READ 1Peter 4:7-11**  
How should we use our gifts? (v10)

**Prayer...**  
Pray v10 for yourself.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 10] The heart of worship [wed 18th feb]**

The heart of Christian worship is surrender. It involves giving up EVERYTHING for him and living for him. It is the natural response to God's profound mercy to us in Jesus. We are designed to worship God but if we don't surrender to him we will simply find another substitute...an idol which is unworthy of us.

**READ Romans 12:1-2**  
What is God's mercy? (look up John 3:16 to help)

What are Christians to do in response to God's mercy?

**Prayer...**  
Ask that God would help you to understand more and more how great His mercy to us is in Jesus and that you will joyfully trust him more and surrender your life to him.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 11] Developing friendship with God [thu 19th feb]**

Of all the creatures in the universe, human beings alone have been made for relationship with God. We share His image, including the capacity for spoken communication and it is to us that in the course of time, he chose to send his Son, in the likeness of human flesh. In Jesus we see this God face to face and find him to be the friend of sinners (Luke 7:34); One who calls us his friends (John 15:15); One who went to the cross to make us his friends BECAUSE of his own sheer kindness, God the Creator desires us to be in a relationship with him

**READ John 15:9-17**  
How is your friendship with Jesus?

What will help you to develop your friendship with Him?

**Prayer...**  
Ask God to help you develop a regular, settled routine to read & reflect on the Bible.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 12] Developing friendship with God [fri 20th feb]**

Friends trust one another; they share one another's concerns; they work at their relationship. Though friendship with God is of a profoundly different order to our human relationships, in these respects it is alike. There are choices to make if we would develop our friendship with God. Are you willing to make them?

**READ Philippians 3:7-11**  
What is the comparison in v8?

What do you think it means to know "the power of Jesus' resurrection"? (v10)

**Prayer...**  
Ask God to help you be honest with your feelings and faults. Confess to him now your struggles.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 13] Worship that pleases God [sat 21st feb]**

God doesn't want a part of your life. He asks for all of it... all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, all your strength! If we are to worship God, we'll first need to listen to him. God-pleasing worship begins in the scriptures not in our imaginations or our music or our ideas of how we think God would like to be worshipped. This can be man-pleasing worship that will only ever capture the part of our lives that we're comfortable to relinquish. God wants more... and he is worthy of it!

**READ Mark 12:30**

How much does God want us to love Him?

How much do you love God?

**Prayer...**

Reflect on God's love for you in sending Jesus to die and rise again. Pray that you'd love Him in response to His love for you.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 14] When God seems distant [sun 22nd feb]**

It may seem easy to worship God when things are going well in life-when he has provided food, friends, family, health etc. But circumstances are not always pleasant. In fact, for the majority of Christians in the world circumstances are rarely pleasant. How do you worship God then? What do you do when God seems a million miles away?

- 1) Tell God how you feel in prayer...
- 2) Trust God to keep his promise...
- 3) Remember who He is and what He did for us in Jesus...

**READ Hebrews 13:5**

How is it comforting for you to know that God will never leave you or forsake you if you're a Christian?

**Prayer...**

Pray that you would trust God even when he feels distant. (Remember he isn't!)

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**reflections...**

How I've been encouraged from the scriptures so far...

Some things to thank and praise God for...

**[trek 27] Defeating temptation [fri 5th mar]**

There's always a way out! We sometimes feel that temptation is too powerful to bear, but this is a deception from Satan. God has promised to limit the temptations that come to us so that they are never more than we can bear. Often the way out may be to run the other direction! (2Timothy 2:22)

**READ 1Corinthians 10:11-13**

Think about some steps that you can take to flee from common temptations that you have.

**Prayer...** Ask God for help.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 28] It takes time [sat 6th mar]**

"It won't happen over night, but it will happen." Do you remember that shampoo commercial?? It seems that it is like this with growing as a Christian. BUT there are no shortcuts to spiritual maturity. Although God could instantly transform us, he has chosen to develop us slowly. The moral of this story is... don't get discouraged.

**READ Philippians 1:6**

How is it comforting to know that if you're a Christian God will keep working in you until Jesus returns?

**Prayer...** If you belong to Christ it is because God by his own sovereign graciousness has chosen you before the foundation of the Earth to be incorporated into his Son. Thank God for all that this means for our future growth and glory!

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**reflections...**

Some things that I want to change in my life...

Some things to thank and praise God for...

**[trek 24] Transformed by truth [tue 2nd mar]**

It is biblical truth that transforms us. Spiritual growth begins with the process of replacing lies with truth. The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to make us like the Son of God. To become like Jesus, we must fill our lives with his Word.

**READ Colossians 3:15-17**

How can you let the "word of Christ dwell in you richly" (v16) more in your life?

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

*[Maybe you may listen to different music? Watch different movies? Play less video games? Spend the time that you normally watch TV reading God's Word?]*

**Prayer...** The more you read your Bible... often... the more you will want to read it... and be changed by the truth in it. Pray that God would help you to delight in His Word.

**[trek 25] Transformed by trouble [wed 3rd mar]**

The God who rules the universe is awesome in his sovereign control. What's more he is purposeful. In a manner that defies our ability to grasp, He appoints all the circumstances of life in order to develop our character. Regardless of the cause, none of your problems could happen without God's permission. He intends to use them for good even though Satan and others may intend them for bad! (See Gen 50:20)

**READ Romans 8:28-30**

What's comforting about v28?

In our troubles, what is God doing in us? (v29)

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Prayer...** Pray that you would see the way that God is in control even when times are tough.

**[trek 26] Growing through temptation [thu 4th mar]**

Even when we are tempted to disobey God... there is an opportunity to GROW. Even in trials and temptations we are able to mature as our character is developed. When in a situation that you may be tempted to do the wrong thing... as you mature you will actually start to do the godly thing.

**READ James 1:2-4**

Draw a picture (diagram) of what's going on here.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Prayer...** Pray that God would give you strength to obey him in the face of temptation.

**Purpose #2 Formed for God's family - GATHER**

**[trek 15] Formed for God's family [mon 23rd feb]**

You were formed for God's family. In our individualistic society we are more prone to think of our salvation being a personal matter that doesn't concern others. However, the entire bible is the story of God building a family who will love him, honour him and reign with him forever. Being included in God's family is the highest honour and the greatest privilege you will ever receive. Remember whose you are!

**READ Hebrews 2:10-13**

How are you encouraged by the fact that Jesus is not ashamed to call you a brother? (v11)

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

How can I start treating other Christians like members of my own family?

**Prayer...**

Thank God that He has brought you into His family.

**[trek 16] What matters most [tue 24th feb]**

Since God is love, one of the most essential lessons he wants us to learn as his children is how to love. It is in loving that we are most like him. However, learning to love is not an easy task...it runs counter to our self-centred natures. It will take time! God insists that we give special time and attention to loving his family since that is to be the hallmark that identifies us as his.

**READ John 13:34-35**

How will people know which ones are Jesus' disciples (followers)?

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

How seriously do you take the command to love? Are you loving your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?

**Prayer...**

Ask God to help you grow in your ability to show love to your Christian family.

**[trek 17] A place to belong [wed 25th feb]**

You are called to belong, not just to believe. The bible knows nothing of solo Christians. Those who love God will also love his people. In the Bible we are called to belong to a local, visible gathering of God's people. Jesus actually died to gather for himself a people. To not value meeting with Christians is to not value Jesus death... he died and rose SO THAT we could gather as a people belonging to Him.

**READ Titus 2:11-14**

According to v14, why did Jesus die?

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

Do you value gathering with God's people as seriously as Jesus did? (remember He died for it)

**Prayer...**

Thank God for your church family and ask him to help you take seriously your responsibility to love and serve it.

**[trek 18] Experiencing life together [thu 26th feb]**

Real fellowship is so much more than just showing up on Sundays or Fridays. It is experiencing the resurrection life of Christ together. It includes unselfish loving, honest sharing, practical serving, sacrificial giving, sympathetic comforting and all the other 'one another' commands found in the New Testament

**READ Romans 12:9-10**

How does this verse help you to live?

**Read Hebrews 10:24-25**

What are some of the experiences of life together in this passage?

**Prayer...**

Ask God to enable you to develop one relationship with another Christian of the same sex that will provide healthy mutual support and encouragement in Christian living.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 19] Cultivating community [fri 27th feb]**

Community requires commitment. Only the Holy Spirit can create fellowship between believers, but he does so through the choices we make. If we are to enjoy the genuine fellowship for which we were made and rescued, we will need to develop skills to help us.

**1John 3:16-20**

What will it mean to be a part of a Christian Community?

Reflect on v16. Jesus was radical in the way that he showed His love for us... he lay down his life ...if we belong to God's Family we too are called to be radical as we look to Jesus and also deny Ourselves for others.

**Prayer...**

Pray that you would lay your life down for your brothers and sisters.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 20] Restoring broken fellowship [fri 27th feb]**

Since life is all about learning how to love, God wants us to make the effort to keep loving others instead of discarding relationships whenever there is a problem or conflict. It is quite easy for a small issue between two Christians to snow-ball into a larger problem if not dealt with.

**READ Matthew 5:21-26**

What does this passage teach us about anger?

What do you think is the importance of being reconciled (v26) to your Christian brother or sister?

**Prayer...**

Ask God to help you take the initiative in sorting out conflicts.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 21] Protecting your church [sat 28th feb]**

Nothing is more valuable to God than his church. He paid the highest price for it and wants it protected, especially from the devastating damage that is caused by division, conflict and disharmony. As Christians, God wants us to be united. BUT there is a unity movement going around at the moment where unity is placed higher than truth. The unity that God wants of us is in the truth of the gospel

**READ Ephesians 4:1-6**

Spend time today thinking about what it will mean for you to... "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love" (v2).

**Prayer...**

Pray that you would be the things of v2 and that you would be wise and know the truth of Jesus in which we have unity.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Purpose #3 Created to become like Christ - GROW**

**[trek 22] Created to become like Christ [sun 29th feb]**

From the very beginning God's plan has been to make you like his Son, Jesus. God made us in his own image, however it is an image that has now been damaged and distorted by sin. Jesus' mission was to restore the full image that we have lost. God's ultimate goal for your life is not comfort but Christ-like character. Though this goal is accomplished through the work of God's Spirit, he will also involve us in this process!

**READ 2Corinthians 3: 18**

What do you find exciting about this passage?

**Prayer...**

Ask God that He'd give you a desire to become like Christ.

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**[trek 23] How we grow [mon 1st mar]**

To have changed lives we need to have changed thinking! Behind everything you do is a thought. On our own we won't really want to change... but if we are Christian we will have God's Spirit that will work in us so that we will want to change (Ezekiel 36:27). If you don't have a desire to change and grow as a Christian... you may not actually be a Christian. If you struggle with a desire to want to change, talk to a leader and they may be able to answer your questions or help you read the Bible.

**READ Romans 12:1-2**

We've already looked at this passage (day 5 & 10) Reflect again on what it will mean for you in your life not to "conform and longer to the pattern of this world" (v2)

*Reflections or Questions I have:*

**Prayer...** Ask God for help & thank him that he wants to help you.