

EMAIL FOR WEEKS 16 AND 17 OF COURSE

Good Afternoon,

It is Pastor Conrad with the last two weeks of our Church of Hope Evangelism and Ministry Training Course.

The topics for weeks sixteen and seventeen are: "Launching out into the deep/Living in the miraculous AND the importance of commitment"

As I put these teachings together I sensed that the Lord put on my heart that there are two important things that we need to focus on in this season:

i) The urgency to reach out to the lost with the gospel message. The harvest is ripe but the labourers are few, (Matthew 9:37) AND

ii) To be faithful in caring for those entrusted to our care as pastors and leaders. (Acts 20:28) It is so important that we help to encourage ALL believers in our fellowship to become STRONG DISCIPLES of Jesus Christ. (Hence, the importance of all believers being connected to small group fellowships and us as pastors feeding those in our church the Word of God)

In the book of Hebrews we read, "Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather healed." (Hebrews 12:12-13) How important it is given the challenging times that we are now living in, that we as pastors and leaders encourage all Christians to remain strong in their faith.

Fellowship with other believers is crucial in the times that we are living in. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

This course has really been designed to help achieve the above and to be a tool for pastors to use to help encourage and strengthen all believers and pastors to grow in their walk with the Lord and to fulfil all that God has planned for their lives, churches and ministries.

GOD HAS SO MUCH IN STORE FOR OUR LIVES AND CHURCHES

OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS I HAVE BEEN PREACHING ON THE TOPIC OF THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING INTIMACY IN OUR WALK WITH THE LORD - I have attached my notes for this message in both Powerpoint and PDF format (Attachments three and four) as part of this running of the 17 Week Evangelism and Ministry Training Course.

More than ever before given the increasingly lawless world that we are now living in, maintaining an intimate walk with the Lord is crucial if we are to maintain our fire and passion for the things of God. Jesus made it clear that in the times that we are now living in, that the agape love of many would grow cold. (Matthew 24:12-13)

If we are intimate in our walk with the Lord we will have God's compassion for the lost and we will be prepared to make sacrifices and to take steps of faith to see God's plan for our lives and churches coming to pass in this season. A season for harvesting lost souls and for strengthening and building up those in the Body of Christ. (Helping all Christians to become mature disciples who remain strong and committed in their faith) Matthew 28:19-20

The more intimate we are in our walk with the Lord the more we will have the faith to step out and fully embrace all that God has planned for our life. God has so much in store for every believer's life. Every local church that is full of passionate believers has the potential to bring transformation to their local communities.

We see the power of the gospel to transform cities in the book of Acts. When Philip began preaching in Samaria the whole city was mightily impacted by the gospel and the accompanying miracles that followed the preaching of the word. (We see this in Acts 8:4-8)

WE MUST NEVER DOUBT THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL TO CHANGE LIVES AND CITIES. The Apostle Paul wrote,

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask of think, according to the power that works in us," (Ephesians 3:20)

This fortnight's teachings cover two very important areas:

i) Launching out into the deep / Living in the Miraculous (That both as an individual and as a church, we are prepared to step out by faith to do all that God is calling us to do in this season to see our communities won to Christ) -

As we launch out into the harvest field both through church outreach teams and by helping to empower all Christians to become soul winners, we will see many coming to Christ.

As we step out and follow God's directions and preach the gospel, God will always move in a mighty way. (Acts 8:4-8) (Mark 16:20) and

ii) The importance of COMMITMENT in our walk with the Lord (both in maintaining our spiritual disciplines and to NEVER GIVING UP ON WHAT GOD HAS CALLED US TO DO IN LIFE) - If we finish our Christian walk strongly many others will be impacted for eternity.

The primary reading for this fortnight's study is the ten page study guide for weeks 16 and 17. (Attachments One and Two)

In addition to the Study Guide Notes I have also added for this course my sermon notes for my message entitled "The importance of MAINTAINING intimacy in our walk with the Lord" (Attachments Three and Four) as well as two other further teachings that relate to this fortnight's topics:

Attachment Five: The Gifts of the Spirit, (8 pages) and

Attachment Six: An overview of what is important for all church leaders (12 pages)

I trust that this fortnight's teachings will be a great blessing for your lives and churches.

It has been a great blessing being able to serve your churches during the running of this course.

I HAVE ALSO ATTACHED THE FOLLOWING THAT CAN BE USED AS PART OF YOUR STUDY OF THIS COURSE AND TO USE IF YOU HAVE ALSO BEEN RUNNING THIS COURSE FOR OTHERS:

1) Some possible open book style exam questions (which could be used if desired by course coordinators to run open book exams) to consolidate what has been learned this course as well as some suggested answers from our study notes for these questions, (Attachment Seven) - These questions are good for all who have participated in this course to refresh and reinforce what has been learned during the course, AND

2) A Word format Completion Certificate that can be given to those who have completed the readings for this course (Attachment Eight)

ONE POSSIBLE SUGGESTION AS TO WHERE TO FROM HERE?: This course could be done again by those who have completed this course for other pastors, Christians and church members in the future.

The entire course is on a separate page of our website and includes all of my emails for the first running of this course. For this reason this course could be run again straight from our website. (All study guides, emails and teachings can be read and downloaded from our Church of Hope Website www.coh.org.au)

Please note: You do not have to have completed this course to run the course for others in the future. This free course is open to all pastors and Christians to study, run and complete. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT WE ALL GROW IN OUR WALK WITH THE LORD.

Finally, If you have any feedback or suggestions please let me know. I WOULD LOVE TO GET ANY FEEDBACK

Again; it has been a blessing doing the course with you the first half of this year. May I encourage you to fully embrace all that God has planned for your life and churches. We have one gift of life to store up treasures in heaven. It is worth giving our best for the One who gave His all for us. There is a world that needs to know the hope that we have in Christ

May you enjoy this fortnight's teachings

God Bless, Conrad