**Life Group Notes – Sunday 28th January**

**Matthew 7:7-12**

**The Good Father**

1. How do you think of Jesus as a Man? Do you tend to think of him in the Gospels in terms of ‘superman’ qualities like ‘power’? Did he also show human qualities such as vulnerability, disappointment, anger? (Think of possible examples e.g. Luke 19:41-45)
2. Jesus’ preferred word for God was ‘Father’ or ‘My Father’. Ask people to think of an incident in the gospels that reveals something to them of Jesus’ relationship to his Father. How many different aspects can you draw out from these incidents?
3. Do people always associate a positive image with the word ‘father’? What negative words have we come across in regard to relationships with fathers? Do you think this has an impact on how people think of God as Father?
4. In the passage in Matthew 7, what image is Jesus trying to convey of God to the disciples? How easy do you think they found it to accept that image? How easy do you find it?
5. What attitudes towards God should follow from a growing understanding of him as our Father? What attitudes are comforting and what attitudes are challenging?
6. What can help us grow in confidence in God’s goodness towards us? Ask people to share a testimony of when they experienced his goodness. Has it left a lasting impression on them?