**Life Group Notes Sunday 28 February**

**“Strong Foundations : How do we build them?” Bible Passage : Luke 6 : 43 – 49**

**Key Verse : Luke 6 : 47** “I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice.”

In 1901 William Booth warned about defective foundations “…religion without the Holy Ghost, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, politics without God, heaven without hell.”

* In what ways do you regard his words relevant or unhelpful for us today?
* Are there adjustments we need to make to build on strong foundations – as individuals, the Church, UK society?

**Laying strong foundations : the instructions of Jesus**

1. **We come to Him**
2. What do you think Jesus meant when He taught His hearers to come to Him at such a significant time in His ministry?
3. If you have come to Jesus, what motivated you and how did it occur?
4. What does it mean to come to Jesus as both Saviour and Lord?
5. What do you regard the most helpful ways to help someone not yet a Christian to come to Jesus?

**For reflection**: “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” *(Romans 10 : 13)*

1. **We hear His word**
2. What influences the most – the many words that bombard us every day or the words of Jesus?
3. Where do we identify clashes between the words / teaching of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, and the views / life-styles promoted around us *(Matthew chapters 5 – 7)*
4. Share the ways in which you find (feeding on) hearing God’s words enriching (Bible notes, etc.)

**For reflection :** “Jesus answered, ‘It is written ‘Man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes out of the mouth of God.’” *(Matthew 4 : 4)*

1. **Putting His teaching into practice**
* What aspects of putting the teaching of Jesus into practice are the greatest challenges?
* Effective discipleship consists of honouring God’s word and the equipping and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Are we reliant on both? Are there times when we have identified the influence of Word and Spirit?

**For reflection :** “Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says? *(James 1 : 22)*