**Life Group Notes – Sunday 24th November 2024**

**Death of John the Baptist  
Mark 6: 14-29**

* How do you imagine John the Baptist? Read Mark 1:4-8
* What clues does this gives us?

“Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist ….” Matthew 11:11.

* What do these words tell us about Jesus’s attitude to John?

***“John’s death could scarcely have been more wickedly contrived or more useless.”***(Dr Morna Hooker).

* Do you agree? Does it feel, at least initially, like a meaningless death?
* What moral lessons arise in this story from the behaviour of Herod and Herodias?
* Why do you think Mark inserted this story in his gospel? Is it in part to give a premonition of Jesus’s death? Compare Mark 6:29 and Mark 15:46.
* What was Jesus’ reaction to the death of John?

Compare Matthew 14:13 and with Mark 6:30-32.

* Is Matthew’s the more poignant account? How does Jesus cope with the experience of bereavement? Does this relate to your own experience?

Read John 3:26-30.

* How does this help us understand how John may have considered the time of his death, however brutal the actual event may have been? How does it help you to consider that God is sovereign over life and death?

Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

* Do these words express how you would want to feel at the approach of death?
* Are there things that you believe you still need to do in order to finish the race God has set out for you?

**Life Group Notes – Sunday 24th November 2024**

**Death of John the Baptist  
Mark 6: 14-29**

* How do you imagine John the Baptist? Read Mark 1:4-8
* What clues does this gives us?

“Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist ….” Matthew 11:11.

* What do these words tell us about Jesus’s attitude to John?

***“John’s death could scarcely have been more wickedly contrived or more useless.”***(Dr Morna Hooker).

* Do you agree? Does it feel, at least initially, like a meaningless death?
* What moral lessons arise in this story from the behaviour of Herod and Herodias?
* Why do you think Mark inserted this story in his gospel? Is it in part to give a premonition of Jesus’s death? Compare Mark 6:29 and Mark 15:46.
* What was Jesus’ reaction to the death of John?

Compare Matthew 14:13 and with Mark 6:30-32.

* Is Matthew’s the more poignant account? How does Jesus cope with the experience of bereavement? Does this relate to your own experience?

Read John 3:26-30.

* How does this help us understand how John may have considered the time of his death, however brutal the actual event may have been? How does it help you to consider that God is sovereign over life and death?

Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

* Do these words express how you would want to feel at the approach of death?
* Are there things that you believe you still need to do in order to finish the race God has set out for you?