OPENDOOR CHURCH SMALL GROUPS

Sun 11th Oct 2020: *Compassion, Proximity and Power*

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 and Luke 6:36

Proximity to our Father

Our proximity to God will affect our view of Him and of ourselves. If we remain distant, we can feel negative thoughts and emotions about ourselves and God. If we draw near and spend time in His word and enjoying His presence, we realise we are so loved.

- Have you experienced this?
- How are you getting on with spending time in God's word and enjoying his presence? Share what is working for you at the moment and what is not. Be honest, support & encourage each other to go to our Father for our daily bread. Perhaps decide to read/study a book of the Bible with your group or prayer buddy, throughout the week.

Proximity to people

Ange shared some examples of how getting alongside someone and knowing them more can change our view of people. We can move from being a bit critical/judgemental or pitying them, to being more compassionate towards them.

- Have you any stories of this happening in your life?

Jesus said we are to be compassionate, as God is compassionate to us.

- Ask God to show you now, who is He asking you to get alongside and be kind to, listen to and encourage? Be willing for him to guide you to someone who is not like you.
- Begin by praying for them, and then think of something you could do to love on that person really well. Perhaps invite them to go for a walk or for a cuppa, ring them for a chat, etc. Remember, we are not rescuers, we are to come alongside.

Expect God for more

Finally, Ange talked about God wanting us to expect Him to move in power. Jesus said we will do the same things he did, and more. Psalm 5:3 encourages us to bring our requests to God in the morning and to wait expectantly for Him to answer.

- How are your expectancy levels? How can you raise them? What are you crying out to God for daily?
- What could you agree together to ask God for as a group and expect Him to move? Raise the bar high and aim for something that can only happen if God is involved!

When you go out your front door, loving God, looking for opportunities to be compassionate and expecting God to move in and through you, remember you take the Kingdom of God with you wherever you go.