**Small Group Notes – Sunday October 11th**

**Moses and the plagues – Exodus 7:14 – 10:29**

**Welcome**

What is the largest flock/herd/swarm/shoal of creatures you have ever witnessed, anything of ‘biblical proportions’? What impression did it make on you?

**Worship**

Read Psalm 40 together and use it as a starting point for a time of praise and worship:

*Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.   
None can compare with you…(v5)*

**Word - Moses and the plagues – Exodus 7:14 – 10:29**  
(Perhaps read Exodus 7 v 14-24 as an introduction to this section)

1. Pharaoh was hard-hearted towards Moses and his God (7 v 14, 22)  
   What do you think caused his hardness of heart?  
   How did God use this for his own purposes?
2. The River Nile was one of Egypt’s gods/objects of worship.  
   Does this shed light on why it became one of the ‘targets’ for a ‘plague’?  
   What was God’s purpose in this demonstration of his power? (7 v 17)
3. Why were there so many plagues? (7v17; 8 v 10,22; 9 v15-16)  
   (See also 2 Peter 3 v 8-9)  
   What does the number, scale, and diversity of them reveal to Pharaoh and to us?
4. When are we in danger of becoming hard-hearted towards the things of God?  
   What can help us avoid these dangers?
5. What other things tempt us to trust in them instead of / in addition to God?  
   How can we encourage one another to keep our focus in the right place?
6. As our God reveals that he can do ‘immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine’ how can this encourage us in our prayers?  
   Are there things we have ‘given up on’ that we can pick up again in prayer?

**Prayer**

Pray for Mary and Den Barker and their family as they grieve the loss of their son Andrew.  
  
Pray for the fellowship, worship, discussions and decisions of the church members’ meeting on Wednesday evening (October 14th).  
  
Pray for leaders locally, nationally and internationally during these especially testing times of the pandemic.