**Small group Notes – 18 October 2020**

**Welcome**

Share stories of special & significant nights that you have experienced.

**Word - A night to remember - The Passover – Exodus 12**

Last week we saw that Pharaoh hardened his heart and refused to let the Hebrew slaves go. So the Lord sent a series of Plagues upon his people. The Lord then makes one final dramatic pronouncement, the death of all the first born. The Lord then introduces a new but very significant event which will be celebrated every year from then on as a memorial of what the Lord was about to do.

* A new start v1-2

The Passover was going to represent the beginning of new life for Gods people.

* A feast for the whole community v3-4

One God and onepeople

* A spotless lamb was needed as a sacrifice v5-7

The death of the Lamb was going to secure their salvation.

* Bitter, Leave it out –v8

God was calling his people to remember their struggles & to live lives free from sin

* The Journey begins v11

They were on a journey of deliverance from slavery into the promised land.

The meal was a demonstration of Gods Judgement against Egypt and his deliverance of his people.

Deliverance from physical bondage – Slavery

Deliverance from False Gods – Idolatry

Deliverance from foreign domination – To become a sovereign self-governing nation under God.

They were commanded to make this feast, meal an annual celebration 12:14

When we get into the NT we clearly see Jesus our Passover Lamb – John 1:29

* His sacrifice is acceptable and complete for all people -*1 John 2:2*
* *We to are delivered from the slavery of sin & death*
* Everything begins anew in Jesus.

Communion was a very special meal that Jesus shared with his disciples on the night he was betrayed. A meal that Jesus commanded us to do in remembrance of him.

John 6:53- 58 **-** *In this passage Jesus gives us 4 good reasons to eat his flesh drink his blood.*

* *We will have resurrection life and be raised up at the last day v54*
* *We will be strengthened in this life v55*
* *We will know what it is to abide in Jesus and experience his life in us v56*
* *We will have eternal life v58*

**Questions**

Why did God change their Calendar? 12:1-2

What kind of Lamb was required and what is significant about this? 12:5

What was to be done with the Lambs blood? 12:7

What was the relevance of further instructions concerning the meal? 12:8-10

How were the Israelites to eat the Passover meal? What was significant about this command? 12:11

What happened to any family who did not obey the Lords instructions? 12:12-13

What does the Passover celebrate?

Is there a connection between Jesus & the Passover?

In what ways is the Passover a picture of Jesus subsequent sacrifice and death?

Did the early church celebrate Passover?

Why is it important for Christians today to regularly take communion?

What are the blessings of sharing the Lords supper together? John 6:53-58

**Worship –** Share communion together in your own homes

**Prayers & reminders**

Please pray about the Opportunity that has arisen to potentially buy the house next door to NMBC

Lunch time reflection – wed 21 Oct 12.30pm & repeated 8pm in the Building.