#### Shaping Our Time Together...

Use the following tools to dig into the passage together. The purpose is not just to answer questions but to use these tools to handle God's word well.



What shines from the passagesomething new or fresh? What stuck out for you and what surprises were there?

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Did these verses raise any questions as you read? How is God calling you to think differently?

Where do you see something of the Father, Son or Holy Spirit?



Make it Personal: What is it telling you to do, commit to or challenges you for an obedient response? How is God changing what I love?



What is there from these verses that you would want to share with someone-Christian, family member or non-Christian?



Why are these verses in the Bible? How do they fit into the Bibles big story?



Try Praying with your Bible open. Where in the passage is there something to..

ADORE- What did you learn about God for which you should praise or thank him?

ADMIT- What did you learn about yourself for which you could repent?

ASPIRE- What did you learn about life that you could aspire to ask for and act on?

Small Group Gates

### Week 1 Beginning 15th April

Storing Up Treasure Luke 12 v 13-34, Matthew 6 v 19-21

# Week 2 Beginning 29th April

The Coming Of The Lord

1 Thessalonians 4 v 13-5 v 11

### Week 3 Beginning 13th May

The Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15

### Week 4 Beginning 27th May

Many Rooms John 14 v 1-13

## Week 5 Beginning 10th June

Before The Throne Revelation 20 v 11-21 v 8

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"They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads." Revelation 22 v 2

# THE SAVIOUR WHO RETURNS

This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Acts I v I I b



## Why Small Groups

Small groups are a key part of the life of the church family. In small groups we grow, care for, send out disciples as we seek to become more like Jesus from the inside out.

At Small Group...

- we grow together as disciples as we dig into God's word and pray for each other.
- we care for each other as disciples sharing life and committing to one another.
- we send each other out as disciples encouraged to love and follow Jesus in our day to day lives.



# **The Saviour Who Returns**

When Jesus ascended to heaven the disciples were told this.

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Acts 1 v 11b

He will return is the clear promise given.

There is also another promise given in John 14: 3 that when he returns he will take us with him.

John 14: 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

His return in Revelation we are told will mark a new heaven and a new earth. Every wrong thing will be undone and there will be no more tears.

Life is not easy, and despair is a common characteristic of our world today. Hope is fast becoming a lost commodity. Little wonder the ethos of the day is living for the present! There's a kind of hopelessness in the phrase. "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." 1 Cor 15 v 32.

That's life in the eyes and experience of so many. You don't have to look far or think long-it's there for all to see. And it's always been, for this is the essence of that life we once lived, life apart from Christ. (Ephesians  $2 \vee 12$ )

Little wonder then that the good news of Jesus Christ has always erupted into the world with such impact. For in its simple narrative of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, it offers hope to despairing hearts: it reveals and declares a God who works with awesome authority, a God who plans with breath-taking boldness, a God who loves with complete commitment. And in that combination of power, purpose and the promises of God the seeds of a new and solid hope take root and begin to grow. The hope of a new day, both in this life and beyond this life.

Despite the strong assurance the Bible gives us about life beyond the grave, Christians are often troubled by other questions. What will happen on the day of judgement? Will we have bodies in heaven? Will there be rewards? We have all questions about death and heaven.

In this Session of small groups we will look at Jesus return and the hope it brings for this life and the life to come.

You will be find some additional resources on the Church website on the engage tab.

www.chrystonparishchurch.co.uk/ engage

If you would like to read some Bible notes on the passages why not read here on the Website of Torrance Parish Church.

www.torranceparishchurch.org.uk/theword-of-god/daily-bible-reading-notes/