1 Corinthians 11

Small group notes

This week church was hard core exegesis.

I know that wasn’t easy for everyone but it is necessary sometimes. In a world where people constantly badly use those verses to oppress others or the make them feel guilty sometimes we have to look hard at what we are reading and not try to get an easy answer.

That means though that you have already done all the hard work for this week!

Yay!

So all I am going to give you are two discussion starters or points for reflection for the small groups.

We are far enough in now that you should be able to always know look to the context of the passage. You also might want to have your exegetical questions to hand.

**1 - men and women**

* talk about how you have heard the verses about man as head of woman used?
  + Take some time to reflect on those things – were they positive or negative for you?

You may want to do this quietly and then tell your stories, or have a discussion. These things can be painful so give space and time for them.

* Did Charlottes translations and interpretation make sense?
  + Were there holes in it?
  + Do the exegetical questions you started with help fill any of those holes?
  + Do you agree that Paul sets up equality here?
* Charlotte posited the idea that Paul expects them to behave in ways that are ‘culturally respectable’ regardless of their freedom in Christ
  + Is that applicable now as well as then, or was that just because he thought the end times were near?
  + If it is applicable now – in what scenarios/behaviours might we consider laying down our freedom in Christ for the sake of how people perceive us as followers of Christ?

**2 - the lords supper**

Share with each other your experiences of the Lord’s supper – either what it meant growing up, or what it meant when you first met Christ, or a time when it was very special/had a great impact on you.

Take time to listen to those stories.

Is there anything that unifies them?

Questions:

* What is important about the Lord’s supper for you when Chapel A do it?
* What were you taught qualifies or disqualifies you from joining in on the Lord’s Supper?
* Does the Lord’s supper as laid out here in 1 Corinthians resemble your experience of eating it in Christian communities you have been in?