

Living Water Fellowship

16TH SUNDAY IN PENTECOST

20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

COME TO JESUS

WELCOME:

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

God of all life, beyond our imagining & yet coming close enough to hold us; you refuse to leave those in need on the rubbish dump. You give the poor a place of dignity among the powerful. You make a home for the homeless, & bring joy abounding to families & communities. As we gather to celebrate & give thanks for your abundant blessing, may we live fully your presence & your image before the eyes of the world. Make our lives such a reflection of your Kingdom that the whole earth shines with your glory. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord...Amen.

SONG: *Lord of all hopefulness (LHS 870)*

(On-Line worship – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXEQWqh4NvE>)

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Jude 1:1-4

FAITH CHAT:

1. What does it mean to you to be “called” by God?
2. Are there times when your faith in Jesus is at odds with a common attitude in the world?

THE MESSAGE: *FAITH MATTERS: WHAT YOU HAVE*

PRAYERS:

(Individuals are encouraged to pray for one another in their households & to include prayers for the wider Living Water family, the Wagga Wagga community, our nation and the world’s leaders in this time of isolation due to virus containment)

(Individual households may also choose to celebrate Holy Communion after the online service concludes. Please feel free to do so. If you know the Words of Institution you simply say them as you would hear them in worship. If you aren’t sure, then read aloud together Paul’s recount of the celebration in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Then share the forgiveness, life and salvation Christ offers in his body and blood. The words “The body of Christ given for you” and “The blood of Christ shed for you” and appropriate elements are to be used as you celebrate together.)

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now & forever. Amen.

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**T _____, child of God,
May God give you more and more
mercy, peace, and love
Amen.**

SONG: *May the Lord bless you today (AT 408)*
(On-Line worship – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOt7baaVSbE>)

SHOW HIS LOVE

JUDE 1:1-4

This letter is from Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ and a brother of James.

I am writing to all who have been called by God the Father, who loves you and keeps you safe in the care of Jesus Christ. May God give you more and more mercy, peace, and love.

Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people. I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvellous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Jude. (reading all 26 verses at least once per week will give you a broader understanding for this series) What questions immediately come to mind?
2. How does Jude identify himself? What is striking about his self-understanding?
3. How does he describe his intended audience? How do you fit his description? What about that is encouraging or challenging for you?
4. What is distinctive about his blessing for them (vs 2)? Would someone who is not a Christian understand that blessing or desire it? How would their desire or understanding be different from yours?
5. Jude calls his readers '*Dear friends*'. What does that tell you about the writer & the readers? Jude was going to write about one thing but he wrote about something else. What changed his mind & focus?
6. What is it that these "ungodly/godless" people are teaching? Why is that so destructive that Jude must write to refute their false doctrine? Whatever false teaching arises, ultimately what is the error that produces it?
7. Why is it important to "defend/contend for" the good news we have received in Jesus Christ? What happens when the gospel is distorted, even by people who perhaps mean well (which it seems these did not)? Why is it important to constantly remind ourselves about the message of the Gospel?
8. When it comes to our opinions on cultural matters what should be the bottom line? What happens if we don't like what the Bible says? Does it make it irrelevant or false? Are we safe in rejecting Scripture in favour of a more current or popular opinion? Why/Why not?
9. How do you describe faith? Can you "get" more faith? Please Read Rom 5:1-4, 1 Cor 12:9, Eph 2:1-10 & Heb 11:1-3 & 6. Try to describe what the Bible says about faith. Note how Heb 11 ends. What is notable at the end of the chapter?
10. What is the end result for those who live & teach falsely (at odds with the grace we have experienced in Jesus)? See also Gal 1:8-9