

## Small Group Material

### Seeing things differently: religious ritual

### Where does righteousness come from?

#### Welcome (10 mins)

Have you ever been somewhere awe-inspiring, lost for words? Or: When have you been moved to anger over something unjust?

#### Worship (10 mins) Jesus, God's righteousness revealed

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5\\_NOO-NXaQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5_NOO-NXaQ)

Righteousness/holiness – What do these words mean to you?  
Praise God together for his righteousness and holiness!

#### Word (30 mins) John 2 : 13 – 22

We find Jesus going to the temple in preparation for the Passover.

- What would He have expected to find? [1 Kings 9:3, 8:27-30, Isaiah 56:7.]
- He was **ANGRY!** What **did** he find? (noise/smells/chaos/injustice)
- How was righteousness achieved in temple times? What religious ritual was necessary? (*Obedience/sacrifice/worship*)
- Psalm 26:8 According to David, what was awe-inspiring about the temple? What did this signify?
- Where might **WE** expect to encounter the glory of God?
- Ephesians 2:19-22 Where does righteousness/holiness come from for Christians today? What religious ritual is necessary? 1Cor 1:30,31

- If Jesus were to visit, not the temple but St Mary's, after lockdown, what might He expect to find? What would He find? How might He react?
- Is righteousness/holiness an individual requirement or a collective one? What part can you play?

**Witness (20 mins) One-to-One to Easter** Have you had any contact with the people you prayed for last week? Have you, in some way, been able to be a 'Secret Pastor' to them? Keep praying over the coming week for opportunities in both life and words.

With Easter approaching, we have the opportunity to connect with our relatives, friends, and neighbours with something more than the two-minute dashed-off e-mail. There are Easter cards and longer letters enabling us to re-connect with perhaps a meaningful Scripture verse. We can then 'pray it home', 'wing it to the heart' and look for opportunities to follow up. You might like to pray now for those for whom you have a particular concern.

As we continue to support the ministry of **Christians Against Poverty** and **CAP** Lifeskills, there are four specific prayers to offer:

- 1) For more active workers, befrienders,
- 2) For prayer and financial supporters here in Chippy.
- 3) For desperate and needy people to be brave enough to come forward and ask for help. They are there waiting.
- 4) For us to consider if we are an answer to one of these prayers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bgXL3y9RIbl&list=PLsbOzudmj1ANMYaaX5-CSdaUeM2VXQF3m> Make this your response.

**One-to-One to Easter**

In case you missed it, here is the Witness section for:-

**Last week - Week 1**

*Jesus said, 'When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to myself.'* Jn 12.32 As we approach Easter, let us pray that God will draw people to himself over this season. In prayer, ask God to lay on your heart 3 people to particularly pray for during this time. You could put their names in the Zoom chat. Maybe, one person could pray for the members of the group, to be in some way, a 'Secret Pastor' for these people.