



The Word at Work

The River Flows from The Sanctuary to the Street

Reading the Word

Key Scriptures: Luke 5:5; Rev.22:1-4; Ezek.47:1, 9-12

Key Points:

Luke 5:5

- Now is the time to be going out into the deep to let down our nets– to move in the Spirit so we can lead people to Christ.

Rev.22:1-4

- We can experience something of this city now
- We can already begin to see God's face (2 Cor.3:18; 4:6)
- The river is meant to flow right at the centre of the church
- The Holy Spirit also wants to flow down the streets of our town

Ezek.47:1, 9-12

- The river flows from **the sanctuary** – the place where we go to meet with God, to seek his face, to be in his presence (Ps.84; 27:4-5, 8-9)
 - God's face represents intimacy with him and his favour to us (Num 6:24-26)
 - In seeking God's face be earnest but don't be intense
 - It will bring us into a greater revelation of his goodness (Ex.33:18-23)

- The river flows to **the street** – i.e. to where the fish are (the people who don't yet know him)
- Spiritual fishing is a funny kind of fishing – you have to get in the water to catch the fish!
 - Start believing God that you can move in the Spirit and exercise the gifts of the Spirit out in the streets
- We have to get in the river to catch fish, but the river has to get into us to produce fruit (v.12)
 - The trees represent us and the fruit is the fruit of the Spirit produced in us affecting our character, conduct and our good works.
 - The fruit that God produces in us is the hope and the healing for the nations (v.12, Rev.22:2).
 - An act of kindness can be fruit that results in a miracle

This is the focus for us in this season. There are two main places we need to be and, if we get in the river, we will be:

1. The sanctuary, seeking God's face
2. The street, catching fish

Doing the Word

To Discuss:

1. What will it mean in practice to seek God's face in the sanctuary?
2. In what kind of ways can the Holy Spirit use us out on the street?
3. what will it require us to do:
 - a. to spend time in the sanctuary?
 - b. to get out on the street?

To Do:

1. Look at what your answer was to question 3 above – and do them!

Trevor Lloyd 18th May 2008