

## DISCIPLESHIP EXPLORED COURSE

For eight Saturday's during Lockdown beginning in February and finishing in April Reverend Phillip Dixon ran the Discipleship Explored Course. The event took place on zoom from 10-30-am until 12-00noon with people from the churches at Highcliffe, Bransgore (both Methodist and Evangelical), Milford on Sea, Blandford, Isle of Wight, and there was even a chap who joined us from Croydon each week. Some folk who didn't have access to the online platform completed the course at their leisure at home.

Twenty- five people started the course with the average weekly attendance being around sixteen. So, what did we get up to? Well, each session followed the same pattern. Time to discuss and share thoughts about the previous week's session, a prayer, a question to think about whilst watching the video then into groups (which varied each week) to answer questions related to that day's topic then back together to share any salient points and then Phil closed with a prayer. Before the next session there were follow up questions to think about, memory verses to learn as well as preparing for the coming week.

The main thrust of the study was to consider what it means to be a disciple of Christ. The portions of scripture used came mainly from Paul's letter to the Philippians with a smattering of Ephesians, Galatians, John, Romans, Colossians, Hebrews, 1 Peter, 2 Timothy, Psalms, Luke, and Matthew.

The eight sessions were entitled Confident in Christ, Living in Christ, One in Christ, Obedient in Christ, Righteous in Christ, Transformed in Christ, Rejoicing in Christ and being Content in Christ. All were extremely thought provoking and challenging and the opportunity to discuss with others was extremely beneficial.

Studying God's word is such a privilege. It brings with it new insights into familiar passages from the Bible, it affords us the opportunity to look deeper and more thoughtfully at what God is saying to us and it enables us to witness for ourselves how God's word by the power of the Holy Spirit can and should impact on our daily lives. Christ is our righteousness we can do nothing because at Calvary he did it all.

The course ends by reminding us to keep praying because through prayer we become even closer in our friendship with Christ and also to keep meeting regularly with other Christians.

Phil is planning to lead a new study very shortly. Watch out for details on the Circuit Website and then come and join us. It's amazing what God can do if we only let Him.

Joyce