

the mark, I'd have missed the whole point. I don't have an exam to pass, but a person to embrace. A person who has embraced me; taking on my very flesh and blood so that I can be at one with him. Jesus won't be giving a quiz on how much I know about him. He's come that I might know him. Thank God for that!

So over this time spent with the Spirit one word has immersed; 'Intimacy'.

I'm not after knowledge for knowledge's sake. I'm not after experiences for the sake of experiences. I'm desperately after intimacy. Intimacy with the Father, through his Son Jesus, in the person of the Holy Spirit. I want to be known and to know Jesus more and more intimately. I want my whole life to flow abundantly from this most precious relationship.

So my daily pray is; 'Amen, Come, Lord

Jesus'. Come today and lead me. Let me hear you. Let me feel the closeness of your breath. Come, Lord Jesus and lead me today. Lead me to those you want me to share your presence with. Lead me giving me the courage, love and wisdom to be real with people as you are real with me. 'Amen, Come, Lord Jesus' let's walk and talk this day, enjoying each others' company, celebrating life together. Thank you Jesus for making this a reality. 'Amen, Come, Lord Jesus.'

21 October 2012

## THE REVELATION

E100



This week we come to the conclusion of the E100 series with readings from Revelation. Where do we end up? Let's read the final few verses of the bible; "Jesus says; 'Yes, I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen." (Rev. 22:20,21)

So where did we end up? If I were to ask you where we finish what would you answer?

It strikes me that we finish with Jesus. The bible starts with a person; God the creator. And finishes with a person; Jesus our redeemer. The

end is a personal encounter with Jesus.

This reminded me of something I once read on 'Discipleship and Intimacy training'.

The last section looked at developing a strategic plan. The question they asked was; where do you want to end up?

Which also reminded me of a question recently asked of me; where do you want to be leading these people?

If I were to ask you, where do you want to end up what would your answer be?

Where do you think I want to be leading you?

Our readings end where I want to be;

with Jesus. 'Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.' Where do I want to end up? With Jesus, joining him in his celebration of life and love. My one goal in life is to be in a close, intimate, personal, loving relationship with Jesus. My goal is a person. Not any person, but a very specific person; Jesus. Jesus who leads me to his Father. Who through Jesus becomes my Father. Jesus who sends me the Holy Spirit so that I can walk in a personal relationship with him today.

Where do I want to be leading people? To Jesus, that they walk with him in an intimate relationship.

**Christ Church Lutheran**

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am  
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

‘Amen, Come, Lord Jesus.’ If I were to lead you anywhere else, I’d have missed the mark. My sole goal is to lead people into an intimate relationship with Jesus, the relationship which he has made possible. Anything else is to totally miss the mark.

Now we know the goal, Jesus. Growing a personal, intimate relationship with him. Now we know the goal, what steps will it take to get there? The best step to be ready to meet Jesus when he returns is to be living with him, now. To be living that intimate relationship today. Then when Jesus returns it will be a pleasant surprise; for the one we’ve been sharing life with all along has come in person.

Thankfully Jesus has made it possible to be living in this intimate relationship through his death on the cross and resurrection. Here Jesus has opened the way into the heart of God, so that we can now live heart to heart. All fear is replaced in Jesus, for in Jesus we find the one who speaks for us, the one who has set us free from sin, death and the devil. Jesus is the one who at this very moment intercedes for us. Thankfully Jesus has paid the price that we might live intimately with God, with the Father. Thankfully Jesus is alive, because if he was still

dead all we’d have is a dead end. But no, in Jesus we have a living, vibrant friend whose passion is to share his life with us, and with all people. So I can take Jesus at his word, trusting the grace I have received through him. I don’t deserve it, but in Jesus I am the Father’s child, whom he loves and delights in. In Jesus that’s who I am, so I can live intimately with him and not run and hide out of fear as Adam and Eve did after they sinned. Luther had the image of the leaves blowing in the wind causing Adam and Eve to hide. The breath of God which gave them life now causes them to fear for they have betrayed him, they have gone of to do their own thing.

But now in Jesus we have a new breath of life, where we don’t run in fear but sense the closeness of the one who loves us more than his own life. We know the presence of the one who won’t abandon us when the going gets tough but will hang in there with us. Jesus is no fair weather friend, he’s there in the bad times as well as the good times. He feels our hurt and pain. He knows it. He’s been there, so we never have to taste the bitterness of being abandoned. So now when we sense God coming it is a reason to celebrate and be glad. We can rejoice in Jesus, for it is the advent of our closest and most trusted friend.

And we can experience that today as Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit into our lives. His wonderful new breath of life, where we don’t just read about it but we live it. We live in the loving embrace of our Saviour Jesus, experiencing his life giving breath in all aspects of life. What a beautiful difference Jesus makes. So I take him at his word, and then trusting him share what’s on my heart and soul. Prayer is a wonderful gift where I can get up close and personal with Jesus as I pour out my heart and soul to him.

Where I get real with him allowing him to see into me. That’s intimacy; letting someone see into your heart and soul. Of course that’s the whole point of the bible. It allows me to see into God’s heart and soul. Jesus reveals God’s heart and soul in person. I love reading the Gospel of John where we have all those discourses between the Father and the Son, for there I’m privileged to see into God and know him intimately. In Jesus God has risked being vulnerable, so that we might have an intimate relationship of trust with him; today, tomorrow, forever. If over these weeks I’d just been reading the bible as a text book I’d have missed

**Intimacy with the Father through the Son**

**Intimacy with the Son lived out with the Spirit**