

## Life Group Notes

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022

**Speaker:** Andy McCullough

**Title:** Begin with Prayer

**Read Luke 6: 11-16**

Entering a short sermon series equipping us to love our neighbours and bring God's Kingdom to our communities. Three different types of communities/spaces that we might want to consider how we BLESS; Neighbourhood, Place of work, Social/Leisure space.

Over next few weeks, we will be considering BEGIN with Prayer, Listening, Eating, Serving, Sharing our Stories.

### **Begin with Prayer:**

In the Luke passage, Jesus prays all night and in the morning calls to himself the disciples. Much prayer. Short period of action.

Prayer should be like an iceberg. Majority of the 'action' is under the surface, a small amount is above the surface. 9/10 of the way that we BLESS is secret and hidden in prayer.

- **Prayer opens us up to the unexpected.** Moves us up from the obvious to the unexpected. It creates space for God to speak.
- **Prayer brings people to mind.** Often it is in prayer that God stirs us about others.
- **Prayer gives confidence for the next step.**
- **Prayer wins anointing for the next step.** Being a BLESSing is a spiritual activity. It comes out of praying. We should come out of prayer with an expectation that we will be a blessing.
- **Prayer is to a person.** It is not a mechanical exchange. It is about relationship.

### **Questions:**

1. Share with each other which space/community you would like to grow in BLESSing over the coming term/weeks/year.
2. Share a situation when you felt God brought the unexpected/spoke through a time of prayer.
3. What encourages you to pray? How can you encourage others to pray?
4. Spend a good chunk of time praying as a group for communities/spaces/people that are important to those in your group.