CCCWL SMALL GROUP WEEK 5 - 8TH JULY 2021



Introduction.

Today we are looking at spiritual wellbeing from a Christian perspective. In any culture, spiritual wellbeing is associated with certain practices based upon the brand of spirituality being followed. In UK culture, many may follow certain practices without knowing the spiritual roots of those practices. This session focuses unapologetically upon the practices associated with Christian spirituality and wellbeing.

Our guests in today's session include with Miriam Swanson, who worked with students in the UK and Europe for the best part of a decade then recently moved to Florida, where she is now helping churches reach college students in the US; Pete Greig, a best-selling author, pastor and instigator of the 24-7 Prayer movement which has reached more than half the nations on earth; Pastor Agu Irukwu, senior pastor of Jesus House and UK leader of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) – the world's fastest growing Christian denomination; and Kerry, who tells how Jesus has transformed her life.

? Starter Questions - Think about these at home.

- What practices does society associate with spirituality?
- Which strong traditions are part of the UK's Christian heritage?

WATCH THE VIDEO AT HOME

https://vimeo.com/500513156 (Video Password is Isaiah9.6-7) God Story - https://vimeo.com/276035783

? Discussion Questions.

- 1. Take a minute to think about where your spiritual dial is currently. How are you doing?
- 2. Miriam Swanson talks about experiencing peace in a cathedral. When and where have you been aware of the spiritual realm? Was it a good or bad experience?
- 3. Do you think of God as a Father with the door always open or do you have another picture of God?
- **4.** Pastor Agu describes how he organises his life, so he hears from God. Have you ever consciously connected with God? List the practices that can help us to hear from God and connect with Him.
- **5.** Living on a houseboat forces Pete Greig to slow down. How do you slow down, and how do you cope with silence and solitude?
- **6.** How do you respond to Kerry's personal story about how her life has changed since she became a Christian?

? ACTIVITIES/TOOLS - GOING DEEPER.

- 1. Looking at your list of what helps people connect with God, choose one of these practices that you can do more of, or do for the first time this week.
- 2. What gets in the way of hearing from God and being aware of His presence?
- **3.** Kerry says her experience of God has changed her life. How does our spiritual wellbeing affect other areas of our wellbeing?
- 4. What do you think of the statement 'Christian prayer is a two-way conversation'?

FINAL THOUGHT.

What did you take away from this week's session?

Why not be silent for a few moments to help you listen to God. Ask God to speak to you as you listen for Him.

CCCWL website - <u>www.cccwl.co.uk</u> (Please visit the Knowing Jesus Page)

Julie Macklin email - <u>juliemacklin@cccwl.co.uk</u> CCCWL Prayer email - <u>prayer@cccwl.co.uk</u> CCCWL Office email - <u>office@cccwl.co.uk</u>