

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST
"Caring for one another
as the body of Christ"
24th June 2017

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ST PETER'S BARGE

a)The need to care and be cared for

Christians are “one body” in Christ

*Eph 2:15-16 “that he [Christ] might create in himself **one new man** in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in **one body** through the cross.”*

Eph 4:15 “we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.”

*1Cor 12:27 “Now you are **the body of Christ** and individually members of it”*

1Cor 12:26 “If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.”

If I believe this then....

→I'll care for others who are in Christ's body

*1Cor 12:21-27 "...But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body but that the members may have the same **care for one another**....."*

*John 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

*Matt 25:40 "Truly I say to you, as you did it **to one of the least of these my brothers**, you did it to me."*

Barriers:

1)It feels overwhelming

2)I've no time!

3)Self-absorption

→I'll let others in Christ's body care for me

1Cor 12:21 "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.'"

Barriers:

1)I musn't burden others

Gal 6:2 "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ."

2)Fear of looking weak

Questions for reflection and prayer:

- Do I have a caring mindset towards other believers in the "St Peter's Barge" part of Christ's body? How can I develop one?
- Who in church/my GG is suffering at the moment? Is honoured at the moment? How could I care for them?
- Where am I currently in need myself? Am I allowing other believers to care for me? How could I take some steps forward in letting others care for me? How does my mindset need to change if I have been resistant to this?

b)Caring through a time of crisis

Testimony:

Some principles:

To the one seeking to care.....

To the one in crisis.....

Question Time

Prayer Time

- What one thing can I be praying about as a result of this morning's teaching?

Books to recommend:

"Being there" Gary Furman

"Hope when it hurts" Kristen Wetherell and Sarah Walton

"Walking with God through pain and suffering" Timothy Keller