



Aliens
Week of March 3, 2019

Objective of this study: To be reminded and inspired about why we are here, and to let the Holy Spirit show us more how to live our lives here well, with purpose.

[Remember, the main goal of each Growth Group is to allow God's Word to change your heart so that others would see Jesus in you and be likewise changed to be like him. He wants to change the world through us.]

Welcome (5 minutes)

What's your favorite alien movie?

In what situations have you felt like an alien or a stranger?

Worship (5 – 10 minutes)

1. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.
2. Spend five minutes in silence asking God to prepare your heart for how he wants to speak to you.
3. After the five minutes have someone interrupt the silence and read **Psalm 130:1-8** meditatively to the group. Pause after each phrase letting God speak to you. **Did anything "jump out at you"?**

[It's really important when doing this study that we each think about ourselves specifically and ways we need to grow, not how Christians in general need to grow. Do the hard work of letting the Holy Spirit speak to *your* heart.]

Word/Work (60-90 minutes)

1. What stood out from the sermon?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:11-12.
3. So far in this series on 1st Peter we have looked at how we tend to forget who God is, who we are, and why we are here. Today we are looking at why we are here. According to 1 Peter 2:11-12 and this week's sermon, why are we here? (See also 1 Peter 2:9.)
4. **A. Distractions:** 1 Peter 2:11 warns us about worldly desires that can distract us from our purpose here, and even cause damage to our souls. Read Proverbs 4:23 and Romans 8:5-6. How do these passages speak to this topic?

Sermon quote: Anyone who consistently lives contrary to their values will be a tormented person.

5. **B. Purpose:** 1 Peter 2:12 reminds us about our purpose. Read also the following passages: Colossians 4:5-6; Philippians 1:27; Philippians 3:20. What can we learn from these passages about living our lives here as 'aliens' and how to live well among our neighbors?
6. Read Colossians 3:1-17. Look for everything that relates to us being 'aliens' here, how to deal with the things that could distract us or harm our soul, and how to live on purpose here.

Personal reflection: What is 1 (or 2, but keep the list short) value(s) that the Holy Spirit is showing you that you are living contrary to? What can you do this week to live more in line with the values God has given you, and live well among your neighbors?

Prayer

1. Spend the rest of the time praying for each other. **Praise God together for how he works, and how he allows us to partner with him to accomplish things in his kingdom.**
2. Here are some things you can pray about for the church:
 - A. That, as a church, we would actively and purposefully engage in the mission of Jesus in Campbell River.
 - B. Pastor Jeff and Ruthie as they continue to recover from exhaustion.
 - B. Our church board and staff as they lead us to live out the mission of Jesus
 - C. River Kids ministry as they reach out to kids in our community.
 - D. **Our missionary of the week:** Rod and Donna Black with Fellowship International (Check out the church website for how to pray for them)
 - E. **Local CR church:** Quadra Island Bible Church

Radiant Life Feb Drive - New toothbrushes, new sock and shoes (emphasize the need for shoes, gently used are good)