



## LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 30th April 2023

Building with the Gospel. Zechariah 1:18-21  
Nick McQuaker Sussex Gospel Partnership



### Warm Up

What is the weirdest dream you have ever had? (That you are able to share in public.)



What are your hopes for the future?

What stops you sharing the Gospel? (If there is anything.)

### Background and context

Zechariah was a contemporary of the prophet Haggai. They lived during the time of the return from exile and the rebuilding of the temple and walls of Jerusalem (Circa 500BC). His key message to the people was to complete the work and call them to repentance and holiness. He also looks forward to the arrival of the Messiah and the establishment of God's messianic kingdom on earth. Much of his book is a series of strange visions. Our passage today is one of them.

### Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

Read Zechariah Ch1. Then re-read v 18-21

1. What are your first reactions to the passage? How would you interpret this strange vision?
2. The horns represent global empires such as Babylon, Persia, Egypt and Greece. What or who might be modern 'empires' that are seeking to control the world? (Might not be nations.)
3. What is a craftsman? What is their role in society? What skills do they have?
4. Why will the horns be terrified of craftsmen? What is the image the vision is trying to create?
5. How might this vision apply to the world, the Church and us as individuals? (Think of the number 4 and its importance. What are there four of in the New Testament?)
6. How does this passage point us to Jesus? Does it give you hope?

### Growing in discipleship: Practical application

7. The worlds' 'empires' and strongholds seek to remove God and replace him with their own authority. How do the following verses provide hope? John 2:19, Acts 17:31, 1 Cor 3:16-17
8. How do we build with the Gospel? What are we building? 2 Cor 2:15-16, Matt 10:14-15  
2 Cor 10: 4-5
9. Why should we be confident that God is sovereign over world events/issues ?
10. Should the Church be engaged in social/political issues or focus on fighting a spiritual war?



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.