

### WELCOME

Sunday 29 September 2024



# Gathering to listen





#### **Our mission:**

## Going with Jesus to share Good News Gathering to Jesus to Worship and Celebrate Growing in Jesus in Relationship Together



## A Disciple is someone who "hears my words and puts them into practice." Luke 6 v 47

A local church is a community of disciples who personally and corporately "hear my words and put them into practise."



#### Acts 13

On the Sabbath they went to the synagogue for the services. After the usual readings from the books of Moses and the prophets, those in charge of the service sent them this message: "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, come and give it."

So Paul stood, lifted his hand to quiet them, and started speaking. "Men of Israel," he said, "and you God-fearing Gentiles, listen to me...

"Brothers—you sons of Abraham, and also you God-fearing Gentiles—this message of salvation has been sent to us! The people in Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize Jesus as the one the prophets had spoken about. Instead, they condemned him, and in doing this they fulfilled the prophets' words that are read every Sabbath. They found no legal reason to execute him, but they asked Pilate to have him killed anyway. "When they had done all that the prophecies said about him, they took him down from the cross<sup>[g]</sup> and placed him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead! And over a period of many days he appeared to those who had gone with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his witnesses to the people of Israel. "And now we are here to bring you this Good News. The promise was made to our ancestors, and God has now fulfilled it for us, their descendants, by raising Jesus...



"Brothers, listen! We are here to proclaim that through this man Jesus there is forgiveness for your sins. Everyone who believes in him is made right in God's sight—something the law of Moses could never do.....

The following week almost the entire city turned out to hear them preach the word of the Lord....

And the believers were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit



Have there been times when we've heard God's word in a new way? What was the result?

What is the link between hearing the word in the synagogue and almost the entire city turning out the following week? What would it be like if that happened here?



#### Acts 14

After preaching the Good News in Derbe and making many disciples, Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia, where they strengthened the believers. They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God. Paul and Barnabas also appointed elders in every church. With prayer and fasting, they turned the elders over to the care of the Lord, in whom they had put their trust. Then they traveled back through Pisidia to Pamphylia. They preached the word in Perga, then went down to Attalia.

Finally, they returned by ship to Antioch of Syria, where their journey had begun. The believers there had entrusted them to the grace of God to do the work they had now completed. Upon arriving in Antioch, they called the church together and reported everything God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles, too. And they stayed there with the believers for a long time.



Have you been inspired to act by listening to someone's testimony?

What was the impact on you or others?

### Gather

#### Listening to one another

```
"Instruct one another." (Romans 15:14)
```

"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs." (Ephesians 5:19)

"Teach ... [one another]." (Colossians 3:16)

"Admonish one another." (Colossians 3:16)

"Encourage each other."(I Thessalonians 4:18)

"Build each other up." (I Thessalonians 5:11)

"Spur one another on toward love and good deeds." (Hebrews 10:24)

"Confess your sins to each other." (James 5:16)

"Pray for each other." (<u>James 5:16</u>)



## 



'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.'

Matthew 18:20

#### **Prayer**

Lord, may I be a disciple who loves to Gather with your church. Help us to be centred on Jesus and committed to one another. Help us to connect with our community, sharing Jesus with those around us. Help me to fully play my part for your Amen glory.