

Study notes based on Matthew 28:16-20 Richard Whitney 28 May 2017

1. Richard began by asserting that God is establishing His kingdom here and now, and therefore Jesus is with us now in that process. In what ways do you think we can building God's kingdom on earth.
2. Richard described the Bible as 'the story of God walking with his people.' What Specific examples can you think of? (Genesis 3:8; Deuteronomy 31:23; Daniel 3:24-25.)
3. Jesus was fully human. How do you respond when the implications of this are spelled out for us – 'Jesus went to the loo' – Did he get man flu?
4. See John 16:5-15. Who gets the better experience of Jesus' presence – those who knew him in the flesh, or those He indwells by His Spirit?
5. How do we respond to the statement 'Jesus is with me no matter how I feel.' Discuss the relationship between facts, faith and feelings.
6. Can you recall a time like Richard's when you ask the question 'where was God when I needed Him'?
7. When have we found God's presence to be helpful in the darkest times?
8. Richard suggested two major culprits which prevent us from knowing that Jesus is closer than I feel He is. – Busyness, and sin. How can busyness rob us of the sense of God's presence?
9. 'How unutterably sweet is the knowledge that our Heavenly Father knows us completely. No talebearer can inform on us; no enemy can make an accusation stick; no forgotten skeleton can come tumbling out of some hidden closet to abash us and expose our past; no unsuspected weakness in our characters can come to light to turn God away from us, since He knew us utterly before we knew him and called us to Himself in the full knowledge of everything that was against us.–A. W. Tozer (1897 – 1963) Richard encouraged us with the reminder that all we get wrong is covered by the cross. What stop sus form invoking James 4:7-8.

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