

Welcome

Ask everyone to share one highlight of their week so far, encourage them to share and be open!!

Word

This week's theme is "dare to be open"

Read 2 Corinthians 6 v.11-13

Paul encourages the people to have open hearts and live open lives

- What do you think it means to live an open life?
- What are some of the characteristics of an open life?
- What are some of the benefits of living an open life?
- What are some of the factors that cause us to live more closed than open lives?

Look at the story used on Sunday to highlight different people's responses...

Mark 2 v.1-12

The paralysed man was open because he knew he had a need and he accepted help

- What has been your experience of a time when you accepted help?
- Why do we sometimes struggle to acknowledge our need and to accept help?

The friends were open because they went to extraordinary lengths for their friend to meet Jesus.

- What does this tell us about true spiritual friendship?
- The religious leaders were not open but very closed, what things can cause even followers of Jesus to become closed?

The end of the story sees the man healed and living an open life 'in full view of them all'

- What would have been the impact of this on the people in the community?
- How does our openness potentially open the door for God in our communities?

Finish by asking if anyone has a need and would open up. Then pray for them.

Spend some time praying for people you know, maybe friends who you would love to see brought closer to Jesus.

Who will you invite to the Christmas events this year? Pray for them