

# Church - God's Idea! the Church of God



## **IN - helping a sense of belonging...**

A helpful icebreaker:

What is it in your life that makes you joyful?

Today the focus is on unity. Why not break bread together?

## **UP - hearing from God and growing...**

The teaching is from John 17 and identifies the 4 hallmarks of the church:

The Glory of God, The Word of God

The Joy of the Lord, Unity of Believers

- In your experience what are the signs of these in a church?
- Which do we need to see more evident in the life of the church?
- How can we make this difference?
- Is there one area which we need to particularly invest in?

Take some time to pray together that your group itself would be marked by these 4 aspects!

## **OUT - impacting others...**

- In the talk we recognised the amazing challenge the Joy of a Spirit filled Christian life is to the world around us?
- Pray for each other - and you place in the world - that you will be able to show the joy of the Lord in those places!

## **BIBLE READING:**

17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. 6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.

**LIFEgroup  
Notes**