**Small Group Material - I am sending you, 2**

**Mission and the Church**

**Luke 24.44-49**

*Allow longer for the witness section this week*

**Welcome**

What was the scariest journey you ever went on?

**Worship**

Sing together ‘In Christ alone’ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWiFYJMGas0.

Take each line and turn it into a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

**Word**

*Mission begins, not in our hopes and vision, but in the heart and mind of God himself. God is a missionary God. He sent his own Son on a mission. Jesus sent his disciples out as missionaries. Today the Father and the Son send their church out in the power of the Spirit.*

**Read Luke 24.44-49.**

1. (v44)The Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms is a way to describe the whole of the Old Testament. ie, the entire Old Testament points to the Messiah.

What do the following verses tell us about him? Deut 18.15-20 (Prophets), Psalm 22.1-2,12-18 & is 53.3-6 (his suffering and death), Ps 16.9-11, Is 53.10-11 (his resurrection)

2. v47, What does this tell us about the importance of the worldwide scope of the gospel?

3. v.49, How do you experience God’s power from on high in mission, in your own life, the church and in the world?

**Witness**

Every church has it’s own mission field, which has two overlapping parts. One part is the church’s presence in the local community. The second is the relationships which individual Christians have.

On a large piece of paper create a Mission Field Map of St Mary’s. (Put St Mary’s in the middle and bubbles round the outside representing it’s areas of influence - eg church services, Minis, Remix, CAP, baptisms, Alpha, small groups etc.)

Add in the rough number of people in each circle who is ‘not yet Christians’.

Then use different colours to categorise each activity as ‘Presence’, ‘Proclamation’ or ‘Persuasion’ (some may include more than one)

How do you feel about the overall shape and particular details of your map?

Put a small upright cross in the centre of your map and pray over the map.

Have you arranged a social event?

Pray for one another.

In Christ alone my hope is found,

He is my light, my strength, my song

This Cornerstone, this solid Ground

Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace

When fears are stilled, when strivings cease

My Comforter, my All in All

Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,

Fullness of God in helpless babe.

This gift of love and righteousness,

Scorned by the ones He came to save

Till on that cross as Jesus died,

The wrath of God was satisfied

For every sin on Him was laid

Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,

Light of the world by darkness slain:

Then bursting forth in glorious day

Up from the grave He rose again

And as He stands in victory

Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,

For I am His and He is mine

Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,

This is the power of Christ in me

From life's first cry to final breath,

Jesus commands my destiny

No power of hell, no scheme of man,

Can ever pluck me from His hand

Till He returns or calls me home

Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

In Christ alone my hope is found,

He is my light, my strength, my song

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