



HEARTS ON FIRE

growth group studies

Welcome to our series – “Hearts on Fire”.

This term we become a church which meets in three locations – Carina, Springfield and South Bank. As we take this step, it’s a good time for us to pause and reflect. Why are we doing this? What are we on about as a church?

There are some words that you’ll hear a lot around our church – ‘servant hearts’, ‘connect, grow, serve’, ‘soft hearts give hard’, ‘reach the city, reach the world’. But the word that you’ll hear more than any other is ‘JESUS’ – The Word that gives meaning to all other words.

‘Hearts on Fire’ is a series about who we are as a church, but it’s not a series about us. It’s a series about Jesus. ‘Hearts on Fire’ is a series all about Jesus. It’s a series about who we are because of who Jesus is. It’s a series about how our lives and hearts have been changed because of what Jesus has done. ‘Hearts on Fire’ describes our heartbeat as a church.

What does it mean to live as followers of Jesus with a new heart?

A heart for Jesus. A heart for the lost. A heart for giving.

In this series we’ll talk about what we do as a church and how we do things as a church, but most importantly we’ll look at the Bible to see why we do these things... because of Jesus – to reach as many people as possible with the message of Jesus.

“Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” (Luke 24:32). Hearts on Fire – all because of Jesus.

A Prayer For This Series

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank you for sending Jesus. We thank you that we can be in relationship with you. We thank you that you have made us your people. We thank you for the privilege of being able to serve you.

We pray that you would continue to transform our hearts – that we would love you with all our heart. We pray that our heart would beat for Jesus, for the lost, for giving everything we have to Jesus.

Father, we pray that each of us would not think only of ourselves, our own comfort and our own interests, but rather that we would think of others, and how we might point them to Jesus.

We pray that you would work through us, so that many more people, as many people as possible would join us in following Jesus on the road of eternal life.

In Jesus name, Amen.

01 HEART FOR JESUS

new road

We're all on a road to somewhere. Without God, we're on a road, an eternal pathway, of death. When we meet Jesus, we begin walking a new road. Life with Jesus is a new road. The eternal pathway of life is all about Jesus.

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. Luke 24:27

They asked each other, "Were not our HEARTS burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" Luke 24:32

1. What impacted you from Sunday – what did you find encouraging or challenging?

Read Luke 24:13-35

2. These two travellers explain things 'about Jesus of Nazareth' to Jesus himself as he walked along with them. What do they get right? What do they get wrong?
3. How does Jesus respond to them? How does Jesus explain the Scriptures to them?
4. What happens as they listen to Jesus and understand the Scriptures? What difference has Jesus made to your journey in life?

Read Luke 24:36-53

5. How does the cross of Jesus show us how the whole Bible fits together?
6. How has your understanding of who Jesus is changed in your life? What road are you walking on, which direction is your life heading in?

Ready for a challenge?

Read Revelation 21:1-22:5

7. Compare and contrast Revelation 21:1-22:5 with Genesis 1-3. What are the similarities and differences? What are the common themes and how are these developed? How does Revelation relate to Genesis?
8. How does this vision of Revelation shape your life in the here and now? How does the way you live show which road you are walking on?

Servant Heart

Soft Hearts Give Hard. Are you walking a new road with Jesus? What does it look like for your soft heart to give hard, so that many others can walk a new road following Jesus?

As you take a fresh look at how you serve, with a servant heart, pray that God would use you so that many more people will walk a new road following Jesus.

01

PRAYER POINTS

NOTES

Praise God for making a new road for us to walk, a road towards life instead of death.

Confess that too often we walk the old road to death. We still choose to disobey God as we choose the old road that leads to death rather than follow God on the new road to life.

Give thanks that we do not walk this new road to life alone, but Jesus joins us and leads us along it.

Ask that as a church we would encourage and support each other on the new road of following Jesus.

Pray for your friends who don't follow Jesus yet. Pray that they would join us on the new road following Jesus. Pray that we would be bold in inviting them to join us in following Jesus.

Pray for your Cross Cultural Connect Team Member. Pray that through their ministry, many people will join us on the new road following Jesus.

*Because of you, death is
known no more
Jesus you are the one
we're living for*

Through the Cross; Ben Cantelon and Mia
Fieldes, 2011 Thankyou Music and SHOUT!
Music Publishing

Everything in the Bible points to Jesus and how important he is.

Read Luke 24:13-32

PRE PRIMARY & PRIMARY

Get a copy of all the following verses. An easy way would be to go to www.biblegateway.com, print out a sheet with each of the verses on them, and then cut them up.

- John 1:1-3
- Genesis 12:1-3 (God talking to Abraham)
- 2 Samuel 7:11b-13 (God talking to King David)
- Psalm 22:16-18
- Isaiah 53:4-6
- Hebrews 1:1-3
- Revelation 22:3-5

Line them up one after the other. Talk about how each one points to Jesus. When you are finished arrange all the verses in the shape of a cross. Maybe glue them in place and stick it up to remind the family how the whole Bible points to Jesus.

HIGH SCHOOL



Watch this video by searching "Dan Stevers True and Better".

As you watch the video together write down each of the Old Testament stories it refers to. Discuss how Jesus is the "true and better" version of each of those stories.

If you don't know any of the stories why not decide to get a family member to research that story this week. Find it in the Bible, read it, and ask God to help you see how Jesus is the "true and better" version of each person. And don't be frightened to ask your growth group leader to help.

Jesus explained to them what was said about himself in all the Scriptures. He began with Moses and all the Prophets.

LUKE 24:27 NIRV

PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father. Thank you for the Bible. Thank you that it is a book with lots of great stories in it. Thank you that these stories all point to one person – Jesus. Thank you for Jesus – the true Word of God - through whom we can be saved.

At Creek Road we love Jesus. We want to reach the city and reach the world with the good news about who Jesus is. We'd love to help you meet Jesus as we explore the Bible together at our Sunday Services.

We want every person to have a chance to connect with Jesus, to grow to be more like Jesus and to serve Jesus. So we try to make everything we do clear and easy to understand.

If you've got any questions, we'd love to answer them. If there is anything you need, we'd love to help.

You don't need to be good, religious, or have it all together to join us on a Sunday. Jesus is for everyone - people of all stages, ages, and places. So is our church.

Everyone is welcome. Seriously.



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