

Connect Group Notes

Sermon: Core Convictions: Bible Rooted

Reading: Matthew 4:1-11

Date: 17th November 2024 (AM)

Introduction

For the next three weeks we will be looking at three of the six Core Convictions taken from the words of the Lord Jesus that we considered at our APCM in April 2024; in the new year we will consider the final three. These are convictions – discussed and shaped by the PCC and staff team – that characterise a healthy, biblical church and that we believe God is calling us to take to heart. They may be found on our church website at: <https://www.allsaintslindfield.org/about-us/core-convictions/> and are also on a display board under the tower at the west end of All Saints.

Bible Rooted: We obediently submit to God's Word as our supreme authority in all matters of faith and life. Jesus said, *'It is written...'* (Matthew 4:1-11)

Read Matthew 4:1-11

1. What did you make of those 'broken' bible verses? Are there bits of the bible that you've especially struggled with? How does Jesus' view of the Old Testament challenge and encourage us?
2. Consider those references to how God's word is like strong roots or firm foundations. How do these pictures help us understand what it means to be Bible Rooted?
3. The Bible is sometimes seen as a 'conversation' or a 'curve' - why are these views attractive? In what ways does Jesus' view of the Bible confirm or challenge those ideas?
4. Satan tempts Jesus especially around whether God's word is good and trustworthy, attacking Jesus to the core of his identity. What can we learn from Jesus' example of how he leans on scripture and fights temptation?
5. We want to 'Christ Centered', making Jesus' view of the bible, our view of the bible. How might we summarise Jesus' understanding of the bible and how he seeks to fulfil it in his life?

Pray for:

- One another, as we wrestle with and try and live out God's word - which can be costly.
- In the light of Emma Worrall's visit in the evening, pray for the work of Open Doors, supporting the Persecuted Church around the world.
- A friend who doesn't know Jesus, but with whom you could offer to read the Bible.