

Life Application Notes

Week beginning 22nd March (West End) 29th March (Lordshill/Central).

Culture Revealed. *What Matters to Jesus in the Local Church?*

Chris Kilby. Letter 6 (PHILADELPHIA) – Revelation 3:7-13

Beautiful King, Beautiful Mission, Beautiful Church, Beautiful Future

Opening Up.

- ‘Philadelphia’ – translates as ‘Brotherly Love’.

Group discussion – *If you were to rename Southampton – what could it be called?*

How about if we experienced a genuine revival – what would you rename the city then?

Digging In

In Revelation we see John’s vision of a glorified Christ, who then dictates to John letters to seven churches. This sixth letter is written to the church in Philadelphia.

Read Revelation 3:7-13

Remind one another what Philadelphia was like as a city.

(Clues for leader – Earthquake prone, but known as a place where people loved each other)

Beautiful King

- What Does the opening of this letter reveal about the character of Jesus, and why are these values important in our day? (Verse 1)

Beautiful Mission

- Read verse 8 together
- In Col 4 Paul prayed for a similar ‘open door’ for the message of the gospel.
- Where could you ask God for an open door? (e.g. are there people at work or in your neighbourhood that you’d like God to give you an opportunity to love/serve/pray for? Share these around the room.

Beautiful Church

- This was clearly a church where people mattered. They were *all about people*.
- One of the dangers of being part of a growing church, is that relationships can become more distant and less personal. As we grow – what can we do to keep relationships strong, and keep loving those who visit and join us?

Rounding Off

Beautiful Future

- Re-read Verses 10-13. Take some time to pray and thank Jesus for making a way for us to enjoy a secure and eternal future with him.