

## w/b 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017 VISION SUNDAY - INTIMACY WITH GOD

This study follows the vision Sunday in which the elders shared the vision for the coming year.

Leviticus 25:10-12 *You shall thus consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim a release through the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, and each of you shall return to his own property, and each of you shall return to his family. <sup>11</sup>You shall have the fiftieth year as a jubilee; you shall not sow, nor reap its after-growth, nor gather in from its untrimmed vines. <sup>12</sup>For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy to you. You shall eat its crops out of the field.*

Hebrews 4:9-11 *So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. <sup>10</sup>For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. <sup>11</sup>Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.*

John 15:5 *I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*

Matthew 22:37 *'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.'*

### LAUNCH

- Can you remember the last time you had what could be best described as a perfect day? What do you remember about it and why was it perfect?
- Was there a spiritual component to the day or Godly principles that were underwritten in what you did?

### DISCOVERY & UNDERSTANDING

- From these few verses in Leviticus, what are some of the key principles of Jubilee?
- It seems as if Jubilee was never properly carried out in the nation of Israel. Why do you think that was? What ungodly influences may have been at work?
- Do the same 'earthly forces' remain at work in preventing us from gaining proper Sabbath rest with God?
- What holds you back from getting proper Sabbath rest? What can you do about this?
- Does Sabbath rest always need to involve doing something 'spiritual'? Why or why not?
- What signs can we display of not entering into the rest of God (eg lack of peace, edginess, anxiety etc.)? What might be a path for you back into his rest?
- John 15:5 talks about remaining in Christ. What are the favourite ways that you like to remain in Christ?
- The word, prayer and the Spirit were all mentioned as ways to remain in Christ (see the slide attached). Out of the 3 which is strong and which is weak as far as you personally are concerned? Why do you think that is?

### APPLICATION

- What personal steps are you desiring to take to draw closer to God? Does this involve strengthening a strength or working on a weakness?
- How can you support one another in doing this?

*"I must secure more time for private devotions. I have been living far too public for me. The shortening of devotions starves the soul, it grows lean and faint. I have been keeping too late hours."*  
William Wilberforce

- Pray as a group that you will acquire the same heart and intent as William Wilberforce.