

Homegroup notes – Week beginning 23rd March 2015

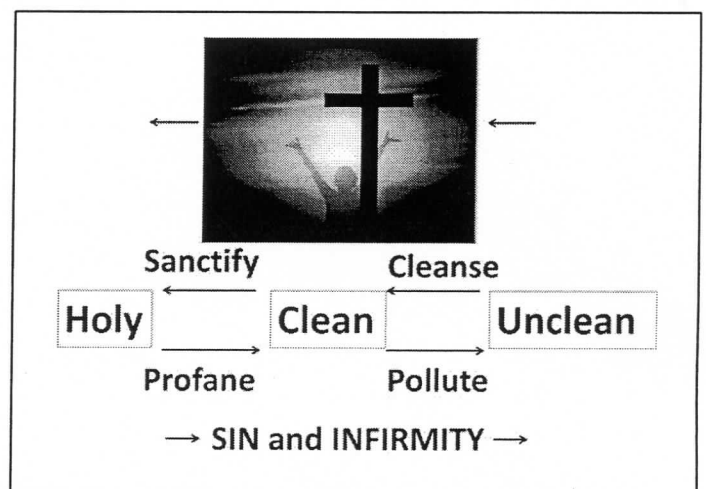
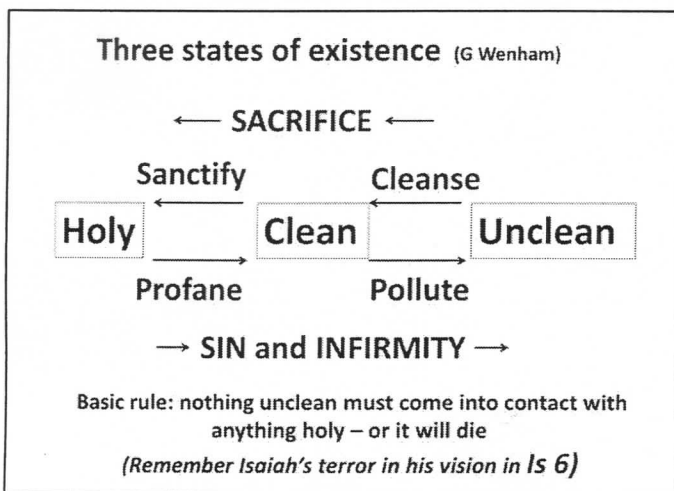
Home group / study notes: beautiful lives in service

Feel free to use as much or as little as you wish.

Read John 13:1-8. In what ways do you allow Jesus to 'wash your feet'? A host's responsibility was to ensure that guests had their feet refreshed, done by a servant in a better-off household. Are you comfortable with being a *guest* of Jesus? What might this mean? How might you want to behave? And towards other guests?

Could this apply in a church context?

Read John 13:9-17. What would 'clean' have meant to Jesus' (Jewish) hearers? Have a look at the two slides below dealing with the Old Testament purity laws in Leviticus, and the difference the New Covenant makes:



Can you see what Jesus is saying in John 13:10-11?

Feet in sandals on dusty roads will pick up dirt. How might that apply to us? What should we do?

What might Jesus mean by washing one another's feet? How might it relate to living beautiful lives? What ministries are you (or could you get) involved with which are the equivalent of foot washing today? Are they just service, or do they help make people 'clean' in Jesus' sense of the word? Can you perhaps see some services you perform in this new light?

Read John 13:21-30. There will be a cost to discipleship, including betrayal by some who fall away. Notice who Jesus tells about his betrayer. Presumably John then tells the other disciples after Judas has gone out? We are not told, although it was Simon Peter who had asked for the information...

Prayer Why not use John 13:18-34 as a Lectio Divina prayer? Someone read it slowly, leave a pause, then read it slowly again. While it is being read, put yourself into the events and ask God to give you a word, phrase or picture as you listen. Keep at least two minutes silence, then if anyone wants to share anything they feel they have been given, do so. What stood out for you? Or you may be given something personal you don't want to share: that's fine too. Finish by saying the Grace together.