

## Home Group Notes 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018 The Sower

### **Welcome:**

What is the thing you most enjoy about gardening? Or – the thing you hate about gardening!

### **Worship** *Say together these words from Ps.65:9-13*

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with corn, for so you have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

You soften it with showers and bless its crops.

You crown the year with your bounty and your carts overflow with abundance.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with corn; they shout for joy and sing.

### **Then sing:**

You are the vine, we are the branches, keep us abiding in you.x2

Then we'll go in your love, then we'll go in your name,

That the world will surely know

that you have power to heal and to save. (Rpt.1<sup>st</sup> line twice)

### **Word** *Read Luke 8:1-15.*

1. What is “the good news of the kingdom of God”?
2. Who were the companions of Jesus on this preaching tour? Are you surprised? If so, why?
3. What do you think Mary, Joanna and Susanna had been up to, that they were possessed by evil – ie unclean spirits? A clue – read Deut. 18:9-13. Is this a problem today?

4. What sort of a field is described – is it a good one? Note – the farmer was going to plough **after** sowing!
5. What was the problem with the path? Who took away the seed? See 1 Pet.5:8 What sort of people are described?
6. What about the rocky ground? What sort of people are described here?
7. What do the thorns represent? What sort of problems do they cause for us?
8. Describe the ‘good ground’. See Ps.119:1-16. What does each verse have as a common feature?
9. What sort of harvest does the good ground produce?
10. Would you describe Mary Magdalene and the other women as ‘good ground’?
11. “Nothing is impossible with God (Luke 1:37) How does God transform lives so that people become ‘good ground’?”
12. How does this parable motivate our evangelism and outreach? What more could we do to build the kingdom of God/

### **Witness**

Pray for St. Michael’s and St. John’s to be good ground that yields an abundant harvest.

Pray for those who will join us in the coming months, that they will grow in faith and maturity in Christ.

Pray for Alison as she begins her ministry as deacon.

Pray for those we know who are ill or in any kind of difficulty.