



Connection Group Meeting Outline

Week of February 19-25, 2012

Welcome:

Tell your group about a person who has inspired you to use your imagination and/or has encouraged you to be creative in the past. What makes this person so special?

Worship:

(Each person takes a turn reading. Whole group responds in **bold**. Feel free to pause between each line for a moment of worshipful reflection and gratitude.)

David strengthened himself in the Lord his God. *(1 Samuel 30:6b)*

The joy of the Lord is your strength. *(Nehemiah 8:10)*

With your help I can advance against a troop; with my God I can scale a wall. *(Psalm 19:29)*

The Lord is the strength of his people, a fortress of salvation for his anointed one. *(Psalm 28:8)*

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. *(Psalm 145:14)*

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. *(Psalm 147:5)*

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. *(Isaiah 41:10)*

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. *(Isaiah 40:28-31)*

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. *(Philippians 4:13)*

The Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.

And I was delivered from the Lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom.

To him be glory for ever and ever. *(2 Timothy 4:17-18)*

Word: *Text used Mark 9:2-9*

1. Stephen suggested that spiritual imagination must be stimulated in order to see “the coming of the glory of the Lord”. How can we strengthen the muscle of our spiritual imagination?
2. How can we become more aware of things that are real, but are hidden because of our lack of awareness and spiritual imagination? How can an engaged spirit help us to understand our daily routine in a different way?
3. The text tells about the transfiguration of Jesus as witnessed by Peter, James and John. Have you ever had a supernatural experience or vision? Share with your group if you are comfortable doing so.
4. Our spiritual tradition requires us to not only claim our beliefs, but also to embody them. What does this mean? How are we to live?

Witness:

Discuss as a group how you are going to apply this week’s learnings in a tangible, practical way in your daily life.

- Ask God to help you become more alert to see things as they really are.
- Begin using the Christ Church Daily Prayer Book as a way of increasing your alertness to God throughout the day.

Final Thought:

“Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!” (*Mark 9:7*)