

CONNECT WITH THE MESSAGE

Tough Question 13 – Why can't Christians agree?

- 1) What experience, if any, have you had of different sorts of churches?

- 2) Read **John 17v23**. Was there one point from Rich's talk that was particularly memorable for you? What was it and why?

- 3) a) Read **Ephesians 4v2-6**.
 - i) What do you think Paul is referring to in **verse 4** when he says there is 'one body'?

 - ii) Why do you think this is important when thinking about Christian unity?

- b) What do **verses 2 and 3** tell us to do for the sake of Christian unity?
 - i) How easy do you find living like that as part of the church?

 - ii) How easy do you find being like that towards other types of churches?

- c) Read **James 4v6**. Pray and ask God to show you areas where you are proud or feel superior to other Christians or other churches. Take some time to listen and think and then repent of wrong attitudes.

- d) Read **John 13v34-35**.
 - i) What standard does Jesus give us for loving other Christians?

 - ii) If we do this how will it help our evangelism?

 - iii) Take a few minutes to pray for some of the people you know who don't know Jesus and pray for help to share your faith with them.

DIGGING DEEPER

Read **Romans 14v1-23**

a) How would you summarise **verses 1-4**?

b) What does this passage say is most important: to be convinced or to be right? Why?

Verses 10-12 say that we will all have to give an account of ourselves to God.

c) How do you think this fits with being 'justified by faith' and fully accepted in Christ?

d) How should this fact help us when we find other Christians with different opinions?

e) How would you summarise **verses 19-21**?

f) Are there things you do or believe that may be causing other believers to 'stumble'? How can you make sure that you don't continue to do this?

g) What do you think Paul means when he says in **verse 23** 'everything that does not come from faith is sin'? *[Make sure your answer fits with what Paul is speaking about in the rest of the chapter!]*

CONNECT IN PRAYER

Please continue to pray for the **Prayer Week** which is coming up on the **12th - 18th May 2013**. Pray that it will be a meaningful week, that we will connect with God and that we're changed by the result of our encounter.

The **Catalyst Festival** is getting closer! Please pray for our time at the festival on the **25th-28th May**. Please pray for a great time away together and that the relationships between our family of churches will be strengthened. Pray that we will really encounter God in a powerful way and that lives will be changed as a result.

CONNECT WITH CHURCH LIFE

Guest speaker Sarah Rowlinson will be with us next **Sunday (5th May)**. Don't miss it!

Bible by the Beach is on the **3rd - 6th May**. It's at the Eastbourne Congress Theatre & Winter Gardens Centre. For more information and to book a ticket visit www.biblebythebeach.org.

We are having a **Prayer Week** on the **12th - 18th May 2013**. Here are details of the individual events during the week:

Sunday 12th @ 7.15pm Prayer Evening (*Please note: There will be no Prayer Meeting on Sunday 5th May*)

Wednesday 15th @ 7.45pm Men's Prayer

Thursday 16th @ 7.45pm Women's Prayer

Saturday 18th @ 8am-10am Prayer Breakfast

Berlin Camp 2013. Nigel's Church in Berlin is holding their first church camp on the **18th - 21st July 2013**. If you are interested in going along to the event to support them please contact the office for more details.

There is a **Women's Conference** called 'Moving on, Wanting more . . . Pursuing God's presence' at New Life Church, Jubilee Community Centre, East Grinstead on **Saturday 8th June**. For more details and to book visit www.nlceg.co.uk.

Movement is on the **12th-13th July** at CCK, Brighton. Movement is an 'annual men's event to inspire and train godly men for influence and leadership in their homes, churches and wider culture - with a view to further mission into Western Europe'. The event will start on Friday 12th July, from 10.30am-9pm and then continue on Saturday 13th July from 9am- 5pm. For more information and to book online visit www.movementevent.com.