# Future Church 4. A community of more appreciative people 1 Timothy 4

## The church in the future will not be the same!

# God wants you to see the world through His eyes

## God created everything GOOD

#### Including the things we do not like

### To be received with thanks

### To be enjoyed

### To be used rightly (as God intended)

## Listen to His whisper

## Read the instruction manual

# God wants you to show how to do life

## Be an example

### Of right use and good faith

### Set an example in speech, in life, in love, in faith, in purity

#### Be diligent in this

## Don’t be a theorist, but a practitioner

### Train yourself to be ‘godly’

### Anticipate the God-centred life of heaven while here on earth and practice it

## Become ‘good at living’

# God doesn’t want your attention distracted

## By fables and myths

## He wants you to become a good (minister) servant of Jesus Christ

### So that when people point at you they will not be surprised that you are a Christian

## You’ll give thanks for God touching your life, for Jesus cleansing your soul, for the Spirit leading you into a deeper appreciation of life, the world, people and God’s plans

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Good and evil

## If everything God created is good where did evil come from?

# Seeing the good

## Why is it important to see the good before we root out evil?

### What happens when we concentrate on rooting out evil:

#### In our personal lives?

#### In our families?

#### In the church?

##### Lk 11:14-28 might be helpful

# Consecrating everything

## Paul says EVERYTHING can be consecrated by the word of God and prayer

### How are things consecrated by prayer?

### How are they consecrated by ‘the word of God’ (not just ‘the scriptures,’ please – see Peter’s vision in Acts 10)?

#### Why do you think he uses BOTH and not just one

# Being an example

## How does Paul suggest Timothy should be an example in public life? (vv 12-16)

## What happens when we do theory rather than practice in living the Christian life?

### Give examples of what this does and how it shows itself

## What does it mean to be ‘good at living’

### Describe a ‘good life’ from a Christian perspective

## In what ways should gratitude be at the centre of the Christian attitude to life?

### How does this shape what people see of Christianity?

## Why do you think Paul feels the need to remind Timothy of his gifts?

## How does family life work when parents are not giving an example of how to live, speak and do?

## How does church life work when Christian leaders do not give an example?

### Does this mean parents and leaders need to be perfect?

#### Explain your answer