



## **Bible Study Guide**

“And that is what some of you were. But you were **washed**, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

*1 Corinthians 6:11*

# INTRODUCTION

Culture has been commonly defined as “the way we do things around here.” And we might interchange the expression cultural values with family values. Both in our home group Bible studies, and in our Sunday morning sermon series we’re revisiting the family values we at All Saints prize; the family values we want to see magnified on view to the world.

With 1 Corinthians 6:11 etched on our hearts the six values we’re chasing after can be remembered through the acronym WASHED, we are:

- 1 – Worshippers who overflow,
- 2 – Authentically Real,
- 3 – Spiritually generous,
- 4 – Hopeful for the future,
- 5 – Expectant that God will move,
- 6 – Disciple making disciples.

All of us have been shaped, and have loved or hated other cultural values we’ve inhabited. But whatever our background we believe that our Jesus-Culture trumps every other culture – He is the beginning and the end. Our beginning and our end. Therefore we’re open to letting Him mould and shape us individually and as a community. I hope this booklet serves that goal.

A sermon extract from the January 2025 launch of our church cultures: *I have to say I love the word WASHED in summing up All Saints. For me it’s earthy. I’m certainly not thinking of a dishwasher, or anything from the commercial hospitality sector with extra hot washes and ever-flowing bleach and detergent. No, I’m thinking much more hands on; of Jesus taking muddy clothes down to the river to scrub and soak, scrub and soak again, and gradually to raise not filthy rags, but our very heads up out of the water, with the stubborn bits of dirt and muck slipping away from the pools around our eye sockets as He dries us with His cloak, held tightly in His bosom. We are loved.*

## **Worshippers who Overflow**

We prioritise our corporate worship and see it as a posture of adoration. We are the offering and so we long for our worship to lead to lives of devotion and overflow.

---

### **Luke 7:36-50**

36 When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. 37 A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 38 As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

40 Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said.

41 "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

43 Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

44 Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

48 Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

49 The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

50 Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

**Questions for reflection:**

How do the words “if this man were a prophet” in v.39 challenge your perception of God?

What does this woman teach us about the kind of worship Jesus loves?

What do you make of the comment ‘worship is costly and worship is free?’

---

**Notes:**

## **Authentically Real**

We want to be fully known and value unity over uniformity. Our small groups are the best place for this and we encourage all to join one.

---

### **Psalms 139:1-14**

1 You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.

2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

4 Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.

5 You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"

12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

### **Galatians 2:20**

20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Questions for reflection:**

With this psalm in mind, how does fearing God above all others enable us to remove any masks we might have been wearing and truly present our authentic-self?

With Galatians 2:20 in mind, what is authenticity going to look like for Christians? In our relationships? In our battles with temptation? In our attitude to work?

What role does church and home group play in empowering us to be authentically real?

---

**Notes:**

## **Spiritually Generous**

“Outdo one another in sowing honour” Romans 12:10 (ESV). We come with a generous spirit seeking to serve rather than be served. We give in gratitude and serve with joy.

---

### **Romans 12:9-21**

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**Questions for reflection:**

What do these verses teach us about God's intention for life to be lived in community?

What do you picture when you think of 'clinging' to something? And therefore, what does 'cling to what is good' mean for you?

What in us is most likely going to war against the call to be generous? What can we learn from Jesus here? And how does He perfectly model the call in these verses?

---

**Notes:**

## Hopeful for the Future

When our church was due to close, God had other plans and He still has plans for us. It's our duty to be a beacon of hope for future generations.

---

### **John 1:10-11**

10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

### **Matthew 25:1-13**

1 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' 7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 9 "'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' 10 "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. 11 "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!' 12 "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.' 13 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

**Questions for reflection:**

Jesus has told us that He will return. How do you navigate those words in v.5, 'the bridegroom was a long time in coming?'

What would missing the banquet because of 'buying oil' most likely represent in your life?

How do big goals direct small ones, or stepping stones? In other words, how does the wide perspective of Jesus' return impact the narrow perspective of my present week?

---

**Notes:**

## **Expectant that God will move**

As a charismatic evangelical church we eagerly desire the gifts of the Holy Spirit and seek to make greater space for God to move.

---

### **1 Kings 18:25-39**

25 Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." 26 So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon.

"Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

27 At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said.

"Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." 28 So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. 29 Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. 31 Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." 32 With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. 33 He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

34 "Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. 35 The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

36 At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. 37 Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will

know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

39 When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!”

---

### **Questions for reflection:**

You might like to read the whole chapter of 1 Kings 18. Before the epic display of God’s ultimate authority what impression do you get of Elijah with the question he asks in v.21? Similarly, when we tell inquisitive friends, “just pray ‘Jesus if you’re really there show me,’” do we trust that He’s actually going to show up or not?

How do the ‘four large jars with water’ in v.33 add to your hope in God despite all the hurdles you see ahead of you?

In 1 Corinthians 12 we read of the many ways God has gifted His Church. Gifts of teaching are recorded alongside gifts of working miracles, and healings, and tongues. We ‘expect’ a sermon at church on a Sunday but oftentimes we don’t ‘expect’ a healing? Why is that, and how do you marry your thinking with the way God has gifted His Church?

---

### **Notes:**

## **Disciple-making Disciples**

We want to be followers of Jesus, life-long learners. Jesus is too exciting to be kept at arms distance, and so we prioritise ways for everyone to grow closer to Him. Old and young alike.

---

### **Colossians 2:6-7**

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

### **Rom 10:9-15**

9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. 11 As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." 12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

### **Matt 28:16-20**

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**Questions for reflection:**

Have a moment of honest reflection and ask the question 'have I grown at all spiritually this year?' What has helped or hindered your answer to that question?

How would you summarise the life of a disciple from Colossians 2:6-7 and Matthew 28:16-20? What is your greatest calling this year? What is the joy and hope in this calling?

How, as a church, can we grow the spiritual pedicure side of our industry? What place does church and home group have in the equipping and the sending?

---

**Notes:**

# Appendix

Here are two further resources which will always be helpful for any home group or Bible study. Firstly, there is a series of questions to consider when reading any Bible passage, either personally, 1-2-1, or at home group (even in additions to the session questions included in this booklet). Secondly, you'll find John Wesley's holiness questions, which help provide something of a spiritual MOT, and if you're serious about being authentically real, can be powerful to share in places like home groups, so long as a culture of confidentiality and being vulnerable have been set:

---

## **Bible Study questions for everyday use:**

- 1 – Read the passage a few times, then close the Bible and try to retell it in your own words.
  - 2 – What did you like/not like about the passage?
  - 3 – What does it tell us about God?
  - 4 – What does it tell us about people/me?
  - 5 – If you believe this is God's Word, how are you going to apply/obey it?
  - 6 – Who are you going to tell?
-

## **Wesley's Holiness Questions:**

Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?

Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?

Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?

Can I be trusted?

Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?

Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?

Did the Bible live in me today?

Do I give it time to speak to me everyday?

Am I enjoying prayer?

When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?

Do I pray about the money I spend?

Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?

Do I disobey God in anything?

Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?

Am I defeated in any part of my life?

Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?

How do I spend my spare time?

Am I proud?

Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?

Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticise, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?

Do I grumble or complain constantly?

Is Christ real to me?

---