**Churches-In-Homes   Week Beginning 10/01/2021**

**Notices:**

**Next Corporate Communion Service: Sunday, January 24, 10.00am**

**Church YouTube channel**

If you subscribe to King’s Church St Paul’s Cray YouTube channel, with the option to receive notifications, you will be alerted when a new resource is uploaded.

The link below will take you to the Church YouTube channel.

<https://bit.ly/2BjG1Je>

If you do not have a google account you will need to find out how you may still subscribe. There are videos that explain how you may do so. Click on the link below to see an example.

<https://youtu.be/wuoCvxnFnlA>

**Course: Faith in action**

There are so many Biblical examples of men and women who demonstrated faith in God in their day to day lives. Our aim is to use aspects of the lives of some of them to encourage ourselves to demonstrate our faith in God in specific ways such as – persevering prayer, obedience, endurance, resilience, servant leadership and effective use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to bless others.

**Title:** Faithful judge - Deborah

*Refs: Judges 2, 4 & 5 – It is recommended that each person should read these texts before the Church-in-the-home meeting.*

**Main points:**

After the death of Joshua and his generation, the new generations of people of Israel did not know or obey God and even worshipped idols. As a result God disciplined them by giving them over to be oppressed by their enemies. When their distress was great enough, they would remember God and cry out for help. God would answer by raising up judges/leaders through whom He delivered them. Deborah was one of the judges. She was also a prophetess. She is an example of a woman who put her faith in action. Her faithfulness commanded the respect of all.

**Practical application:**

* Always aim to raise the next generation to personally know God, through modelling, teaching and godly leadership.
* God is merciful. He always responds when His people cry out to Him in genuine repentance. If you find yourself constantly stuck in unnecessary trouble, try examining yourself first and genuinely repenting before God, then cry out to Him for mercy. He will supply the grace you need to overcome, but you must be sincere and resolve to obey Him in everything.
* Godly leadership is very important – in the home, in the Church and even in the world.
* All believers can and should be filled with the Holy Spirit. We should obediently use the gifts He chooses to give us to do His will and be a blessing to others, like Deborah.
* The partnership between Deborah and Barak demonstrates how we, men and women of God, should work together in Churches-in-homes, teams and corporate groups to do the will of God and fulfill His purpose in our own time.

**Discussion points:**

Insight gained

Practical application