**Everything is Spiritual**

Lifegroup Study (PM) – 07/10/18

**INTRODUCTION**

Often we separate the different areas of our life into two categories: those things that are “spiritual” such as prayer, worship, and reading the Bible, and those that are “natural” such as work, sport, relationship, food and the arts. This is the result of the influence that the Greek philosophy known as dualism has had on Western culture, which believed in a separation between the spiritual realm and the physical realm, and that the spiritual realm was perfect while the physical realm was imperfect. But in Hebrew thought there was no separation between the spiritual and the natural. The biblical view of life says that everything is important to God, and that worship and relationship with him involves all aspects of the created order. Our humanity is not something we should try and escape from, rather it is the very thing that God has always valued the most.

“The glory of God is man fully alive” – St Iranaeus.

**DISCUSSION**

**Point 1:** In Christ, God has embraced us eternally whether we know it or not, want it or not, and feel it or not.
**Scripture reference:** Acts 17:28

**Question:** How could knowing and trusting that God is with you at all times, not just when you feel it, change things for you?

**Point 2:** The Bible doesn’t seek to separate life into natural and spiritual categories, but instead calls us to live out all of our humanity in relationship with God.
**Scripture references:** Deuteronomy 6:5, Romans 12:1

**Question:** would it look like to worship God through every area of your life?

**Point 3:** Greek dualistic philosophy considers the “natural” world inferior to the “spiritual”. When this way of thinking is brought into a faith system it often results in us demonizing, devaluing, or rejecting things that Bible actually celebrates as gifts from God, eg sex, wine, feasting, wealth, entertainment. He simply places boundaries around some of these things so they can be enjoyed rather than becoming destructive.

**Scripture reference:** Psalm 104:14-15

**Question:** In what areas of life have you thought of God being a party pooper that is trying to spoil your fun instead of enhance it?

**DISCUSSION SUMMARY QUESTIONS**

1. If you heard the sermon, was there anything God spoke to you about personally from this message?
2. **James 1:22** says “*Don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves*.” Is there anything that God is asking you to stop, start or continue in this passage?
3. What is the next step you need to take in response to God’s word? (i.e. obedience)