

# TAKEAWAY

## SNAP SHOTS

### Small books, big ideas

#### JUDE: KEEP THE FAITH

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019

#### INTRODUCTION

Jude was one of four of Jesus' brothers. He and his brothers didn't follow Jesus while he was alive, but after they saw Him brought back to life, they became his disciples, committed to telling the world about their Lord and Saviour. We don't know who Jude is writing too, but we do know that the purpose for his letter has changed, instead of explaining the theology of salvation, he is concerned for his readers because false teachers are threatening their faith.

#### READ

Jude – all of it, it's not long!

#### DISCUSS

1. In verse 1, Jude identifies himself as a slave of Christ and brother of James. Quite a statement from a little brother, how would you identify yourself? Which relationships are part of who you are?
2. In verse 3-4, Jude explains why he's writing – his concern over false teachers coming into the church. It's less about intricate details of theology, and more about how you live out your faith. These teachers are telling people you can do whatever you want, because God will forgive you. Where have you

seen a similar message preached?

3. Jude goes on to use some examples from Jewish scripture to show the danger of not living God's way. He says that following your basic instincts instead of God's laws, leads to destruction. (v.10) How do you reconcile this with a God of love and grace? How might you explain this to a new or not yet Christian?

4. In verse 12- 13, Jude shows that this kind of behaviour has an impact beyond the individual – it can start to affect or contaminate the whole community. In verse 23, he says to show mercy to people like this, but to hate their sin. What might this look like in reality?

5. Imagine someone in your group started drinking heavily, or getting into gambling or an inappropriate relationship, whilst defending that it was OK. Can you agree as a group how to love them and still hold them accountable?

6. Jude's chief concern is for this church to stand strong in their faith. How do **you** intentionally deepen **your** faith?

#### PRAY

Jude finishes by remembering all this is done in God's strength. Take some time to pray for each other and to praise God for all he has done.

