

Evening Service, 31 October 2010, Dave Gobbett

The grass is always greener: Christ and contentment

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- 'If only ...'
- Paul's rule of thumb: 'Stay as you were' (vv17, 20, 24)

Knowing Jesus is more important than ...

1. ... your ethnicity/religious upbringing

'circumcision' (vv18-19)

2. ... your social status/occupation

'slavery' (vv21-23)

*Blessing isn't (automatically) found
through changing your circumstances*

Applications

→ Relationships:

No to 'if only' discontentment

→ Church:

No to 'them-us' divisions

→ Discipleship:

No to 'self-help' naivety

→ Work:

No to 'sacred-secular' divide

Book Recommendations:

Julian Hardyman, *Maximum Life: Living Every Day of your Life for Jesus* (IVP)

Os Guinness, *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of your Life* (Spring Harvest)

John Richardson, *God, Sex & Marriage: Guidance from 1 Corinthians 7* (MPA)