



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	w/c 15th January 2023	Discovering treasure in jars of clay
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Play a treasure hunt. Set boundaries: find the hidden treasure within...	
 Discuss	<p><i>[Prepare in advance illustrate, an old, dirty and, preferably chipped/cracked, clay/ ceramic pot. Hide inside it some 'treasure'/ treats.]</i></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Imagine, whilst out 'metal detecting', you get a clear signal. Something is hidden beneath your feet. What do you do? How do you feel? <input type="checkbox"/> Imagine you dig up a big lump of earth. You wipe off the bulk of mud. It's this clay pot. What do you see? It's chipped/ cracked/ dirty. How do you feel now? If this pot could speak, what could it tell you? <input type="checkbox"/> Imagine you are about to throw it back, when you think to look inside. You discover it contains treasure. Now what are you thinking? Doing? Feeling?	
 Read	2 Corinthians 4:1-10	 Catch-up ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> v.7 How are WE like a clay pot? <input type="checkbox"/> How does life sometimes chip/crack US? <input type="checkbox"/> Our physical scars tell a story: yes, about tough times, but ultimately about our <i>survival</i> . What, if any, physical scars do you have? What's the story? <input type="checkbox"/> Why can a chipped/ cracked pot still be so valuable? <input type="checkbox"/> What connects this clay pot, us, and Genesis 2:7 ? <input type="checkbox"/> Jeremiah 18:1-6 Why is a clay pot's value, even if it's chipped/ cracked, affected by a) who made it? b) if it's an original or a mass-produced copy? What does that say about us, even if we've been chipped/ cracked by life? <input type="checkbox"/> v.7 Look beyond the chipped/cracked outward appearance; look inside. What do we contain inside us? Where does it come from? What does it give us? <input type="checkbox"/> v.8-9 What does it mean to feel hard-pressed? Perplexed? Persecuted? truck-down? Have these ever been your story? <input type="checkbox"/> If the treasure within is from another Kingdom, the Kingdom of Heaven, how does it help us deal with whatever life throws at us? <input type="checkbox"/> v.10 How was Jesus hard-pressed? Perplexed? Persecuted? truck-down? Who for? What came after Jesus' death? <input type="checkbox"/> v.11 How does carrying Jesus inside, help us/you deal with life?	
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeremiah 18:1-6 What does it mean to accept we are like clay in the Potter's hands? What is required for the Potter to be able to mould and even re-mould the clay? Why are we sometimes less interested in the re-moulding?	

 Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> James 1:5 Where in your life do you need more Wisdom?
 Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Have a go at making some kintsugi art. <input type="checkbox"/> Find out about the work of KintsugiHope.com. Consider running a Kingsugi Hope well-being group.
 Pray	<p><i>Dear God,</i> <i>You are the Potter. I thank you because _____. Being like clay in Your hands, I thank You because _____. Help me to accept my chips/cracks as _____. Thank you because they remind me _____. May I experience more of Your _____. Help me to carry You into every moment of my life, seeing more of Your _____. Amen.</i></p>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk