**ChristChurch London Life Group Discussion Outline – 17/05/09**
**"The Power of Hope" – David Stroud**

*Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

1. Paul encouraged the church in Thessalonica not to "grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope" (v13). How does the death & resurrection of Jesus impact the way in which we grieve? Has there been a time in your own life when this has made difference in how you've grieved the loss of a loved one?

2. Paul shares the good news that "God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him" (V14). In other words when Christians die they go to be with Christ (Phil 1:23). How does this truth motivate us to live faith-filled lives in pursuit of Him, sharing this good news with others?

3. Paul then goes on to explain that a day is coming when Jesus will return to make all things new & "we will be with the Lord forever" (v17). Why is it so hard to live with a sense of reality of this future hope? Discuss ways in which this hope can become more real in your life & how we are to live differently as a result?