

OUTLINE FOR LEADING OR USING 'BEING WITH GOD IN WORSHIP' AS TWO UNITS

These notes are designed to be used alongside the Facilitator's notes. They will give you the content focus in a full or simplified form and an outline for running 'Being with God in worship' in two parts.

The facilitator notes and worship powerpoints give you instructions on anything you will need beforehand, preparation checklist and prayers for leaders, the outcomes of the two units, possible opening and reflection discussion questions, signposting suggestions to extra materials, closing prayer suggestions, and review questions for leaders.

One way of dividing the session this may be to use the content of the first unit in a Sunday service, and the second in a group.

However you do it, making sure you include feedback to one another, modelling and the opportunity to respond remains central to the approach of the course.

UNIT SEVEN: BEING WITH GOD IN WORSHIP

Begin with worship (you can use the suggested activity and powerpoint).

FEEDBACK AND OPENING QUESTION

In their pairs from the end of the last session, ask people to feedback to each other how their experience of their response action(s) from last week has been - the emphasis is on mutual encouragement in accountability, not guilt!

Then in pairs ask people to discuss an opening question for 3 minutes. You can use the suggestion in the facilitator's notes or devise your own.

CORE TEACHING CONTENT

Use the powerpoint to present, or read/discuss these questions in the booklet:

I want to grow in being with God and becoming like Christ...how does this happen?

What are practices? How does this change happen?

What is worship and why do we do it?

Why do we worship God?

How does God's character encourage joy? What are two ways to grow in joy?

What is the effect of doing this?

How do I worship God on my own?

What habits make worshipping God in daily tasks more likely?

OR

You can cover this material in a simplified way using the "Character change" and "Useful quotes on worship" handouts.



MODELLING/REFLECTION

You can show part of the video, covering the questions: What disciplines are important to you and why? How do you worship God?

Discuss these questions together, offering your own experience as much as possible.

PERSONAL RESPONSE AND ACTION FOR COMING WEEK.

Give each person time to reflect privately on the questions: "What is God saying to me and what is my response?" Any actions they take will be self-generated. But the following week they will be encouraged at the beginning to report back to one other person.

Explain that there is no requirement for a response, it is not a test, but an opportunity. We have set aside this time in the expectation that God will draw close to us. Ask people to share their responses in pairs. If they wish to help one another by writing down any actions and praying for each other then encourage them to do so. There is no group feedback, but as facilitator you can share what you feel able in order to model gentle accountability and trust.

SIGNPOSTING, CLOSING PRAYER AND REVIEW.

See facilitator's notes.

UNIT EIGHT: WORSHIPPING TOGETHER AND THE SACRAMENTS

Begin with worship (you can use the suggested activity and powerpoint).

FEEDBACK AND OPENING QUESTION

In their pairs from the end of the last session, ask people to feedback to each other how their experience of their response action(s) from last week has been - the emphasis is on mutual encouragement in accountability, not guilt!

Then in pairs ask people to discuss an opening question for 3 minutes. You can use the suggestion in the facilitator's notes or devise your own.

CORE TEACHING CONTENT

Use the powerpoint to present, or read/discuss these questions in the booklet:

Why do I worship God with others?

What is important in worshipping with others?

What will worshipping together always involve?

Why do we worship by singing together?

Why are sacraments important in worship and being with God?

Where does breaking bread and sharing wine at Holy Communion come from?

What was Jesus doing at the Last Supper?

Why is remembering so important?

What are the meanings of breaking bread and sharing wine?

How is this presence known?



MODELLING/REFLECTION

You can show part of the video, covering the question: How important is Holy Communion to you?

Discuss this question together, offering your own experience as much as possible.

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Luke 7: 36-50 (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint)

See the facilitator's notes and instruction sheet for how to do DBS.

PERSONAL RESPONSE AND ACTION FOR COMING WEEK.

Give each person time to reflect privately on the questions: "What is God saying to me and what is my response?" Any actions they take will be self-generated. But the following week they will be encouraged at the beginning to report back to one other person.

Explain that there is no requirement for a response, it is not a test, but an opportunity. We have set aside this time in the expectation that God will draw close to us. Ask people to share their responses in pairs. If they wish to help one another by writing down any actions and praying for each other then encourage them to do so. There is no group feedback, but as facilitator you can share what you feel able in order to model gentle accountability and trust.

SIGNPOSTING, CLOSING PRAYER AND REVIEW.

See facilitator's notes.

