

# WAY OF DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE CONFIDENCE AND KNOWING THE STORY

## SESSION 2: CREATION AND CALLING FACILITATOR'S NOTES

### CHECKLIST

- Have I got a good sense of the signposted resources? Which would be good to highlight with my group?
- Have I got the technology set up, and does it work(!)?
- Is there a visual focus I want to offer for worship this or next week – image, candle, video?
- Who is doing tea/coffee?
- Are there any notices I need to share?
- Is there anyone in my group who has pastoral needs we should be aware of at the moment?

### WITH YOUR CO-FACILITATOR

- Are we using our different gifts well tonight?
- If we are running out of time, what shall we miss out or postpone?
- Who is doing what in the session? Clarity about who is leading which section really helps!
- Who among the participants can we encourage to use their gifts in leading, praying, or facilitating tonight or next week? How much preparation will they need?
- What and who do we particularly want to pray for at the moment?
- How are we offering a good variety in our worship and prayer styles?

### REVIEW THE OUTCOMES FOR THIS SESSION

- To understand the difference that the key themes of creation, image of God, and fall make in my lived experience.
- To be equipped to interpret individual parts of Scripture faithfully through understanding and awareness of available resources.

### FOR THIS SESSION YOU WILL NEED

- TV / Laptop / Wifi
- Ppt for session 2
- Any prayer materials or visual focus.
- There is one short video in this session – check it is working.



## 6.30 PM PREPARING MYSELF

You might like to reflect on Psalm 8: 3-6 remembering that facilitating this group is a way in which you can image God in the world today.

“When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honour. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet...”

Take a moment to pray for each person in your group.

Commit yourself to the Lord this evening.

## 7 PM OPENING WORSHIP

Feel free to use the suggested activity, which aims to draw on different styles, or approaches, or to do something which reflects your own context or tradition if that is more helpful. (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint)

I Have No Words to Thank You

O my Father, Great Elder, I have no words to thank you,  
But with your deep wisdom I am sure that you can see  
How I value your glorious gifts.  
O my Father, when I look upon your greatness, I am confounded with awe.  
O Great Elder,  
Ruler of all things earthly and heavenly,  
I am your warrior, Ready to act in accordance with your will.

Thank God for His presence and His word given to you this evening.

## 7.10 PM INTRODUCTION - AIMS FOR THE EVENING

(You may want to miss this out if your group is less formal, or you are using the material one to one). (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint)

The aims for this session are:

To understand the difference that the key themes of creation, image of God, fall and covenant make in my lived experience.

To be equipped to interpret individual parts of Scripture faithfully through understanding and awareness of available resources.



## 7.15 PM 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 this question: Why do you think these themes are important: Creation, Image of God, Fall? Which do you most want to explore?

## 7.25 PM CORE TEACHING CONTENT

*The core content is designed to be as user-friendly, and as flexible/context-friendly, as possible. You can use the script and powerpoint provided, using your own material or approaches to reflect your context and teaching style.*

*The whole of the content is produced in a booklet for each session – and there is much more content in the booklet than in the powerpoint, so you may want to encourage people to read it before or after. It is a good idea to have a break halfway through.*

Understanding key themes: Creation: What is important that we understand about how the story of the Bible describes the world?

Understanding key themes: Image of God: What is important that we understand about how the story of the Bible describes God's hope and purpose for human beings?

Understanding key themes: Fall: What is important that we understand about how the story of the Bible describes the problems we face in the world and ourselves?

Reading it well: How do we read the Bible faithfully?

Practical starting points: What will help me discover the original intended meaning of a text?

*Following the content, you may like to give people a few minutes to think of any questions or reflections on the material, then facilitate a discussion based on any points raised for 5-10 minutes. They will have reflection time in smaller groups after the video, but this gives an opportunity for initial whole-group discussion. As facilitator you are not expected to have all the answers, but can help the group explore together.*

## OPTIONS FOR SIMPLIFYING OR SHORTENING CONTENT

Instead of the Powerpoint, you could watch the seven and a half minute Bible Project video on Genesis 1-11. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQI72THyO5I&t=2s> and then use the following tool: "What helps us understand the original meaning of Bible texts?"



## 8.20 PM MODELLING/REFLECTION

Video and own experience. Show the video and, if time share from your own experience, remembering that real struggles can be as helpful as victories!

Discuss in pairs, and then together: How has God blessed you and called you? What excites you from the beginning of the Bible? What questions do you have?

Model a response as facilitator(s) by offering your reflection first.

## 8.40 PM DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Genesis 1: 26-31. (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint)  
See the instruction sheet for how to do DBS. After you have read the passage and retold, use whatever method will enable most people to participate – talking in pairs, splitting questions up between different pairs, splitting into smaller groups with group members asking the five questions (this will disciple people through putting leading DBS into practice).

N.B. Encourage giving enough focus on the personal response questions in 3 and 4. As your group grows in trust, hopefully people will become more confident in sharing their responses together – as facilitator(s) taking the lead in this models your own discipleship and helps create openness in others.

## 9 PM PERSONAL RESPONSE AND ACTION FOR COMING WEEK.

Having learnt content, seen it modelled, reflected and heard each other, and listened to God in Scripture, each disciple will end with 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.

Ask people to reflect on this in pairs – they will never have to report back to the whole group. 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.



## 9.10 PM SIGNPOSTING

Look at the suggested follow on materials described in terms of quality and length. You may like to highlight one or two, depending on the make up of your group. See handout "Extra Reading or Listening Suggestions" as follow up material for this week, and point people towards the Session booklet for this session.

For next time ask people to read through the "Abraham to Jesus" booklet - particularly the Events column - and try and fill in the missing words. It should take about 15 minutes.

Encourage people to watch the eight minute Bible Project video on Genesis 12-50.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo>

## 9.15 PM CLOSING PRAYER

*Use the suggested prayer or pray in whatever way is helpful. (Available on separate Worship Aims Bible passage powerpoint). You might like to use the suggestion under "Preparing Myself"*

## REVIEW AFTER GROUP HAS LEFT

What went well?

Where did I sense God's presence?

What can I do better?

Was anyone absent that I need to follow up on?

Is there anyone we want to follow up on after the module?

Is there anyone we could develop by supporting them in facilitating the next module?

