The Heart of the Word 23rd March 2017

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has appointed me to preach good news to the poor. to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Blessed are you,

the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

for you have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

You chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world and destined us for adoption as your children.

In Christ we have the forgiveness of sins, an inheritance in your kingdom,

the seal of your Spirit,

and in him we live for the praise of your glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.



2. Song: Creation sings the Father's Song

3. Opening Question:

Spend some time in your group sharing a favourite passage from the Old Testament. Can you explain why this has special meaning for you? If you don't have a passage, consider for example, Psalm 23.

- 4. Reading: John 1: 1 18
- 5. Talk 1 Back to the beginning
- 6. Discussion / Questions / Time for Reflection

Compare John 1: 1-3 with Genesis 1: 1-2: 3. Spend a short time reflecting on the role of Jesus Christ in the Genesis story.

Reflecting on John 1: 4, why did Jesus Christ have to be born as man.

- 7. Reading: Luke 4:16-21
- 8. Song: You're the word of God the Father

- 9. Talk 2 Forward to the future
- 10. Discussion and Time of Prayer
- 11. Song: Jesus is Lord!
- 12. Reading: Philippians 2: 5 11
- 13. Where do we go from here?

14. Final Prayer

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O God, you are the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you: help us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may truly serve you; whom to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
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15. Some passages for reflection at home

Maybe take one of these passages each day and give thanks to God for what how Christ speaks to you through all the Scriptures.

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24/3 Psalm 16:8-11;

25/3 Isaiah 9: 6 – 7;

26/3 Isaiah 53: 1- 9;

27/3 Jeremiah 17: 7 – 8;

28/3 Zechariah 12: 10;

29/3 Luke 24: 13 – 49;

30/3 Colossians 1:15-20
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Look at the separate sheet of comparisons between Old Testament prediction and New Testament fulfilment.