

Silence

Reflect on the day's activities. Thanking God for the things we were able to do and reviewing things we could have done better

Prayer

Lord, help us to listen for the echoes and to spot the cultural clues in our own context so that we might share the good news of Jesus in a way that connects with those around us.

Amen

- God's story, our story
- This is the last session of our Lent group
- Session 1 'how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news'. Isaiah 52:7
- Session 2 Jesus the story teller. The parables. The banquet, the lost sheep, the lost coin, the lost son Luke 15
- Session 3 stories of transformation the man possessed by demons. Go home and tell them everything the Lord has done for you.
- Session 4 Communicating like Jesus. Different people, different approach. The woman healed by her faith. Mark 5:21-43. The Samaritan woman John 4
- Session 5 Acts 2 the Holy Spirit at Pentecost "each one heard them speaking in the native language of each"; Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch. "Do you understand what you are reading"?

Listening for Echoes Read Acts 17:16-34 – 2 readers

- 1. As we read the scriptures, what image or verse stands out for you?
- 2. How do you relate your life today to the passage? How does it speak to you?
- 3. Ask Jesus what he is calling you to do, change or become today

Sharing the good news like Paul:

Where and how do you begin the conversation?

- Look and listen to those around you and what they value – Acts 17:23 Paul spent time looking at Athens. Understand the people & environment
- 2. Give credit where it is due Acts 17:22 acknowledge positive things. Use them as building blocks. E.g. Rocks– by Hackney teenager to strike conversation with youths. Bafta 2021
- 3. Look from a different angle Acts 17:24 God does not live in shrines made by human hands
- 4. Point to Christ 17:25 "he himself gives to morals life and breath and all things"

Source: Hannah Steele, Living His story page 116-123

Prayer:

Gracious God, we know that things are not the way they should be in the world, or even in us. Please forgive us when we go wrong, and help us to work for your kingdom of justice, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Come LORD, and open in us the gates of your kingdom.

Amen

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me. Amen

Daniel Iverson (1890- 1972)

