

The Kingdom of God Discipleship Program is a journey of discovery, providing the opportunity to come into a greater knowledge of the glory of the Lord, to know and experience His great love, to live in His transforming power and to be filled with the fullness of Him. As a result be empowered to empower others to know and experience God and His kingdom.
God does everything out of unconditional love. Therefore He gives every disciple a part in His healing mission. Through the <i>Kingdom of God Discipleship Program</i> participants are empowered to discover deep spiritual truth, be rooted in His love and transformed in His power.
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The Creator God is relational. His Word is personal.

His presence intimate. His creation testimonial.



Isn't it amazing how there are so many different ways God reveals Himself to us! Through the scriptures in the video, we discovered that we can experience God and learn about His character through His amazing creation. We learnt that He also reveals Himself to individuals and people groups through dreams and visions. We saw God's character demonstrated through His Son Jesus, as He brought miraculous healing both physically and mentally. The amazing power of God's spoken word was shown in how He created. And we also came to know that God sent His Spirit of truth to humanity to be a witness of who He is.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on how God has and is revealing Himself to you. You can include this here:

Quick Scripture Reference Guide

Psalm 19:1–4,
Hosea 12:10 and
Genesis 31:11 Creation
Deuteronomy 4:35–37
Signs and Wonders
Genesis 15:1 Visions
John 9:1–7 Healings
Hebrews 1:1–4 Jesus
Luke 24:27 Scriptures
Psalm 33:6–9 God's
spoken word
1 John 5:6 God's Spirit

Opportunity to go Deeper

There are many additional examples to the ones discussed in the video of how God reveals Himself to us. To discover more of these, we will read the following scriptures.

How does God reveal Himself in the following scriptures? Include your responses below.

Read Romans 1:20

Read 2 Kings 5:1 and 2 Kings 5:14–15 together about a man named Naaman.

Read John 20:30-31

Read John 1:1-5 and John 1:14-18 about Jesus who is the Word.

Read **John 14:6–7**

Read what Jesus says in **John 16:13–15**

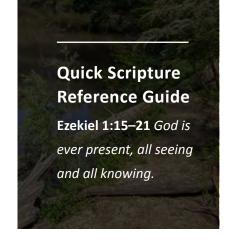
Your Response

Include in your own words your response to God from what you have discovered in this session.

The Creator God transcends time and space dimensions, yet makes Himself personal in our time and space experience.



Wasn't it great to discover how God revealed Himself to a people group in a way that they would understand! As weird and different from our everyday experiences the vision of God given to Ezekiel was, we learnt about some of the different aspects of God and how meaningful at the time the vision was to the Ancient Israelites. We learnt that God's heart is for all people to know Him, to be close to Him and to be set free.



Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

In the video, we experienced a small part of God's journey with the Ancient Israelites through His prophet and priest Ezekiel. To have a deeper revelation of God's heart for the Ancient Israelites and all people, we will go through additional scriptures from the book of Ezekiel.

Read **Ezekiel 11:14–25**

To help us understand the correct meaning of the scripture, we will begin by discovering who the characters are. Let us ask the following questions:

Who is talking? Read verse 14

Who is the son of man that the LORD God is talking to? To discover this, read Ezekiel 1:3

Back to **Ezekiel 11**, **who** are the people in captivity that the LORD God is talking about? Read **verse 15**

Now that we know who the main characters of the scripture are, let us discover how they interact with each other.

How does the LORD God communicate? Read verse 14

It says in **verse 16** that the LORD God had scattered the Ancient Israelites among the surrounding countries. To understand why this had happened, read **Ezekiel 2:3**.

What did the people of Ancient Israel do?

The rebellion against God was that they turned their hearts away from Him. They willingly chose to revolt against Him. That is, they effectively declared war with God. They believed they could deceive Him and they accused God of forsaking them, when in fact they had chosen to reject Him and had given their allegiance to other gods.

Back to **Ezekiel 11**, **what** are the promises that God gives to the Ancient Israelites who are in captivity?

Read verse 16

Read verse 17

Read verse 19

Read verse 20

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

How incredible it is that God reveals His heart of love for all people through His pursuit of the Ancient Israelites. Even in their exile and rebellion He is still with them and creates a home for them. However they still have a choice whether to receive Him and His promises or continue to reject Him. For those who do choose Him, He will transform their hearts and empower them to be free of their pride, rebellion and destructive selfish desires. God's heart is for all people to know Him personally and to be truly free.

God is relational. His communication personal.



God is a relational God. He met Jacob at his lowest point. He had wronged his family and was on the run. He was all alone. Jacob knew of the God of his father and grandfather but he didn't know God personally himself. All until God met him in an intimate and powerful moment. We too, just like Jacob need a personal encounter with God ourselves. Through Jesus this has been made possible for every one of us!

Quick Scripture Reference Guide

Genesis 28:11-21

God personally reveals
Himself to Jacob

John 1:51 Jesus is the ladder between heaven and earth

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

In the video, we learnt about Jacob and his personal encounter with God. This was to be the first of many such encounters. To have a deeper revelation of God's heart and how He makes Himself personal, we will discover more about God's journey with Jacob.

Starting with Jacob's first encounter with God in **Genesis 28:11–21**, **what** truth and promises did God declare to Jacob? Read **verses 14–15**

Let us now look at some of the other encounters God had with Jacob to see how God journeyed with him and continued to make Himself personal. Read **Genesis 35:9–15**

How did God interact with Jacob?

Read verse 9

Read verses 10-11

How did Jacob interact with God? Read verse 14

What truth about Himself did God declare to Jacob? Read verse 11 What promises did God declare to Jacob? Read verse 11 Read verse 12 We will now go to another personal encounter that Jacob had with God. Read Genesis 46:1-4 How did God interact with Jacob (who God now also calls Israel) and how did Jacob interact with God? Read verse 2 What truth about Himself did God declare to Jacob? Read verse 3 What promises did God declare to Jacob? Read verses 3-4 Let us now discover how God fulfilled His promises to Jacob and his descendants. In Genesis 48 Jacob shares with his son Joseph about his journey with God. Read Genesis 48:3-4, verse 15 and verse 21 What does Jacob testify of? Read verses 3-4 Read verse 15 Read verse 21

The book of Exodus tells us about God's journey with Jacob's descendants who came to Egypt and settled there for a time. Read **Exodus 1:1–7**

What promise did God fulfil to Jacob and his descendants? Read verse 7

While Jacob's descendants—the children of Israel—were in Egypt they became oppressed. God delivered them in miraculous ways. Read **Exodus 13:18–22**

What promises did God fulfil to Jacob and his descendants?

Read verse 18

Read verses 21-22

What promises did God fulfil after He delivered the children of Israel from oppression in Egypt? Read Joshua 21:43–45

We will now return to two of the encounters Jacob had with God in **Genesis 35:9–15** and **Genesis 46:1–4**. To apply the correct meaning to these scriptures and understand their relevance for us, we need to ask the following question:

What are some of the things in the scriptures that are the same for us today?

For example, as God's character does not change, one thing that is the same is that He continues to reveal Himself and make Himself personal to each individual.

Take a moment to reflect on the things in the scriptures that are the same today, and write down what they mean to you.

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

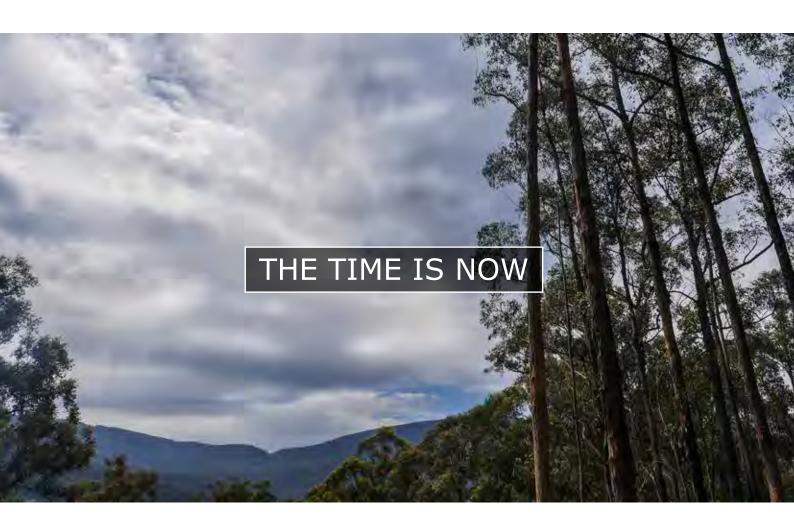
What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

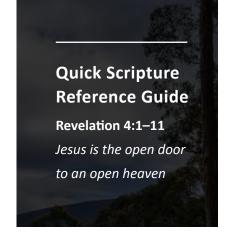
Closing Summary

As we have continued on our journey with Jacob, we have learnt more about God and how He pursues the individual in love. He makes Himself personal and reveals Himself in unique ways that each one will understand. Through God's relationship with Jacob, we have discovered that God fulfils all His promises. He never leaves people, as He journeys with them in all their circumstances. God has made a way for each one of us to connect with Him and to know Him personally. In Jesus, heaven came down to earth, to us. No matter what our circumstances are, through Jesus we have access to God in heaven.

Behold the One—His eyes like fire! Those who receive Him see love, light, life.

Those who reject Him see damnation, darkness, death.





What a beautiful thing to have seen through John's eyes into heaven! How reassuring it is to know that Jesus is the open door and that through Him we have access into heaven, both now and for all eternity. At any time, we can have a heart to heart connection with God in worship and spiritually be with Him in His throne room.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of God and to discover more about how heaven is open to us now, we will study the vision of heaven given to John in more detail.

As we learnt in the video, everyone in heaven is worshipping the Lord God Almighty, the one who sits on the throne!

Why is He worthy of worship? Read Revelation 4:11

Let us go back to the beginning before the earth was created. Read **Genesis 1:1–5** and **Genesis 1:31–2:3**

What happened in the beginning? Read Genesis 1:1

We will now look in detail at the different things God created by reading the creation story in **Genesis 1**.

What did God create?

Read verse 3

Read verses 6-7

Read verse 9

Read verse 11

Read verses 14-18

Read verses 20-21

Read verse 24

Read verses 26-27

From these verses we can see that God is a creative God. He created the heavens and the earth, and everything on the earth to sustain life. As humans created in His image, we also are creative beings. But none of us can create something out of nothing. Only God can do that. Therefore, only He is worthy of worship.

Back to Revelation 4:11, why did God create all things?

God does everything out of love and it was His will, that is His heart's desire, to create and for us to have a heart to heart connection with Him. As we learnt in the video conversation, worship is a heart to heart connection where God's heart connects with our heart and He enables our heart to connect with Him. Jesus is the open door to heaven, where God is (Revelation 4:1–2). Through Jesus we can have a heart to heart connection with God at any time, in any place and regardless of what our circumstances are. Spiritually, we can enter heaven now!

Take a moment to reflect on what is means to you that we can come to God at any time and have a heart to heart connection with Him in heaven. Include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

Isn't God amazing! He created the heavens and the earth and all its living creatures out of nothing. He did not need to create, but it was His heart's desire to do so. All because He so loves. As He is the creator, only He is worthy of worship.

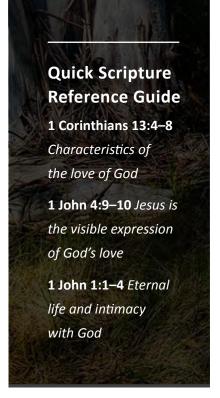
What an incredible gift that we can be with God spiritually in heaven at any time, and have a heart to heart connection with Him. All because Jesus is the open door to heaven. The time is now to connect with Him.

God does everything because He so loves.

His love is unconditional, unending and never failing.



God's love is perfect, pure and completely selfless. It is unchanging, it waits patiently and endures all things. His love is kind, it does not envy, it is not rude in behaviour and it never elevates itself above another. This love of God is only good, and it has no part with evil. It celebrates goodness and equality for all. Finally, God's love never fails. To know that His love is for us and is available to us at all times is life-changing. God shows us His love in many ways, and the greatest of these is in giving Jesus, His Son. God's desire is for us to know and receive His love, and to live with Him forever.



Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God and His love from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

To help us know and receive more of God's unending love, we will continue to learn more about Jesus' life on earth, through the eyes of His disciples.

What are some of the things Jesus did to reveal God's love?

Read Matthew 17:1-8

Read Luke 4:40-41

Read John 13:1-5

Read John 21:1-14

Just before Jesus gave up His life for us, He prayed to God the Father for every disciple throughout the ages.

What are some of the things Jesus prayed? Read John 17:20–26

Take a moment to reflect on what Jesus' prayer means to you. Include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

God's incredible love is demonstrated to us through Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Through the scriptures about Jesus' life on earth, we have discovered that out of His great love He healed people, cast out and silenced demons. Jesus also demonstrated His love to His disciples by revealing His glory to them and bringing them comfort when they were afraid. He humbly washed their feet, which in their society was something only a servant did. Jesus did life with them, guiding them to the best catch of fish and made breakfast for them.

His prayer for all His disciples throughout the ages shows us the love of the Father and the love of Jesus the Son, and their desire to share their great love with us.

It pleased the Father, that all the fullness of Godhead live in Jesus, and by Him, to reconcile all things to Himself.



The love of the Father is so great that He gave everything of Himself to us in Jesus His Son. Through the Father's gift of Jesus to us, we are freed from the fear of death, guilt, condemnation and shame. We are forgiven of every offence done or thought against God or one another.

This is the heart of the Father—He did not send Jesus to condemn us, but instead He made a way for us to receive His perfect peace and eternal life. And not only that, when we receive Jesus, the Father declares us His own! We are a child of God, accepted as we are, adopted into His family, forever receiving His love.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what stood out to you about God from the video. You can include this here:



Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of the love of the Father and to discover more about how He is in an eternal state of forgiveness, we will read a story that Jesus tells to illustrate this incredible truth about God.

Read Luke 15:11-32

To help us understand the correct meaning of the scripture we will begin by discovering who the characters are. Let us ask the following questions:

Who is talking? To discover this, read Luke 4:3

Who is He talking to? To discover this, read Luke 15:1–2

Who are the main characters in this story about the love of the Father? Read verse 11

Now that we know who the main characters of the story are, let us discover how they interact with each other.

How does the younger son communicate with his father and what does he ask for? Read **verse 12**

In the culture of the time, a son could only take possession of his inheritance upon his father's death. In asking for his inheritance before his father died, the son in the story is being disrespectful and bringing shame upon his father.

What was the father's response to his younger son's request? Read verse 12

The story then goes on to describe the younger son's extravagant and reckless living. He ends up coming to the lowest point in his life, having lost everything he had.

What do we learn about the father from the son's statement in verse 17?

The younger son now felt he was no longer worthy to be a son, but knowing the father's generous heart towards his servants, he returns home to beg his father to receive him back as a servant.

What was the father's response to the son's return? Read verses 20-24

What was the older son's response to the father's love and forgiveness towards his younger brother? Read **verse 28**

What was the father's response to the older son's anger? Read verse 28

What do we learn about the love of the father for both sons? Read verses 31-32

Jesus told this story to help the hearers know and understand more about the love of Father God. The father in the story demonstrated his love in various ways. He gave everything of himself and all that he had to his sons. In the father's eyes, no matter what they did they were always his sons and the object of his love and forgiveness. Jesus knew the love of Father God towards Him and each one of us.

What did God the Father do? Read John 3:35

As we learnt in **1 John 3:1**, we are children of God. And just like the father in the story that Jesus told, God the Father gives everything to his children.

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that in Jesus each one of us is a child of God, and that the Father has given everything to us in Jesus. Include your reflection here:

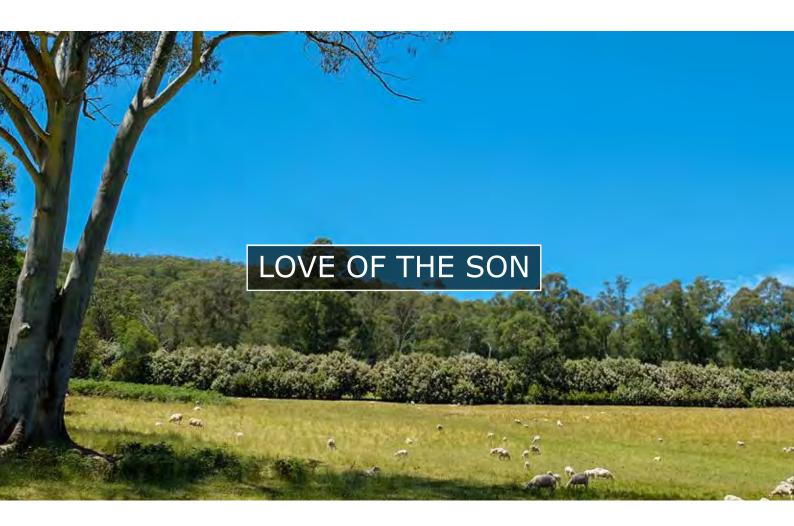
What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

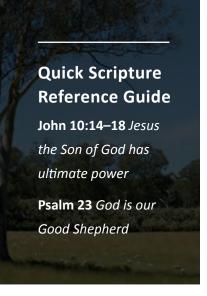
Closing Summary

What incredible love the Father has. His love is go great that He has given everything to us, including His Son. He did all this so that we would be able to receive His love and forgiveness, which is always there for us.

God made Himself personal in love, so we can be relational with Him in love.



Jesus, as the Son of God has the ultimate power. As our Good Shepherd He chose to be the sacrifice for us and leads us to a place of rest and peace with Him. He sustains us and provides refreshment and nourishment to every part of us. He has made us right and worthy and has delivered us from the fear of death. We can live in His peace and assurance that our eternity is with Him.



Personal Reflection

Make **Psalm 23** personal and write down everything that Jesus provides as your Good Shepherd. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

To go deeper and understand more about the love of God in Jesus the Son, we will read about the Apostle Paul's revelation of God's love.

Read Romans 8:31-39

To help us understand the correct meaning of the scripture we will ask the following questions:

Who is the writer of this letter? To discover this, read Romans 1:1

Who was this letter written to? To discover this, read Romans 1:7

In **chapter 8** of Paul's letter to the people of Rome, he uses a rhetorical-style of writing that was relevant to the first readers and was a part of their culture.

What is the rhetorical question that Paul asks and what is the implied answer? Read verse 33

What reason is given that no one can bring a charge against us or condemn us? Read verses 33–34

What is the rhetorical question that Paul asks and what is the implied answer? Read verse 31

It says in **verse 31** that God is for us, and therefore the evil one cannot succeed in accusing us. Not only are we no longer condemned, but in Jesus we are empowered to condemn the evil one's lies. To understand this in greater depth, read **Isaiah 54:17**.

What is the inheritance of the servants of the LORD (those who choose God)?

Where does our righteousness (rightness, justice, being passed from judgement) come from?

Who shall condemn the lies that try to come against us?

Let us go back to **Romans 8** to discover more about the love of God and our inheritance in Jesus. **Verse 35** describes some of the different trials and challenges that we may face living in this world damaged by evil. Yet what is the truth declared in **verse 37**?

How strong is this love of God in Jesus? Read verses 37–39

Take a moment to reflect on what the love of the Son means to you. Include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

The love of Jesus is so great that nothing can come against it or separate us from it. With the truth of who Jesus is, and upon acceptance of the sacrifice of Himself to us, we are free from all condemnation and are empowered to come against any lies of the evil one. How incredible it is that we are free from all guilt and shame and can live in the victory of what He has given to us!

The Spirit and the disciples of Jesus say, 'Come!

Come all who are thirsty and desire to drink the living waters. Come and drink freely...



What a beautiful gift the Holy Spirit is to us, from God the Father through Jesus the Son. We experience God and His love by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit leads us into all truth, testifies of Jesus and reveals to us the heart of God. God's love is so great that Jesus died for everyone, so that each one of us could know Him. The Holy Spirit also reveals to our hearts that we are sons and daughters of God, and it's living in this relationship of intimate love that the power of fear is broken over our lives. God has given His Spirit to help us in our daily journey with Him.



Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on how God has, and is revealing Himself to you from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of the love of the Holy Spirit and how He testifies of the Son, we will study the following scripture. Read **1 John 5:6–13** (NKJV)*

To help us understand the correct meaning of the scripture we will begin by asking the following questions:

Who are the characters?

Who are the three that bear witness in heaven? Read verse 7

What is the Spirit (one of the witnesses) described as being? Read verse 6

Who is the Word? To discover this, read John 1:1-4, verse 14 and verse 17

Back to 1 John 5. Who are the three that bear witness on earth? Read verse 8

Who bears witness to the fact that God came to earth in human form in Jesus? Read verse 6

Who does God testify of? Read verses 9-10

What do we receive when we believe God's witness of His Son? Read verses 11-12

Why was this scripture written? Read verse 13

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that the Holy Spirit testifies of Jesus. Include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

Isn't it amazing to know that when we receive Jesus, we receive His Spirit, the Holy Spirit! The Spirit is truth, so we can trust His testimony that God came to earth in human form. God is a relational God who loves with a perfect love. His heart is for us to know and experience His incredible love. The love of the Father, the Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit. He has given us the gift of His Spirit who testifies of Him, so that we can know and experience His love in our hearts.

Found in His love. Accepted as I am.
I'm changed forever. By the great I AM.



Hasn't it been so special to learn more about ourselves and to discover some of the reasons why we think the way we do. To know that we are accepted by God unconditionally frees us from being trapped in the cycle of trying to seek the approval of others. We can live in the reality that we are loved by God and that He always approves of us. God sees our need to be



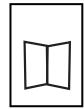
loved, to be accepted and He fulfils both with a never-ending supply of His great love.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you have learnt about God and yourself from the video. You can include this here:









Four Cards Workshop

Having gone through the workshop in the video, include your responses to the workshop questions here:

Myself

How do I feel about myself?

Do I feel loved?

Do I feel accepted by my community?

What am I good at?

,	What do I like doing?
,	What is my favourite animal?
,	What is my favourite food?
,	What are my dreams?
,	What am I scared of?
ı	My family (as a child)
	Who was in my family?
,	What was the health of my family?
,	What was my family's faith?
,	What were those in authority over me like?
ı	My education
	What is one thing I learnt when I was a child?
,	What was the person who taught me this like?
,	What was my favourite thing to learn about?
,	What was the hardest thing to learn about?
,	What was the easiest thing to learn about?

My community (when you were a child)
What did I like about where I lived?
What didn't I like about where I lived?
Where were the places I didn't feel safe?
Where were the places I did feel safe?
Take a moment to look back over your responses. Are there any patterns or relationships
between how you feel about yourself now and your circumstances growing up? Include them here:

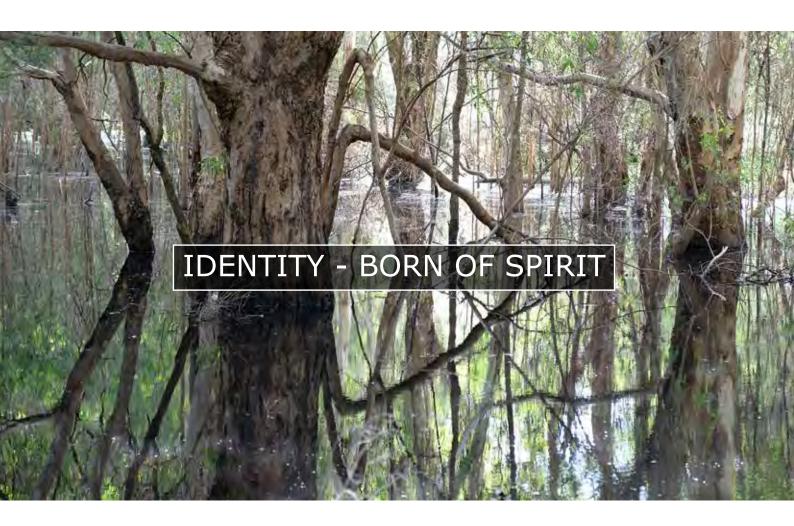
Now that you have identified any positive or negative patterns between your circumstances growing up and how you feel about yourself now, take a moment to reflect on the truth that God accepts us just as we are, and what that means to you. You can include your reflection here:

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

How reassuring it is to know that we are accepted by God just as we are. And out of that place of being completely loved and accepted, we can live in true freedom. A place of peace, rest and security. Living in the truth that we are accepted just as we are is a daily journey with Him. Knowing we are safe and secure in God's love, helps break the controlling forces that any negative thought patterns may have over us.

God became flesh and blood, born of the Spirit, to be the sacrifice for all humanity, so that all who are willing can be born of Spirit.



How exciting it is to know that when we receive Jesus we receive the Spirit of God and a spiritual birth happens within us. We are born of Spirit, take on Jesus' identity as kings and priests and inherit His destiny, that is eternal life with God. How incredible it is that Jesus physically died and was raised to life by God the Father and ascended back into heaven. He overcame death and has an eternal body, and we too will receive our eternal bodies—those that never get sick, old, or wear out. This will happen in an instant when Jesus returns to earth in all His glory. Not only do we have this great inheritance to look forward to, but now, we live in the freedom of being acquitted of all our offences—past, present and future. We have been washed clean by Jesus. This is truly amazing.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God from the video. You can include this here:

Quick Scripture Reference Guide John 1:12–13 The spiritual birth within 1 Corinthians 15:47–49 Incorruptible seed 1 Corinthians 15:20–23 The resurrection Romans 5:17–19 Born of spirit we reign in life through Jesus Revelation 1:5–6 Jesus has made us kings and priests

Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of how we are born of Spirit and the future hope we have, we will read **1 Corinthians 15:50–57**.

To help us understand the correct meaning of the scripture we will ask the following questions:

Who is the writer of this letter? To discover this, read 1 Corinthians 1:1

Who was this letter written to? To discover this, read 1 Corinthians 1:2

Back to 1 Corinthians 15. What will happen in a moment when Jesus returns? Read verse 52

Who do we receive victory over death from? Read verse 57

In the video, as we learnt from **Revelation 1:5–6**, Jesus is the King of all kings and yet because of His great love, He makes us kings and priests and shares His crowns with us. We will now look at other scriptures to discover what some of these crowns are. To help us understand the correct meaning of the scriptures, we need to know some background information about them. They were written in a way that the culture of the time would understand, to those who had received Jesus. For us today, as the truth about God never changes, and He makes us all kings and priests, the crowns that He shares in the following scriptures are for everyone who receives Him.

What are some of the crowns that Jesus shares with us?

Read Revelation 2:10

Read 1 Peter 5:4

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Read 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:19–20

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that Jesus shares His crowns with us. Include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

Everyone who receives Jesus, receives the Spirit of God, that is the Holy Spirit within. As a result, we become a child of God. That means we are as first born sons of royal blood and joint heirs with Jesus. He honours us and makes us kings and priests in His kingdom. He shares His imperishable crowns with us. And some of these are the crown of life, of righteousness (rightness, justice and equality), of joy and of His glory. All because He so loves.

Two human needs: wanting to be accepted and wanting to be loved.

In Jesus God made us accepted (with special honour) in the Beloved (most loved).



How beautiful it is that we are accepted in the beloved and that God shares with us His eternal plan—that in Jesus peace and harmony will be brought to all the universe.

How amazing to know that we are united with Jesus and share in every spiritual blessing. We are holy and without blame, chosen and totally accepted in Him, living in the special place of being most loved. We are adopted into God's family, continually and undeservedly forgiven. God's love is so great that He raises us up and honours us by seating us together with Jesus in His place of spiritual authority. What an incredible honour.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on everything we have in Jesus and what you learnt about God from the video. You can include this here:

Quick Scripture Reference Guide

Ephesians 1:9–10
God's eternal plan

Ephesians 1:3–7

Blessed with every spiritual blessing

Ephesians 1:18–23All power and

authority over evil and selfish desires are under Jesus' feet

Ephesians 2:4–6

Alive with God

Making God's Truth Personal

Make **Ephesians 1:3–10** personal and write 'I am' before each truth we have in Jesus.

For example, 'I am blessed with every spiritual blessing.'

I am

Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of how we are accepted in the beloved, we will now read **Ephesians 1:11–14** (NKJV)*

What have we obtained from God the Father in receiving Jesus? Read verse 11

Who does God choose to show His glory in? Read verse 12

Who is the guarantee of our inheritance? Read verses 13-14

Make **Ephesians 1:11–14** personal and write 'I am' before each truth we have in Jesus.

I am

I am

I am

I am

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that we are accepted in the beloved. You can include your reflection here:

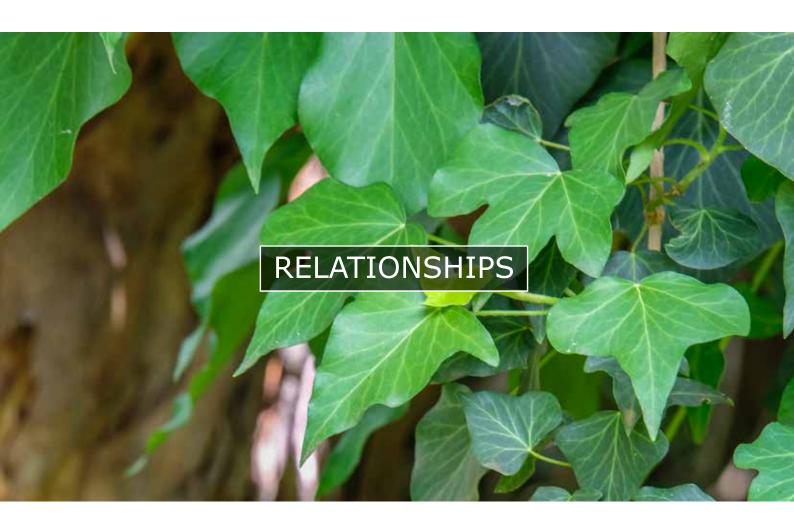
What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

Just as the Apostle Paul prayed for all believers throughout the ages in **Ephesians 1:17–21**, together we pray to God our Father that He may give us complete wisdom and increase our revelation of Him. That our eyes be opened by Him, to know the glorious inheritance and hope that we have in Jesus. That we may live in the exceeding greatness of His power that raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him in the place of highest authority, power and dominion. In Jesus' name, we ask. Amen.

In relationship with Jesus, daily surrendered to the Father's will, drinking freely His living waters, we are transformed, empowered and set free.



How incredible it is that God shares His heart and desires with us! And all this comes from being connected to Jesus and surrendering to the Father's will. As we surrender everything to Him—both the good and the bad—He brings us to a place of true freedom, where nothing has control over us. In surrender of the good, He grows the good and produces more fruit in us. And that fruit is His character, His love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are things we can't

Quick Scripture
Reference Guide
John 15:1–5 Jesus is
the main stem and
we are the branches
John 4:34 Jesus' food
Galatians 5:22–23
The Jesus tree
produces Jesus fruit

manufacture or make ourselves be. He does the work and brings transformation in us when we are connected to Jesus with hearts and minds of surrender. Remember that this is a daily journey. Each day is a new day to receive more from Him and His living waters. Even when we give Him just a moment, with a heart and mind of surrender, it's truly amazing what He does.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you have learnt about God from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

In the video we discovered that in **John 4:34**, Jesus said His will was to do the will of God the Father. In other words, He surrendered His self-will (human will) to that of the Father's will. To have a deeper revelation of the relationship we have with God in Jesus and how we are transformed by Him, we will go to the context of that scripture. There we will read the full story of when Jesus reached out to an outcast woman, who was from a tribe that was considered an enemy of the earthly tribe that Jesus was born into. Read **John 4:5–42**

Who is the gift of God and the source of the living water? Read verses 10 and 26

What does Jesus promise will happen within those who receive Him? Read verse 14

How long does this life-giving water last? Read verse 14

What does Jesus say about God in verse 24?

When we receive Jesus, God's Spirit of truth lives in us. Through our daily journey of surrendering to the Father's will and drinking freely His living waters, He enables us to worship Him in spirit and in truth. This worship is a heart to heart connection and His work of transformation in us.

Who does Jesus say He is? Read verses 25-26

What was the revelation that the other Samaritans of the woman's village received? Read verse 42

Practical

IMAGINE you are a branch of a large vine.

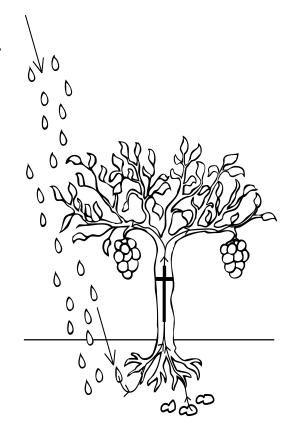
You are connected to the main stem of the vine, surrendered to the will of the gardener.

All you are doing is just hanging there, nothing else, just hanging from the main stem.

Now because you are connected to the main stem, all the goodness of the vine is naturally flowing from its roots, through the main stem, into you. Its water, its nutrients; everything from the vine is flowing into you.

All you are doing is hanging out with the vine, receiving all of its goodness.

One day, you feel a 'tingling' sensation. You discover that you have grown. Little bunches of fruit start to form. The fruit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.



As the sun beats down and the rain pours over you, on the inside is the soothing flow of the living waters and nutrients from the vine. How is this happening? You haven't been doing anything! All you are doing is hanging out with the vine, receiving all its goodness as that is the will of the gardener.

As we learnt in the video, **John 15** says that Jesus is the vine, we are His branches and Father God is the gardener. Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that having received Jesus you are connected to Him, and in surrender are being transformed by Him. You can include your reflection here:

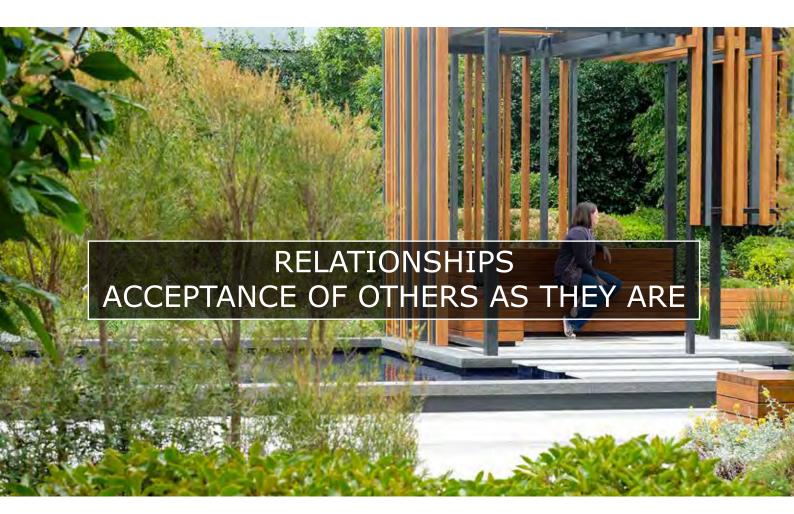
What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

What a beautiful place surrender is, the place of being truly free where nothing has control over us. It is the Father's will that we live in the victory of surrender, being transformed by Him, continually growing and having more of His fruit being produced in us. This is a daily journey with Him and a work of His Spirit—our role is simply to surrender and receive.

Out of a revelation of who God is and who we are in Him, in surrender we are transformed and empowered to accept others as they are.





Isn't it great to know that Jesus includes and accepts everyone just as they are. He accepts those the community rejects and those the community honours. Jesus brings complete healing and wholeness; physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

He gives each one equal respect, an equal voice and an equal place of honour. He restores our identity and out of our transformed hearts, He empowers us to see others equally and to accept them as they are.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what stood out to you about God and your community from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of how God accepts everyone as they are and the daily journey of Him empowering us to do likewise, we will go through the Ten Seeds Practical in greater detail. You can either do it with others, or again individually by selecting a different community.

Ten Seeds Practical

What you will need: 10 small items of the same size and shape (eg: grains of rice or beans) and the worksheet on page 57 of this workbook.

At the beginning it's important to encourage the group that there is no shame or right or wrong answers when doing this. It is an opportunity for each person to share how they feel the community sees them.

You can do this practical with any amount of people. If you have more than 12, then form 2 groups. If more than 24, form three groups and so on.

- **Step 1:** Get everyone within their group to sit facing each other in a circle.
- **Step 2:** Place the worksheet in the middle of the group and then place the 10 items to the side of the worksheet.
- **Step 3:** Ask each person to choose a community that they are a part of. This might be the community where they live, work, study, socialise, a faith community or a sporting group. Let the group know that there is no need to share which community they have selected for this practical.
- **Step 4:** One by one ask each person to share with the group how they feel their community sees them. Is it of no value, some value or great value? Give them an opportunity to explain why.

Remind the group that there is no shame in how they believe their community sees them. When each one is sharing, observe how they interact with the group. If someone is looking to one person more than the other people when speaking, take a moment to pause the group and encourage the whole group to look at each one within the group equally when sharing. Likewise, if one person is speaking more than another such that not everyone has equal opportunity to share, remind the group that everyone has an equal voice and needs to be given equal time to share.

Step 5: Once each individual has had equal opportunity to express how they feel their community sees them, as a group decide how best to represent this. Using all the 10 seeds (which represent 100% of the group) together with the worksheet, the group is to work together to represent the groups' perception of their value as a whole.

For example: If your group has 6 people in it, and 2 people believe their community sees them of no value, 3 people believe their community sees them of some value and 1 person believes their community sees them of great value, then the 10 seeds would be placed as approximate representation as follows—3 seeds in the no value column, 5 seeds in the some value column and 2 seeds in the great value column.

Step 6: Ask each individual if they agree whether or not the results are an accurate representation of the group.

Step 7: Once each individual agrees the seed placement is an accurate representation of the entire group, ask the group to discuss amongst themselves how each one can help those in their community who see themselves of no or some value, to see themselves of great value.

It's important for us to remember that to be able to accept others as they are and to see them as someone of great value as God does, we need Him to transform our hearts and minds. As we learnt in the previous session, when we surrender to the Father's will and receive from Jesus, His Spirit transforms us to be more like Him. We are then empowered to see each other through God's eyes of love and equal respect. Coming from that place where we see everyone as having great value, it is then that we can help others see themselves of greater value than they believe the community sees them.

As we have learnt from the video there are practical ways to help all of us do this. You can include these here, along with any additional ones from your group discussion:

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that out of our transformed hearts and minds we can accept others as they are. You can include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

God cares about every aspect of our lives including our emotions, how we feel, how we think and even how we see ourselves. As God loves and cares for each of us equally, it is important to Him how we are treated by others and how we treat others as well. When we are connected to Jesus and surrendered to the Father's will, spending time receiving from Him, He will transform us to be able to see each other through God's eyes of perfect love and equal respect.

In the Kingdom of God everyone is equal.

Regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or worldly-status.



God created each one equal in a world that was only good. But as we know, we live with inequality in a world that is damaged by evil. This was not God's will or His desire for us, as He is only good and created us out of His perfect love. When humanity chose both good and evil, rather than God and only good, we gave power to our selfish desires and our relationships became unequal. However, it doesn't end there! Through Jesus we are restored for the better. As we surrender to God our desire to control each other to get what we want, He brings freedom and transformation in our hearts and minds. He empowers us to live in relationships of equality.









DAMAGED BY EVIL



RESTORED FOR BETTER



Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God and relationships from the video. You can include this here:

Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation about how God empowers us to live in relationships of equality, we will read more of the creation story. Read **Genesis 2:18–22**

How does God refer to the woman? Read verse 18

To understand the correct meaning of **Genesis 2:18**, we will read some other scriptures that use the word helper.

Who is the helper of the writer of Psalm 70? Read Psalm 70:5

Who does Jesus refer to as our helper? Read John 14:16-17

In these scriptures God Himself is the helper who comes alongside humanity. In the creation story we read that God created woman as a helper, someone of the same kind as the man, comparable and equal to him, yet different.

To help us have a deeper understanding of how the equality that God created became unequal through humanity choosing to give power to their selfish desires and evil, we will continue to read more of the creation story from Genesis.

What is the relationship between man and woman as a result of humanity giving power to their selfish desires? Read Genesis 3:16

The word desire in the context of this scripture means to run after and attempt to control and manipulate. The word rule means to dominate and oppress. As a result of humanity giving power to their selfish desires, each one strives for control and power. Depending on who has the power often determines whether their selfish desires dominate and oppress, or control and manipulate others to get what they want.

Remember that this is not how God created us to be. His will is for us to be truly free and to live in relationships of equality. When we surrender to Him our desire to control others to get what we want, and instead receive Jesus' sacrifice and victory, the power of our selfish desires is broken.

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that we are restored for the better by Jesus into relationships of equality. You can include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

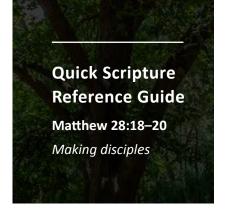
What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

Isn't it incredible that we can be free from the control of our selfish desires and live in true freedom. God empowers us to live in relationships of equality and invites us to partner with Him in His mission, where together we are sent to heal. We will learn more about this in the next session.

As we journey through life wherever we go and whatever the situation, the all-powerful ever-present One is intimately and personally with us.





How amazing it is that we are chosen and invited to be a part of God's mission. To know Him and receive Jesus, and to bring others along the journey to know and receive Him, too. As we go through this life Jesus is always with us and He has given us

His power and authority to be His witnesses to the world. What a beautiful privilege it is to share the personal relationship that we have with Him with others. As a disciple of Jesus, we have His Holy Spirit within and share in His identity. We are His! Jesus has made us clean and we are united with Him. And what a transformation He brings in us! No matter where we are on our journey, as His disciples we all have our own story and testimony to share.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about discipleship from the video. You can include this here:

Testimony

Take the time to write your testimony by answering the key questions below:

What type of person were you before becoming a disciple of Jesus?

What type of person are you now as a disciple of Jesus, showing the difference He has made?

What was the situation in your life when you decided to receive Jesus and become His disciple?

What was the most important thing that brought you to receive Jesus and become His disciple?

What are the most important differences in your life now and for the future?

Opportunity to go Deeper

To go deeper and to discover more about discipleship, we will read some different scriptures from Jesus' time on earth as a man. Let us read again the key scripture for session 15 that we discussed in the video. Read **Matthew 28:18–20**

What are the four actions Jesus empowers us as His disciples to do? Read verses 19-20

What promise does Jesus give His disciples? Read verse 20

Who does Jesus say His disciples (students) are to be like? Read Matthew 10:24–25

What did Jesus' disciples do? Read Matthew 21:6

What did Jesus' disciples do? Read Matthew 8:23

Jesus calls all His disciples to follow Him. For us today, Jesus is with each of us wherever we are. Where we live and who we are called to be witnesses to however is unique for each one. Let us look at two different journeys of being a disciple of Jesus.

What did Jesus tell the man who was freed from demons to do? Read Luke 8:38-39

What did Simon Peter, James and John do in response to their revelation that Jesus is Lord? Read Luke 5:8–11

Our journey of becoming a disciple of Jesus starts with learning about who God is and the Holy Spirit revealing to us that He is the truth. As a disciple of Jesus we continue to learn more about Him, know Him more, receive more of what He has shared with us, and continue to be served by Him, and from that place—by His Spirit—we then are empowered to serve, and share about Him with others.



Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you to be a disciple of Jesus. You can include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

Every disciple has a testimony as each one of us has the Holy Spirit within, who is the witness of Jesus. As we journey each day with Jesus, surrendering our self-will, receiving the Father's will and drinking His living waters, God transforms us to have more of Jesus' character and empowers us to share our story with others. Each disciple's journey and testimony is unique and demonstrates God's amazing love and the incredible number of ways He personally reveals Himself to each individual.

In Jesus the Kingdom of God has come into this world damaged by evil.

He has given us His power and authority to live in His victory, testifying of His great love.



God's kingdom is a kingdom of love and acceptance. Freedom and honour. Healing and wholeness. Peace and harmony. It is a kingdom of restoration and transformation. Truth and power. Hope and revelation. Equality and justice. His kingdom is for all people! Regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, or community standing. God has a place for each one of us in His kingdom.

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on what you learnt about God and His kingdom from the video. You can include this here:



Opportunity to go Deeper

To have a deeper revelation of the Kingdom of God, we will begin by learning more about the meaning of the words kingdom and God.

Kingdom means two things:

the right, authority or power to rule over a kingdom; and the territory or region that is subject to that rule or authority.

God means supreme deity, which we know is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Kingdom of God is the right, authority or power of Jesus to rule over heaven and earth. Jesus is the ruler of the Kingdom of God. When He was on earth, He taught and demonstrated what God's kingdom looks like.

The Kingdom of God and this world that is damaged by evil are opposites. As discussed in the conversation part of the video, there are 7 key points of difference. We will now review these by reflecting on what we experience in this world damaged by evil, and therefore what God's kingdom is like given they are opposites. The first one has been completed for you as an example.

In this world damaged by evil there is an imbalance of power. The poor are powerless and the rich are powerful. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

In the Kingdom of God there is no imbalance of power as all people have equal power.

In this world damaged by evil there are broken relationships with God and each other, where inequality exists. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

In this world damaged by evil there is exclusion of people who are made outcasts. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

In this world damaged by evil there is a breaking down of community and a lack of justice. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

In this world damaged by evil there is inequality and people oppress one another. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

In this world damaged by evil people are caught in a web of lies and trapped in fear. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

In this world damaged by evil, corruption and dishonest practices become the culture. Given this world is the opposite to God's kingdom, **what** is the Kingdom of God like?

Take a moment to reflect on what it means to you that we are a part of God's kingdom. You can include your reflection here:

What have you learnt about God and His character from this session?

What is your personal, practical response/prayer?

Closing Summary

As we conclude our *Kingdom of God Discipleship Experience*, be encouraged that our journey with God never ends. There is always more in Him! God's kingdom is eternal and He has a place for each one of us. It is a place of equality and respect, truth and justice, peace and harmony, restoration and healing, freedom and victory. May you continue to be established in God's truth, rooted in His love and transformed by His power. Together we pray **Ephesians 3:14–21**.

NO VALUE
SOME VALUE
GREAT VALUE