

WITNESS – Reaching out to others *(Aim for 20 – 30 minutes)*

Ffald-y-Brenin Blessings

Heavenly Father we take upon ourselves the mantle of authority that Jesus delegates to us and in His name we speak to every household in Hungerford and say to you:-

1 Relationships

We bless you in the Name of the Lord. We bless your marriages that they may be strong and whole. We bless the relationship between each marriage partner that it may be loving, forgiving, merciful and strong. We bless every intergenerational relationship within each household that there may be peace and love and understanding flowing between each one.

In Jesus' name we bless every network of wholesome and supportive friendship.

2 Health

We bless your health that you may be strong and well. In Jesus' name we resist any sickness or disease which seeks to invade this parish and to every person in the parish we say, be well, be strong, be healthy. To any who are sick right now we say we bless you in Jesus' name with a speedy recovery.

3 Wealth

We bless your wealth that you may have plenty to replace poverty. We bless you to have enough to live and enough to give. We bless the work of your hands that whatever you turn your hand to which is wholesome may be profitable. We bless every wholesome enterprise that is conducted by you that it may prosper and be successful. We bless the local businesses that they may be successful and profitable.

4 Education

We bless the local schools that they may be secure, safe places for teachers and pupils alike. We bless the children's capacity to learn and develop relationships and we bless their simple trust in Jesus that their trust may grow and become enriched.

5 Church

We speak to the Church and we say we bless you in the Name of the Lord that the Holy Spirit and the Word of God may flow out from you in power. We bless the hearts of all who live in the parish that they may be quickened to hear and respond to the Voice of the Living God. We bless all who live and work here, that the overflow of the blessings of the presence of the kingdom of God may fall upon you.

LUKE'S GOSPEL GOSPEL FOR THE OUTSIDER

8 Outsiders at the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection

WELCOME – Breaking the ice *(Aim for 10 minutes)*

Jesus made many appearances after the resurrection. Which event would you like to have been a part of?

WORSHIP – Meeting the Lord *(Aim for 10 – 15 minutes)*

Read John Chapter 21 verse 15—17

Imagine Jesus asking the questions of you (where Simon son of John is written insert your name). How would you answer Jesus? Talk to him and listen for his answer to you.

Finish with the grace:-

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and evermore. Amen.

Pray for your meeting

WORD – Applying the truth
(Aim for 40 – 45 minutes)

Read Luke 22, 23, 24 Luke's Passion narrative as a whole, with members of the group reading a paragraph or episode each.

1 Who were the outsiders in the story and why?

2 Some were attracted to Jesus, others were repelled: why did people in the story react so differently?

3 Who comes out of the story well, and who badly, and why?

4 What forces were at work in the story and how do they present themselves?

5 What are the clues in the passage that tell us how Jesus was thinking?

6 In what way does Luke present Jesus as saviour?

7 How does Luke present Jesus as the Risen Lord to his readers?

8 What is Jesus at pains to explain to his disciples? Why does Jesus put understanding before experience in the Emmaus story and in the Upper Room?

Re-read the account if there is time with maybe a lighted candle and appropriate music and listen to the account again. End with a prayer.

Taken from

Whitworth, P., (2014) *Gospel for the Outsider*, Durham: Sacristy Press