

## **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**

## **7 The Spirit and the Kingdom**

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

When have you been aware of God in your life?

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

Read Acts Chapter 11 verses 15—18

Ask God to give you the gift of the Holy Spirit, either for the first time or to be re-filled. When you have prayed for yourself pray for the other members of your group that they might receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

You can use Ephesians Chapter 1 verses 15 to the end to help you pray.

Then pray for your meeting

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

Luke has the most developed idea of the Kingdom of God among the Gospel writers, at the heart of which is, for humanity, salvation through the forgiveness of sins and a renewed world. (see Luke 1:77, 4:43, 5:17b, 9:11b, 23:42-43, 24:47). Both in his parables and actions of healing, forgiveness, and deliverance, Jesus was making known the kingdom and did so through the power of the Spirit.

**The Kingdom**

1 What do you understand by the Kingdom of God? How is the church related to it? In what ways had Jesus come to inaugurate the Kingdom of God here on earth?

2 How did Jesus show his Kingship? What were the marks of his Kingship?

3 What role did the disciples have in making known the Kingdom (see 9 1-6, 10:1-24)? How can the Kingdom be made known today?

**The Spirit**

4 Luke also has a deep understanding of the work of the Spirit in mission. What is the relationship of the Spirit to Jesus in Luke's Gospel, and how did he equip the church for Mission (see Acts 1:8, 2:1-13)?

5 Look at Luke 24:45-53 and Acts 1: 4-8: what did these verses mean for the disciples then and what do they indicate to us today? What happens when the Spirit fills the church, what happens when he fills an individual? What happened when the Spirit filled Jesus without measure (see Luke 3:22)?

6 What do you think is the relationship between the Spirit and the Kingdom?

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