

Advent Small Group Session Plan

Good News!

The Hebrew word which is translated 'Messiah' means 'anointed one' - the hoped-for King who will save the people of Israel. The Greek word for 'anointed one' is 'christos' - this is the root of the words 'Christ' and 'Christian'. Jesus Christ (Messiah) came to save the world.

Welcome

Icebreaker question: Can you remember a time when you were given some good news?

Worship

Read Isaiah 52:7 together. Think about what it means for you to be a person who brings good news and proclaims peace.

Word

Read Luke 2:8-15 together.

Questions for Discussion:

- Q. What does this passage tell us about God?
- Q. What does this passage tell us about humanity?
- Q. How will what we have found in this passage make a difference to our lives and the lives of those around us?

Wonder / Witness

Use this time to pray for each other and the world.

You could ask people what they'd like prayer for or they could write their prayers down.

Thinking about today's passage, ask God to help you bring good news and peace to the people you meet in your everyday life.

Additional Ideas:

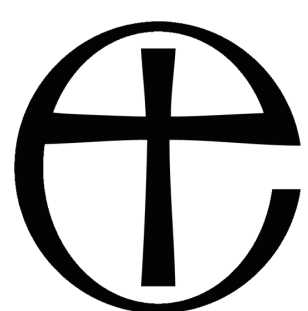
- Music for reflection: 'Five Sheep, Four Goats' by the Danish String Quartet:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xO8sdeZFT9g>

This piece is reminiscent of a shepherd's folk tune, which is suddenly interrupted at 1 minute 50 seconds by the sound of a flugelhorn. Then, the main tune returns jubilantly towards the end. As you listen, imagine the shepherds going about their usual business and being suddenly interrupted by their surprising visitors. As you hear the main tune return, imagine the shepherds returning home from Bethlehem, full of joy and praising God.

For more information and ideas about running a small group session, visit: <https://www.stpeterscollege.org.uk/small-groups>

*How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring
good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"*

-Isaiah 52:7



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OF SHEFFIELD**

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