

## NOTES FOR SMALL GROUP LEADERS | W/C 29 OCTOBER

### BLESS #4 | Eat Together

#### Planning your evening

Please continue to start the evening with the 'Who have you BLESSED this week?' question. As ever, if you as the leader have something to share, it encourages others to share. Equally, if some in your group have forgotten, this acts as a good reminder!

Because the plan for this evening is to share a meal together in your group, the notes are less structured – more a set of suggested topics for discussion. There is still video content which could be watched at the beginning of the session before you eat (either on DVD or it can be accessed at [kchw.co.uk/bless](http://kchw.co.uk/bless) from Sunday 28 October). The main aim is to have a relaxed evening with food and discussion.

#### Planning for December

A couple of the suggested topics for discussion focus on ideas and planning for your group outreach challenges in December. Of course, it's entirely up to each group as to whether they want to take up those challenges or do something else, but nothing builds community quite as well as when we reach out together.

#### Sharing stories

People's stories are powerful (and a key part of BLESS) so please do keep having the story slot where one or two in the group have the opportunity to share their story that they have prepared using the guidelines emailed previously.

We would also really appreciate hearing any stories that emerge from your group, as well as feedback on the materials we're providing throughout the series. Please share stories and feedback with us, either through your Cluster Leader or by emailing [sgc@kchw.co.uk](mailto:sgc@kchw.co.uk)

Through the 'King's News' section at the end, we will aim to keep you informed of things that are coming up so you can remind your people about them.

*We're continuing to pray for you and trust you will have a good and fruitful time together!*

## Starting Out

### OPENING QUESTION

Who have you BLESSed this week?

### WORSHIP SUGGESTION

Philippians 4:6-7 emphasises the importance of thanksgiving – spend a few moments giving thanks together for how God has blessed you.

### PERSONAL STORIES

Someone in the group (asked in advance) shares their 3-minute story. Following this, ask for a volunteer(s) for next week.

## Video Content

Dave's story and group discussion between John Harbour, Rich Horne and Abigail Akinla. Recommended to view before eating so you can combine food and discussion (if that means shifting the order of things in the box above, feel free to do that!)

## Discussion & Reflection

### TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

As you eat together, you could talk about one or two of the following topics for discussion:

1. Hospitality (including the questions discussed on the video):
  - Why is eating together powerful?
  - When have you experienced great hospitality?
  - What is hospitality? Do you have experience of hospitality in other cultures?
  - What are the barriers to hospitality? What excuses do we find to not be hospitable?
  - Who will you be intentional about eating with this month?
2. Discuss ideas and plans for an event you could do as a group in December to which it would be easy to invite non-believers. Maybe you could do something that gathers people before or after one of the Carols at King's meetings on 9 or 16 December.
3. Discuss ideas and plans for how your Small Group could serve/bless your community in some way – is there a need in your community that you could meet? Is there a way of being a blessing as a group to a particular person someone in the group knows (eg practical help)?

## Prayer

- Continue to pray for one another and for the people on our BLESS lists.
- Continue to seek God for what He wants to say to people in the group or about those on our lists.
- Pray for any outreach/serving ideas you have discussed as a group – for God to bless it and make it effective.

## King's News

- We have a Gift Day coming up on 4 November – hopefully you will have seen the video shown on previous Sunday mornings explaining what it's about (if not, it will be on the website). Please encourage people to prayerfully consider what they will give.
- Date for diaries – there will be a Church Members' Meeting on Sunday 18 November, 7pm at the Town Centre Site. These meetings are only held when there is something important to communicate, so please encourage church members to make this a priority.