

## FURTHER UP AND FURTHER IN

### Generous Welcome – Reflections

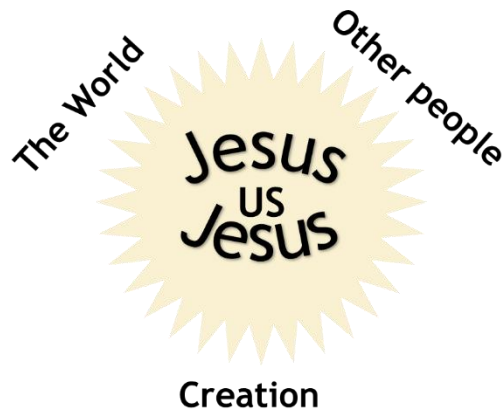
#### Re-cap:

Have you changed anything about your daily Bible reading? Have you found anything useful so far or have you not been able to think about it?

When can you put 15-20 minutes in the diary this week to look over the **Centred on Jesus** and **Generous Welcome** reflection sheets?

#### Relationships with others:

- Spend time thinking about this picture below. What does it practically look like for you to interact with other people, the world, and creation *through* Jesus.



#### Strangers tell us something new:

- What do you learn from other people?
- Where and when do you speak to people who are different from you in age / background / beliefs etc.?
- Do you share your thoughts and beliefs with others?
- How and where do you learn from others about God?

#### Generosity:

- Where and when do you offer your time, talents, and treasures to God and to others?
- What could it look like to be more generous with what you have?
- Read Romans 12:9-21 and ask God to show you where you can grow as a disciple this year.

#### A few quotes...

Read and reflect on these quotes – what strikes you about them? Do you agree or disagree? Why?

- By calling us, [Jesus] has cut us off from all immediacy with the things of this world. He wants to be the centre, through him alone all things shall come to pass. He stands between us and God, and for that very reason he stands between us and all other men and things. He is the Mediator, not only between God and man, but between man and man, between man and reality. Since the whole world was created through him and unto him (John 1:3; 1st Cor. 8:6; Heb. 1:2), he is the sole Mediator in the world...
  - Bonhoeffer, Discipleship.

#### Next steps:

We invite you this year to **learn generosity with each other**. Have a look at a few ideas here – what might be good for you?

- Talking to others after the Sunday service about what they learnt from time together.
- Joining a midweek group to learn from others – Bible Course (overview of the Bible).
- Make a list of specific things you can offer to others and then start to think about who might benefit from them.
  - E.g. If you love cooking, who could you share food and time with so that you both learn from each other?