



This summer's series looks at the foundations of faith and grapples with some of the basics. This series will cover areas you may have looked at before but it is always good to check your foundations and go deeper in some of these fundamentals. This study considers how we might be transformed into the likeness of Christ following Geoff's sermon on the 26th May. There are some bonus questions at the end that relate specifically to this talk which you may or may not wish to include.

1. Where have you seen evidence of God in your life this week? Are there any stories you might share?

Police rescued a woman driver from a roundabout in Germany after fellow motorists said she'd done at least 50 circuits. They used two police cars to guide her off at one of the exits after motorists called them to say she kept going round and round the roundabout in Braunschweig.

"I was breaking in a new car to see how it does in traffic and I couldn't seem to get to one of the exits," 62-year-old Andrea Zimmer told police.

"But I have to admit I got a very good feel for my new car and its handling. I think I can safely say it takes roundabouts pretty well."

2. As you think about your own life, (your patterns of behaviour/thoughts/or habits) where does it feel like you are on the roundabout at the moment? Which exit roads are you trying to take?
3. What do you think is God's biggest goal for us?

Read 2 Cor 3:7-18 (this may take some unpacking - read Exodus 34: 29-34 for context)

4. Verse 8, What is the ministry of the Spirit more glorious than? And why does Paul say that the ministry of the Spirit will be even more glorious?
5. Verse 13. Why did Moses have to wear a veil over his face? What do you make of the idea that God's glory might be dangerous?
6. Verse 18. What do you make of the idea that God is at work transforming you? How difficult or easy do you find believing this?
7. From verse 18, what enables us to be transformed into his image?
8. How do you think you can better play your part in creating the conditions in which spiritual transformation can take place in you? What might that look like?
9. What for you is the link between worship and transformation? How does it work? What small step you could take to make worship more central in your life?
10. "God's way of transformation is rather one of incremental changes" How do reconcile the God of miracles with the God who also plays the long game?

Response time: Think about how your group might 'contemplate the Lord's glory'. Can you rest with God in silence, or with quiet music playing, or with a verse of Scripture, or looking out at nature? Spend some time engaged in this practice.

Final Prayers

- Is there anything else that today's study has thrown up that you need to pray into?
- Are there any other things for which people would like prayer?
- Lift one another up to God for the week ahead.

Bonus questions particularly from Geoff's sermon (if you need more to explore):

8a. "The danger of the personal goodness project is that we tend to focus on seeing ourselves as deeply flawed, rather than profoundly loved." What has been your experience of the result of having high expectations of trying hard to be good?

1. What encouragement does the idea give you that Paul would be talking about a mirror made out of polished metal rather than glass?