



This series explores how we, as followers of Jesus, think about and care for creation. The climate crisis is big news, big business and big anxiety but do we have a more hopeful story to share? We will explore key passages of Scripture taking us into the theology of creation care and how we can each live it out day by day. The fourth in our series considers to what extent creation care is intrinsic to the gospel and follows Geoff's talk on Sun 22nd September 2024.

STARTER: Where have you seen God's fingerprints in your life this week?

- 1) If you were God, how would you fix all that's wrong with the world?
- 2) What is your vision of life after death? What do you imagine it will be like? What does that mean for the earth?
- 3) Where does that vision come from?

Read Colossians 1:15-20

- 4) When you read this passage, what particularly stands out to you?
- 5) We've often reduced the gospel to repenting of our individual sins, what difference might it make to consider that the gospel, the good news of Jesus, is *for all things* – the whole of creation?
- 6) Does taking creation care seriously help or hinder sharing the gospel of Jesus?
- 7) Geoff suggests that when speaking about a new creation, Paul, and John use the Greek word '*Kainos*' meaning renewed or restored rather than the word *neos*, meaning brand new. What difference might this make to our view of the future?
- 8) Do you consider creation care to be part of your ongoing following of Jesus? Why, why not?
- 9) Does considering caring for creation as part of our discipleship excite you, frustrate you, concern you or something else? Why is that?
- 10) Do you feel climate guilt? How might our discussions from the last few weeks help in this, recognising our place as stewards rather than saviours of creation?
- 11) How might we encourage and help others, particularly young people, struggling with climate anxiety?
- 12) What might your next step in creation care be? Is there anything you've identified over these past few weeks that the group can encourage you with, or perhaps a new step to take as part of your commitment to the full message for the gospel.

Final Prayers

- Is there anything 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.