

“Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them,  
so that everyone may see your progress.

Watch your life and doctrine closely.”

This term we begin our next series of bible studies entitled Thinking Theologically. We'll be looking at eight truths, which, while being considered 'unfashionable' by the world, are the bedrock of our Christian truth and life together. These areas of necessary truth are:

Revelation - The God who speaks  
Creation - The God who creates  
Rebellion - The God we reject  
Judgement – The God who Judges  
Jesus : Fully God and Fully man  
Jesus' Death  
Jesus' Resurrection  
Life in Christ - The presence of the future

Why are these fundamental truths 'unfashionable'?

Because we live in a world that is always bent on making God's truth 'unfashionable!' The earliest example of this 'fashion trend' against God's truth is in the Garden but at a cultural/societal level the tower of Babel in Genesis 11 is our first port of call. There we find the humanity gathered in one place on the plain of Shinar (Babylon). There human beings have a sense of their communal frailty before a God who can 'un-create' the world through a flood.

But even that enormous amount of water was unable to wash the human heart clean of sin. Humans still made it their business to live without reference to the all-loving, powerful, and only true God. Their solution is to build a city, a society, a culture without this God. Their achievements would be divine in stature, the symbol of their expertise, the tower that would 'reach to the heavens'. Their aim was to make a reality where God had no influence, no right to speak, a virtual reality where God had no weight.

The writer of Genesis remarks indirectly on how humanity succeeded. God had to come right down, almost get on his knees, to get a good look at this tower that 'reaches to the heavens'. They did not want to hear God's voice but they ended up being unable to understand each other - that's when Shinar really became Babylon (Babble-on).

We have never stopped the sinful tendency of trying make our own God. It falls to God's people not to protect God, that would be blasphemy indeed, but to assault the tower of human arrogance by restating the truth of Christ Jesus. This is no easy task! As God's People we are not immune to the power and influence of these ideas but we are well placed to struggle with them because of God's Word and his Spirit within us.

Each study will follow the same basic pattern:

1. The Bible passages from the Bible to be read and summarised in point form.
2. Doctrine combining your summaries into a single statement of belief.
3. Church History looking at some of the Church's historical Statements.

The Athanasius Creed is dated approx 500 AD.

The Apostles Creed is dated approx 700 AD.

The 39 Articles is the Church of England statement of faith from 1563.

The Westminster Confession is the Presbyterian Church statement of faith from 1647.

4. Avoiding the Truth looking at some of the ways our culture minimizes God and his truth.
5. Engagement critiquing our culture's attempt to minimize the true.
6. Living the Truth working at ways to live this truth out well.

Be sure to spend time praying as a group after the study, especially about the last section, living the truth.

# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about revelation.

Psalms 19:1-4, Romans 1:18-23, 1 Cor 1:19-21



REVELATION

Is 66:1-2, James 1:21-22, Deuteronomy 4:10-16, Deut 6:4-8

Hebrews 1:1-3, 2 Cor 1:20

2 Tim 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21, Ps 33:4

Other:

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### WESTMINSTER CONFSSION

1. Although the light of nature, and the works of creation and providence, do so far manifest the goodness, wisdom, and power of God, as to leave men inexcusable; yet they are not sufficient to give that knowledge of God, and of his will, which is necessary unto salvation; therefore it pleased the Lord, at sundry times, and in divers manners, to reveal himself, and to declare that his will unto his Church; and afterwards for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the Church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan and of the world, to commit the same wholly unto writing; which maketh the Holy Scripture to be most necessary; those former ways of God's revealing his will unto his people being now ceased.

9. The infallible rule of interpretation of Scripture, is the Scripture itself; and therefore, when there is a question about the true and full sense of any scripture (which is not manifold, but one), it may be searched and known by other places that speak more clearly.

10. The Supreme Judge, by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture.

### 39 ARTICLES

Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation: so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation.



# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about Creation.

Genesis 1:1-2:1

Psalms 19



Psalms 90:2, Psalms 33:6

John 1:1-3

Colossians 1:15-17

Hebrews 1:1-3

Hebrews 11:3

Revelation 4

Other:

CREATION

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### WESTMINSTER CONFSSION

Chapter IV

Of Creation

1. It pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for the manifestation of the glory of His eternal power, wisdom, and goodness, in the beginning, to create, or make of nothing, the world, and all things therein whether visible or invisible, in the space of six days; and all very good.

2. After God had made all other creatures, He created man, male and female, with reasonable and immortal souls, endued with knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness, after His own image; having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfil it; and yet under a possibility of transgressing, being left to the liberty of their own will, which was subject unto change. Beside this law written in their hearts, they received a command, not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; which while they kept, they were happy in their communion with God, and had dominion over the creatures.

### APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father, Maker of heaven and earth.

# AVOIDING THE TRUTH

What concepts, models of reality, or theories, does our western culture use to dismiss or undermine the creator God?



CREATION

When science becomes the main framework for understanding our world and yet does not ask the 'why' question, what happens to us as human beings?

## ENGAGEMENT

Sometimes the best way to engage our culture is to 'do a Socrates'. Socrates developed a method of arguing that was so effective that the youth of Athens adopted it and annoyed so many people with it that Socrates was condemned to death by drinking Hemlock.

Beware this method of arguing can be very annoying.

The Socratic method works this way:

1. Take no position yourself.
2. Engage the person who does claim to know something i.e. 'Evolution' with questions.

The questions are aimed at pointing out the limitations and inconsistencies of their theory.

Of course there must be for Christians a time when we 'proclaim Christ the means and end of creation' but we don't have to do it without weakening the other persons position first.

The use of the 'Socratic Method' in relation to 'Evolution' is done with startling effect by Phillip E. Johnson, in his book 'Darwin on Trial'.

Look at the concepts you wrote down in the question above. How might you question them to show their underlying weaknesses?

## LIVING THE TRUTH

### INDIVIDUALLY

How can we as Christians deny that creation is very good?

How can we as Christians show non-Christians that believing the God of creation makes an attractive difference to the way that we live?

Can/should Christians recycle their garbage?

Can/should Christians support experimentation on animals to help humans?

Can/should Christians support the work of RSPCA?

### AS A CHURCH

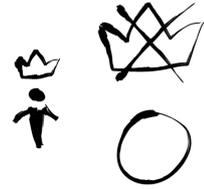
How can we as a church demonstrate our delight in the God who creates?

# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about Sin.

Genesis 2:3-3:7

Genesis 6:5



Matt. 15:19

Ephesians 2v1-3

Romans 1:18-32,

Romans 3,

Romans 5:8f

Other:

REBELLION

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### WESTMINSTER CONFSSION

Chapter VI Of the fall of Man, of Sin, and the Punishment thereof

I. Our first parents, being seduced by the subtitle and temptations of Satan, sinned, in eating the forbidden fruit. This their sin, God was pleased, according to His wise and holy counsel, to permit, having purposed to order it to His own glory.

II. By this sin they fell from their original righteousness and communion, with God, and so became dead in sin, and wholly defiled in all the parts and faculties of soul and body.

III. they, being the root of all man-kind, the guilt of this sin was imputed; and the same death in sin, and corrupted nature, conveyed to all their posterity descending from them by ordinary generation.

IV. From this original corruption, whereby we are utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite to all good, and wholly inclined to all evil, do proceed all actual transgressions.

V. This corruption of nature, during this life, does remain in those that are regenerated; and although it be, through Christ, pardoned, and mortified; yet both it self and all the motions thereof, are truly and properly sin.

VI. Every sin, both original and actual, being a transgression of the righteous law of God, and contrary thereunto, does in its own nature, bring guilt upon the sinner, whereby he is bound over to the wrath of God, and curse of the law, and so made subject to death, with all miseries spiritual, temporal, and eternal.

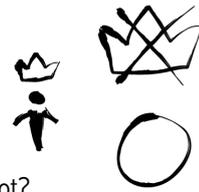
# AVOIDING THE TRUTH

Is there in our culture a belief in the basic goodness of human beings?  
What thinking, theories or philosophies under pins this belief?

Do our institutions and government agencies operate on the basis of this assumption? If they don't, why not?

"Lust, Pride, Anger, Envy, Sloth, Greed, and Gluttony" are (were) the Seven Deadly Sins  
What has our culture done with them? What has it been replaced with?

How does our society's view of God and revelation weaken its view on sin?



REBELLION

# ENGAGEMENT

What questions could you ask someone who thinks they are a good person?

What questions could you ask someone who thinks Christians are hypocrites?

What questions could you ask someone who thinks there is no right and wrong?

What questions could you ask someone who thinks there is right and wrong but does not believe in God?

How would you argue that it is the Bible's negative assessment of human beings that preserves our dignity?

Digging deeper, a book to read: 'Intellectuals' by Paul Johnson. Johnson takes us through the lives of people who have shaped the way we think. This includes the likes of Rousseau, Ibsen, Marx, Hemingway, Sartre. Johnson's method is to judge these intellectuals by their own teaching and principles. He tries them and they are found wanting. Of course just because someone is dissolute doesn't mean they can't come up with true.

# LIVING THE TRUTH

## INDIVIDUALLY

Why do you think Adam and Eve 'hid from God' when they sinned?  
How do you 'hide from God' when you sin?

Do you ever reduce sin from 'rebellion against God' to 'just breaking a rule'?

What methods do you use to reduce sin so as to make it more acceptable in your life?

## AS A CHURCH

How in Church do you downplay your own sin?

If we look and see we are sinners how might that affect how we relate to each other?

Why are Christians shocked when sin occurs in the church?

How much do you want sin dealt with in your life? How can the community of God's people further that?



# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about the person of Jesus.

John 1 Hebrews 2



FULLY GOD

Col 1:15-19, Jn 20:28, Heb 1:3

Heb 2:14-17, 4:15

Hebrwes 3:14, 4:16, 10:19, 10:35, 13:6

Other:

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

#### CHAPTER VI

2. The Son of God, the second Person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance, and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him man's nature, with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof; yet without sin: being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

### ATHANASIUS CREED

For the right Faith is, that we believe and confess, that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and Man;  
God, of the Substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds; and Man, of the Substance of his Mother, born in the world; Perfect God and perfect Man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting;  
Equal to the Father, as touching his Godhead; and inferior to the Father, as touching his Manhood.  
Who although he be God and Man, yet he is not two, but one Christ;  
One, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh, but by taking of the Manhood into God; One altogether; not by confusion of Substance, but by unity of Person.



# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about the death of Jesus.

Exodus 12:1 Corinthians 5:7

Isaiah 53



ATONEMENT

Hebrews 2:9-10,

Hebrews 9:1-12

1 Peter 2:22-25

Col 2:14-15

1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Other:

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

#### Chapter VIII

4. This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake, which, that he might discharge, he was made under the law, and did perfectly fulfill it; endured most grievous torments immediately in his soul, and most painful sufferings in his body; was crucified and died; was buried, and remained under the power of death, yet saw no corruption. On the third day he arose from the dead, with the same body in which he suffered; with which also he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of his Father, making intercession; and shall return to judge men and angels, at the end of the world.

5. The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience and sacrifice of himself, which he through the eternal Spirit once offered up unto God, hath fully satisfied the justice of his Father; and purchased not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father hath given unto him.

6. Although the work of redemption was not actually wrought by Christ till after his incarnation, yet the virtue, efficacy, and benefits thereof were communicated into the elect, in all ages successively from the beginning of the world, in and by those promises, types, and sacrifices wherein he was revealed, and signified to be the seed of the woman, which should bruise the serpent's head, and the Lamb slain from the beginning of the world, being yesterday and today the same and for ever.

The Son. which is the Word of the Father, begotten from everlasting of the

# AVOIDING THE TRUTH



This piece of 1<sup>st</sup> Century graffiti, a parody of Jesus crucifixion, has the caption 'Alexamenos worships his God'.  
What are some modern day examples of public ridicule of the cross?



Do you notice any difference with what does our society do with Jesus at Christmas time and at Easter time?  
What do rabbits & eggs pick up from the Easter events, and what do they leave out?

## ENGAGEMENT

Think of some modern day occurrences that might be good illustrations of the following ideas to someone who is not a Christian:

Redemption

Atonement

Sacrifice

Substitution

"A cross-centred, cross-exalting, cross-saturated life is a God-glorifying life – the only God-glorifying life. All others are wasted." [John Piper 'Don't waste you life p59]

Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Why is it important to keep the death of Jesus at the centre when talking to people about Jesus? Why might we be tempted to talk about other aspects of Christianity and leave this out? (look back at 1 Cor 1:18f)

## LIVING THE TRUTH

### INDIVIDUALLY

Luther wrote "Never man feared death like this man" Why?

How do you daily show that you rely on Jesus death?

What does it mean to 'boast in the cross'? What other things do you boast in? When and how do you 'boast in the cross'?

### AS A CHURCH

If God's power is seen in the weakness of the cross, what implications does this have for us as a Church? How can we be a weak Church? [1Cor 1:27]

'Self justification and judging others go together, as justification by grace and serving others go together' [Bonhoeffer] How do we live out justification by grace as a Church?

Why do we celebrate communion as a Church rather than individually?

ATONEMENT

# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about the resurrection.

Ezekiel 37

Dan 12



Hosea 6

Ps 16:9-10



John 11:1-44

Acts 2

Acts 17:29-31

Romans 1:1-4

Romans 4:25

1 Corinthians 15

Other:

RESURRECTION

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### APOSTLES CREED

He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

### WESTMINSTER CONFSSION

#### CHAPTER XXXIV

1. The bodies of men, after death, return to dust, and see corruption; but their souls (which neither die nor sleep), having an immortal subsistence, immediately return to God who gave them. The souls of the righteous, being then made perfect in holiness, are received into the highest heavens, where they behold the face of God in light and glory, waiting for the full redemption of their bodies; and the souls of the wicked are cast into hell, where they remain in torments and utter darkness, reserved to the judgment of the great day. Besides these two places for souls separated from their bodies, the Scripture acknowledgeth none.

2. At the last day, such as are found alive shall not die, but be changed: and all the dead shall be raised up with the self-same bodies, and none other, although with different qualities, which shall be united again to their souls forever. 3. The bodies of the unjust shall, by the power of Christ, be raised to dishonor; the bodies of the just, by his Spirit, unto honor, and be made conformable to his own glorious body.

### 39 ARTICLES

IV Christ did truly rise again from death, and took again his body, with flesh, bones and all things appertaining to the perfection of Man's nature; wherewith he ascended into Heaven, and there sitteth, until he return to judge all Men at the last day.

# AVOIDING THE TRUTH

There is in our culture the basic belief that death is the end. (Materialism – there is nothing more than this physical world). How do we see this worked out in the way people live?

What will the life of the person who is mortal look like?

Modern people have no time because they are always trying to gain more time. Because a person cannot essentially prolong her life, she must hurry so that she can “get as much as possible from life.” Modern people “take their own lives” in the double sense of the word. By seizing it this violently, they kill it. The scarcity of time is not diminished by a single second through accelerated living; quite the contrary, because of the fear of coming up short and missing everything, a person does indeed come up short and misses everything. [Moltmann, A passion for God’s reign. p40]  
How do we see people trying to avoid their own mortality?



RESURRECTION  
MAN

# ENGAGEMENT

How might you be able to challenge someone about the business of their life and their mortality?

Do you think people have a desire for eternity? Why? [cf Ecc 3:11] How can we use this to challenge them about their world view?

Why is the resurrection central to the gospel? How can we speak about the resurrection to unbelievers?

How should the bodily resurrection of Jesus change the way we relate to the physical world?

How should the bodily resurrection of Jesus change the way we work, sleep and play? (1 Cor 15:58, Col 3-4)

# LIVING THE TRUTH

## INDIVIDUALLY

What does it mean that you have already been raised with Christ? (Col 3) How will this impact the way you live now?

How strong is your longing for the new heaven and new earth? Why?

In what ways are you/can you be storing up treasure in heaven?

## AS A CHURCH

How does the resurrection (and return) of Jesus impact our meeting together (cf Heb 10:23-25) How does it change what we do when we meet together?

How is Church a foretaste of heaven?

# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about the Rule of Jesus.

Revelation 20



Eph 1:20-22

1 Cor 15:24-28



Phil 2:5-1

Col 1:13-20

1 Peter 3:22

Acts 2:14-41

Col 3:1-4

Heb 1:1-3

Other:

RULE OF JESUS

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### APOSTLES CREED

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

### WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

4. This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake, which, that he might discharge, he was made under the law, and did perfectly fulfil it; endured most grievous torments immediately in his soul, and most painful sufferings in his body; was crucified and died; was buried, and remained under the power of death, yet saw no corruption. On the third day he arose from the dead, with the same body in which he suffered; with which also he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of his Father, making intercession; and shall return to judge men and angels, at the end of the world.

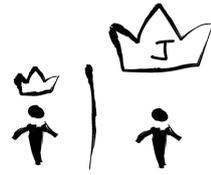
8. To all those for whom Christ hath purchased redemption, he doth certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same; making intercession for them, and revealing unto them, in and by the Word, the mysteries of salvation; effectually persuading them by his Spirit to believe and obey; and governing their hearts by his Word and Spirit; overcoming all their enemies by his almighty power and wisdom, in such manner and ways as are most consonant to his wonderful and unsearchable dispensation.

### 39 ARTICLES

IV Christ did truly rise again from death, and took again his body, with flesh, bones and all things appertaining to the perfection of Man's nature; wherewith he ascended into Heaven, and there sitteth, until he return to judge all Men at the last day.

# AVOIDING THE TRUTH

What do Australians generally think of authority? How would you say as a culture that we view and treat our leaders and those in authority over us?



Why are people so keen to retain authority over their own lives?

How do you see people struggling to stay in control of life? When they fail how do they respond?

Why do people see a wedding vow where a wife promises to 'submit' to her husband as old fashioned or offensive?

# ENGAGEMENT

If we all lived with ourselves as boss, how would you expect society to look?

How would you answer the following: "If God is in control of the world, how come there is so much suffering?"

"If Jesus died for sin, how come people still sin?"

"Where do you still see God at work in the world today?"

How can we show people that submission to Jesus is the best way for us to live and that it brings freedom?

# LIVING THE TRUTH

## INDIVIDUALLY

How can I bring my life into submission to Jesus more fully?

Are there areas of my life where I deny Jesus rule by my actions?

## AS A CHURCH

What is Jesus doing now between his resurrection and his return? How should this shape what we do us as a Church?

How appropriate do you think our Church motto is?

"The Church will place its confidence only in the simple servant of the Word of Jesus Christ because it knows that then it will be guided, not according to human wisdom and conceit, but by the word of the Good Shepherd" [Bonhoeffer]

What should we look for in our leaders?

RULE OF JESUS

# THE BIBLE

Look up the following verses and write down what they say about (a) our motivation for a Godly life, and (b) what life in Christ looks like.

Romans 12:1-8

Eph 2:1-10



Colossians 3

1 Peter 1:13-23

Gal 2:19-21

2 Cor 5:14-21

1 Peter 4:1-11

Galatians 5:16-26

Romans 13:11-14

Other:

SEE IN CHRIST

## DOCTRINE

Summarise this together into a one paragraph statement.

What did other members in your group have that you missed?

Read the statements on the right & underline what matches your statement of faith. What other biblical ideas did they have?

## CHURCH HISTORY

### WESTMINSTER CONFSSION

#### CHAPTER XVIII - Of Good Works

1. Good works are only such as God hath commanded in his holy Word, and not such as, without the warrant thereof, are devised by men out of blind zeal, or upon any pretence of good intention.

2. These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith: and by them believers manifest their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance, edify their brethren, adorn the profession of the gospel, stop the mouths of the adversaries, and glorify God, whose workmanship they are, created in Christ Jesus thereunto, that, having their fruit unto holiness, they may have the end, eternal life.

3. Their ability to do good works is not at all of themselves, but wholly from the Spirit of Christ. And that they may be enabled thereunto, besides the graces they have already received, there is required an actual influence of the same Holy Spirit to work in them to will and to do of his good pleasure; yet are they not hereupon to grow negligent, as if they were not bound to perform any duty unless upon a special motion of the Spirit; but they ought to be diligent in stirring up the grace of God that is in them.

### 39 ARTICLES

#### XII - Of Good Works.

Albeit that Good Works, which are the fruits of Faith, and follow after Justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's Judgement; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and do spring out necessarily of a true and lively Faith; insomuch that by them a lively Faith may be as evidently known as a tree discerned by the fruit.

# AVOIDING THE TRUTH

What should we expect the response of the world to a godly life to be?  
2 Tim 3:12

1 Peter 3:15-17

1 Peter 4:3-4

When you try live a life that is obedient to God, do you expect people to like you or hate you for it? Why?



SEE IN CHRIST

# ENGAGEMENT

How will being a part of the new age change our relationship with other people?

What role do our actions play in winning people to Jesus?  
1 Peter 2:11-12

1 Peter 2:15

1 Peter 3:1-2

Titus 2:7-10

1 Thes 4:11-12

People often divide their life in to private/public, religious/secular, church/work. In public and at work they are part of the old age, at church a part of the new age. What will such a divided life say to 'outsiders'?

# LIVING THE TRUTH

## INDIVIDUALLY

If we struggle to live out our new life, what might we do to help ourselves?

Why is an understanding of who we are in Christ essential to the Christian life?

How have you seen the Holy Spirit at work in your life?

In the overlap of the ages, what should our attitude be to things such as healing, justice, perfection and prosperity?

## AS A CHURCH

If we struggle to live out our new life, what might we do to help each other?

As a Church where does our unity come from?

What is the role of confession in the life of the church?