

## Discussion questions

Genesis 2v4-17

*'In the beginning...The Gift of being human'*

**Possible opening:** Describe someone you really admire and why. It could be anyone – but probably not someone in the room so they don't get embarrassed!!

People living in the UK today would say the purpose of life is .....

Read Genesis 2v4-17 What stands out for you in this passage?

### **To be human ... is to receive the gift of life**

1. What does the description of God's creation of man tell you about how God relates to people?
2. How do we gain an appropriate sense of our human dignity, without getting over focused on ourselves?
3. 'God's close up involvement with us didn't finish in the Garden' – how does it help you today to appreciate that? When do you find that hardest to accept or believe? How can we reinforce a sense of God's involvement in our lives – when for example we don't hear him speak audibly to us, we cannot physically see him?

### **To be human ... is to experience God's kindness**

1. List examples in this text of ways God blesses mankind over and above what is necessary.
2. What blessings do you have over and above what you need? What are you particularly thankful for today? How can we foster a greater spirit of thankfulness? How does that tie in with being generous?

### **To be human ... is to be a worshipper of God**

1. What do your worries or the things you spend time thinking about, reveal to you about what you worship other than God?
2. Why are we so tempted to worship the creation rather than the Creator? What is easier about giving our lives to something less than the Creator? Why is worship of God ultimately so much better than worshipping (giving our lives) to something else?

### **To be human ... is to experience freedom**

1. Why was the command about the tree of the knowledge of good and evil a perfectly reasonable command for God to make?
2. Why do we so kick against God's commands – even though he's a good, generous God? Is sin more likely to get into your life when you doubt his goodness or reject his authority? Explore together the way that sin comes from a distorted view of God.
3. What echoes of the gospel do you find in the Garden account that bring joy to your heart and praise to your Father?