

These notes are designed to be used by small groups on Zoom, by members of a family or by a couple of friends on the telephone. They are based on our Sunday sermons and are designed to help us all think through the issues raised about “God in my Everything”. You will get the most out of them if you have heard the sermon first.

Sermon Date

Sunday 11th April 2021 Gordon Banks

Bible Passages

John 20: 19-31; John 1: 1-18; Genesis 1: 1 – 2: 3

Theme & Introduction

Jesus appears to his disciples and to Thomas in particular who was in some doubt about Jesus’ resurrection.

Questions

1. Read Genesis 1: 26-29
What do we read about God’s original plans and purposes?

1. Read Genesis 1:1 & John 1:1-2
Do you think that John is purposefully introducing into his Gospel a New Creation narrative?
If so, why do you think he might want to do that? (Allied to this you may want to discuss John’s use of seven signs and seven I Am sayings, and if ‘seven’ is significant or not).

2. Read John 20: 25
How do you handle doubts – are you able to share any doubts you may have?

3. Read 1 Cor. 5:17
What do you understand it to mean about our being ‘a new creation?’

4. Do you agree with the idea that without God we cannot, and without us God will not?

5. Read Ephesians 4: 11-13 (Nb. Verse 13) (Cf. Romans 8.17)
The Easter Orthodox Church talk about a process of divinization called ‘theosis.’ What do you think of this idea?