

Now what? Joining the prophetic and the practical

opening our eyes

- 1. Reflect** on the previous session on injustice and share what you've been thinking about or doing since then.
- 2. Warm up question:** What gets you up in the morning? In other words, what motivates you for life? Write your answer overleaf in section 1.

finding our hope

In the beginning
created the
and the

Bible discussion (20 mins):
Matthew 13:31-33

In these miniature parables Jesus challenges people's understanding of what God was doing in the world. For those who had expected a sudden dramatic act by which God's kingdom would arrive, such as a military revolution to overthrow the Romans, Jesus suggests something altogether different. Jesus explains that the kingdom of which he speaks is like a seed growing, or yeast that slowly works through the dough in a hidden way. The possible world – this kingdom – will not appear all at once, but will begin quietly and inconspicuously.

Discuss:

- In what way do these parables speak to you? Do they give you hope?
- These parables show that God is at work in the apparently small and simple things. In what small or hidden way have you seen the hope of the possible world, of God's kingdom?
- How do you feel about living with the idea that the possible world has already begun like a mustard seed or yeast rising – yet at the same time living in the reality that it has yet to be totally in place?

loving God's world

This is an opportunity to reflect on The Possible World Course and to consider how together as a group, a church and individually, you might continue to respond to some of the issues that have been raised. (See the activities overleaf)

Looking back: challenge and hope

1. Warm up question: What gets you up in the morning? What motivates you for life?

2. Is there something that has particularly challenged you? Made you angry? Tugged at your heartstrings? Maybe something someone said on the DVD or in the group stood out for you?

3. What inspired you or gave you hope during the course? Maybe a Bible passage, someone on the DVD or someone in your group?

4. Are there aspects of your lifestyle you have thought about changing? Have you tried any Loving God's World actions? What was that like?

Are there connections between your answers above?

Looking forward: what do you need to start doing, stop doing or keep doing? The course guide contains an activity for this point.

Your mission statement

Has a theme emerged that the group as a whole feel strongly about? Can you support each other in a joint commitment to do something?

Prayer

Lord God, help us to see the world through your eyes.

We thank you that you bring the light of hope into our world.

Help us to show your light to others.

Help us to see that another world is possible.

Help us to be living examples of what that looks like.

Amen



The call in action