

<p>Theme & Passage(s)</p>	<p>What sort of journey? Who is going with us?</p> <p>Psalm 121; 2 Corinthians 4 7-10</p>
<p>Welcome</p>	<p>Use the welcome as part of your worship. Share experiences of being affected by the created world both those moments when we feel close to God and those when creation appears so destructive e.g. after an earthquake.</p>
<p>Worship</p>	<p>Psalms and songs: There are many versions of Psalm 121 on You Tube including the Brian Doerkerson song “I lift my eyes up to the mountains”. You may like this one from the Psalms Project as it is faithful to the words of the scripture: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9_QFgg_ukY Use it as a meditation, allowing time for silence and then worship God who is our Creator and our Keeper</p> <p>Worship Ideas: Alternatively or in addition you may like to build on the welcome activity. Bring pictures of various aspects of creation and allow people to choose one and to share the reason why this picture is their choice.</p>
<p>Word/ Read & Reflect</p>	<p>Study of this Psalm will follow naturally from your Worship. Begin in silence, welcoming the Holy Spirit to guide you. I suggest two people read the passage v.1-2 and then 3-8. Read the passage(s) and then be silent. Then read again, this time reading Psalm 120 before you read Psalm 121 1-2 and Psalm 122 after Psalm 121 3-7</p> <p>Share out of this experience... Particularly reflect on the process of travelling from a place of alienation into the joy of being “at home” in the place where God is honoured and you know the peace of the Lord. Psalm 121 is the start of the journey - Share what journeys you might be on in your walk with God. Bring the whole of your life into this reflection - you may be dealing with loss, family tension, work problems, relationship breakdown, whatever.</p> <p>If time, consider some of the following questions...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The poet / song writer makes a statement of faith and then is blessed by the unknown voice. How do we bless others ? 2. Is the psalm talking about a life protected from any challenges? 3. Read the verses from 2 Corinthians. In this personal letter Paul shows how his difficult life experiences are the means by which God shows his glory and brings life to others. Unpack what it means “to have this treasure in clay jars”. 4. The Corinthians wanted a superhero apostle not one who was pressed down, persecuted and struck down. Does this challenge us about what we are doing when we bless each other?
<p>Working it out</p>	<p>Spend time praying for each other and finish by blessing each other using either words from Scripture e.g. Numbers 6 24-26, or choose blessings from the daily office of the Northumbria Community at the end of either morning, midday and evening prayers</p> <p>http://www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/how-to-use-daily-office</p>
<p>Extra</p>	

