

Theme & Passages	Growing Together: In Formation Ephesians 2:1-10		Notes prepared by Stephen Elmes
Welcome (10 mins)	What have you made with your own hands that you felt proud of?		
Worship (20 mins)	Read Psalm 46 together and leave a short time afterwards to reflect. Return to verse 10 and read it a few times with space for each person to respond, quietly waiting on God and enjoying his presence. Move into a prayer time together, inspired by the Psalm – giving thanks for the security we enjoy in God, his presence and the promise of his Kingdom of peace. If you would like a song to use in this time, you might try the classic, 'Be still for the presence of the Lord': https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XOCfPjLOvC4		
Working with God (20 mins): Evangelism Discipleship Compassion Justice Creation Care	This week we are resting our <i>Working with God</i> focus, giving more time for worship and word.		
Word (20-25 mins)	<p>Read Ephesians 2: 1-10 and the short comments that follow:</p> <p>We are a forgiven people – a community of grace beyond our deserving. By Christ's death and resurrection, God raises us to life and sets his love upon us, calling us his sons and daughters. This is our given status – our situation. <i>We do not live towards</i> approval or qualification – we live <i>from</i> them. By the sheer mercy of God, we are brought into His family and we fully belong. This loving acceptance is our starting point as disciples of Jesus. And it is the environment in which we live and grow as God works in us.</p> <p>The focus of our discussion will be on verse 10 and our being God's workmanship. The following questions are to help you engage with this idea.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think it means for us to be God's workmanship? Share your thoughts about this and any experiences that might earth them. • What are the means by which we are fashioned by God? • How can a Christian community help its members to grow in grace? • How are your circumstances prompting your growth? • What are you and God working on at present? <p>The final two questions are more personal, and it might be that you split into pairs or threes to talk about these and then move into praying for one another.</p>		