



# Discussion Plan

Phoebe Parkin

## Theme

Thanks



In the quiet **glistening** of dew, I am thankful that **God** is there.



### Opener (5 minutes)

**Discuss:** Throughout the last year, we've all been restricted with where we can go. For your daily walks or exercises, where was your favourite place to go? Is it a local nature park, the local woods or a lake?

**Think about:** What are you thankful for about that place? Is it the quietness, the ice cream van, or maybe the wildlife?

### Video (3 minutes)

Watch Phoebe's video on [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) or [Vimeo](#).



### Table Talk (10 minutes)

For Phoebe, there is something about the warm sunshine on her skin and splashing through puddles that brings her closer to God. Nature connects Phoebe with the Divine, not just in the beauty and awe of creation, but also the order and logic. God chose us and chose to bring us all into creation, that is awe inspiring! Psalm 139 13-14 reads, 'For you created my inmost being. You knit me together in my mothers womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.'

Around your table at home, church or in school, with the person next to you discuss these themes that came up in the video.



Phoebe said that God has a vision and a purpose from our lives, which is not separate from nature – but a part of it. Because of this, Phoebe likes to pray, surrounded by nature.

**Question:** What inspires you about nature and the world around you? Is there a particular place in nature that you feel connected to God? It could be in the woods, by the sea or in your garden.



In the video, Phoebe states that she is sure that it is God that has given her the passion to fight climate injustice. It is Phoebe's prayer that each of us recognises the need to be good stewards of the Earth. (Genesis 2:15)

**Question:** What does being a good steward of the Earth mean to you? How do you protect the world around?

## Action (7 minutes)

Phoebe's prayer for Thy Kingdom Come is that we would all recognise our part to play in God's creation. Phoebe prays that we would all recognise our need to be good stewards, protecting God's beautiful creation.

**Discuss:** Phoebe's video helps us to see the connection we can all have with nature, and God.

- Where do you see God at work, in nature?
- What practical things can you do this week to protect our Earth?
- Phoebe likes to walk in nature to hear from God. Where can you safely go to pray, and listen to God? Make sure this is in line with government guidance and that you have you parents or carers permission.
- If you are in school or with your youth group, what things can you commit to fight the climate crisis? Take these thoughts to your teacher, youth worker or school leaders.
- If you are at home, what as a family can you commit to changing, to fight the climate crisis? Call a family meeting to discuss your thoughts.



**Think about your five:** Think about your five friends that you committed to praying for at the beginning of these sessions. How could you encourage each other to connect with God in nature? If you are all local, consider meeting up (safely) to go for a walk and pray together. How can you encourage each other to protect the Earth and fight climate injustice?

## Prayer (5 minutes)



### Prayer at Home

Go outside and find a leaf. Take a pen (Sharpies are best for this) and write a prayer of thanks for creation on the leaf. Keep the leaf by your bed, to remind you to thank God for creation as you wake up each morning.

You may want to use this prayer:

Dear God, I thank you for your beautiful and **awe-inspiring** creation. I thank you that you chose to create me, and include me in your creation. I'm sorry that we haven't looked after it in the way you instructed us to. Help us to protect the Earth, as it reflects your Glory.

Amen.

### Prayer at School

Draw a picture of the world in the middle of a piece of paper. Point arrows away from the world and write down things that you think of, when looking at the world. It might be 'beautiful' or 'logic' or even 'damaged'. In the middle of the world, write down some words of thanks for the Earth.

You may want to say this prayer together as a class to close:

Dear God, we thank you for the **beautiful** world. We're sorry that we haven't looked after it in a way that pleases you. Help us to make a stand against climate injustice.

Amen.

### Prayer at Youth Groups

Go outside and find a leaf. Take a pen (Sharpies are best for this) and write a prayer of thanks for creation on the leaf. Keep the leaf by your bed, to remind you to thank God for creation as you wake up each morning.

You may want to use this prayer:

Dear God, I thank you for your beautiful and **awe-inspiring** creation. I thank you that you chose to create me, and include me in your creation. I'm sorry that we haven't looked after it in the way you instructed us to. Help us to protect the Earth, as it reflects your Glory.

Amen.



THY KINGDOM COME