

Session Outline 3: Choice

This session looks at the stories of Adam, Eve and Abraham as it considers how human choice established the need for mission and how God began the process of putting things back in the right place again.

DiSCoVER
mission _ connection _ identity

Open

Ask group members to think about the 3 biggest choices they have made in their lives. Ask whether anyone is happy to share something about at least one of their choices and its consequences – positive or negative.

Alternatively, ask the group members to identify three significant 'historical choices' and talk about the consequences of these choices.

Engage

Show the 'Choice' film from the DVD. You might like to suggest that group members make a mental note (or jot down a shorthand reminder) of any words, phrases or ideas that they find particularly striking.

After watching the film, ask whether anyone would like to share any comments or questions that arose as a result of what they heard and saw?

Explore

The following questions may provide a helpful framework for discussion – use and adapt them as you see fit.

- To what extent do you think mission can be described as 'a story of choice'?
- What is it about Adam and Eve's choice in Eden that creates the need for mission?
- How does the story of Adam and Eve help us understand our relationship with God?
- In His dealings with Abraham, God offers hope for the future, if Abraham chooses to do what God asks. What were the consequences, for Abraham, of making this choice?
- What other examples can you think of in the bible where people made significant choices? What were the consequences of these choices?

If it is helpful or appropriate, you might want to look more closely at a particular bible story, such as:

- The Choice made by Ruth [Ruth 1:1-18]
 - The Choice made by the Rich Young Man [Mark 10:17-22]
 - The Choice made by Jesus [Mark 14:32-41]
- Can you think of a time when you have made a conscious choice to actively engage in God's mission? Or can you think of someone you know who has made such a choice? What were the consequences: For you? For them? For the church? For the wider world?
 - What choices are we faced with every day when it comes to doing what God asks of us? What might the consequences be?

Respond

Ask group members to think about those (everyday) situations where they have a choice about whether or not to reflect something of God's priorities – in their families, colleges, friendship groups or workplaces. Encourage them to think about the choices they are faced with in the coming week.