

Theme & Passages	Connected 1 Cor. 12: 12-14	Notes prepared by Steve Elmes
Welcome (10 mins)	Share an experience when you felt connected and a time when you felt disconnected.	
Working with God (15 mins): Evangelism Discipleship Compassion Justice Creation Care	<p>On Sunday morning, three people were baptised - including Tony who is 92. Steve spoke of the joy he experienced in preparing a group of seven people for baptism spanning four generations. Learning together was fun and the friendship between generations delightful. Age wasn't the only difference of course – there were men and women and the meeting of many different personalities.</p> <p><i>Consider the diversity within your small group and how your gifts combine when you meet.</i></p> <p><i>Pray for the different generations present in the BBC community and the interactions between them.</i></p>	
Worship (15 mins)	<p>Read Psalm 144</p> <p>Here is a spirited prayer for the blessing of God upon the life of God's people. <i>Read it together (perhaps reading around) and then pray together for the church, our community and the world.</i></p>	
Word (20-25 mins)	<p>Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14</p> <p><i>Share your immediate thoughts and reactions to this short passage.</i></p> <p>In his short talk at the baptism service, Steve took up the theme 'connected', explaining briefly how in baptism we are connected (united, joined) with Christ and with each other. He went on to share a reflection by Brennan Manning:</p> <p>'Each Christian gives flesh and bone to the dream with her/her unique, mysterious and irreplaceable personality. The Word of God calls into being a faith community characterised by unity without uniformity. Jesus is the way, but his light is refracted in myriad ways, by multiple personalities.'</p> <p><i>Consider what this looks like in our church community – giving examples.</i></p> <p>Steve went on to talk about the Christian life as 'uniqueness set within a deep belonging'. <i>What do you think this means?</i></p>	