

## Connect Group notes 18 March 2024

Jo began her Easter reflections series on Sunday.  
She began with 'Who is Jesus?'

***"Behold, The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world"***  
(John 1:29)

1. Jo describes Jesus as the 'necessary' lamb;
  - Why is Jesus referred to as a lamb?
  - Why is a lamb significant or symbolic? – how can we understand this better in thinking about the purpose of a lamb in Old Testament sacrificial times? – have some people read and discuss - Genesis 4:3-5, Leviticus 4:32-33, Exodus 12:13
  - How does God show His love by the provision of the lamb as a sacrifice for sin? – Hebrews 9:22
2. Jo looked at the word 'behold' – it means to gaze upon or examine - what we focus our attention on, shapes us.
  - Jo stated that beholding is even an act of worship...  
How can we behold, gaze upon, examine, give attention to, ***worship*** Jesus, *in particular as the Lamb of God*, in this season leading up to Easter?
  - Read Isaiah 53:4-7 and encourage group to use as a personal reflection/worship to help them focus in on Jesus as the Lamb of God leading up to Easter.
3. The sacrifice of the Lamb of God, Jesus, takes away sin (singular). Keith Miller defines sin as **"the universal addiction to self that develops when individuals put themselves in the centre of their personal world in a way that leads to the abuse of others and self"**

- Do we use the word sin, or is this word too offensive either for us or those around us? Can we minimise the impact of sin by trying to soften our language about it?
- Does the above definition change how we identify sin in our own lives?
- How does the good News of Jesus' death and resurrection lead us to respond to our sinful state? What is our hope?

To close - Read Revelation 5:12-13

Encourage each other to spend time reflecting on who Jesus is, as our sacrificial lamb this week.