

Creation Group

This session took **Farming** as a topic. We first looked at various references to farming in the Bible and then looked at a farmer's role in the 21st century. The group discussed two current topics relating to the farming industry, those of Genetic Modification and T.B. in cattle and the proposed Badger cull and thought about our Christian response to these complex subjects.



Much of the Bible's reference to farming comes in the Old Testament through the revelation that God has entered into a covenant agreement with his people to care for the land. However the frequent use of agricultural scenes in the parables that Jesus told illustrate how His hearers must have been familiar with farming.

The Bible not only gives us a picture of food production, it also gives us basic guidelines on how to treat the land and grow food. Unfortunately, it seems many Christians have not reflected very deeply on how their activities should be influenced by Christian thinking

A prayer for those who harvest the resources of the earth.

Loving God, in the resources of the earth, you have given us riches for all humanity. We pray for all who are involved in harvesting those resources, in agriculture and horticulture, forestry, mining and fisheries. Their work is often dangerous and, for some, beset with uncertainty through weather, pest and disease. We pray for those whose livelihoods have been ruined by disease, by falling prices, and by the shortcomings of disaster management. Help us to enable them to reflect on their future and chart their course with confidence. May they be set free from bitterness and anger. May they know that the community they have sought to serve stands alongside them in their need. Amen.

The next meeting of the Creation group is on Saturday 8th December 2012 at 10.30am when the theme will be Birds of the air.

The **aim** of the group is to **share environmental issues from a Christian viewpoint**. How we can best understand, enjoy and care for God's creation. Meetings are held usually on the first Saturday morning on alternate months