

Reached by God

SESSION 1: REACHED THROUGH THE PROPHETS

Introduction

How to use this resource

Welcome to the first session of this two-part small group resource based on Feba's Advent Reflections, *Reached by God*.

We hope that this devotional will help you explore how God has spoken to His people in the past and continues to reach us and others today.

This session focuses on how God reached His people through the Old Testament prophets, and how Feba's partner, *Rural Ministries Bangladesh (RMB)* uses them today as a bridge to connect their listeners with God's new covenant and good news of salvation.

The resource is flexible and designed to be tailored to your group's needs. In each session there is a chance to **Read the word** together

Read the word

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)



'The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.'"

and **Reflect** on the key Bible passage, before hearing an inspiring Feba **Partner Story** and taking time to **Discuss** as a group. At the end of the devotional, we invite you to **Pray** with one another and think about how God is calling you to **Act on what you have heard**.

R

Reflect

Take a moment to reflect on some of the key prophecies in the Old Testament that point to the coming of Jesus. These prophecies, fulfilled in Christ's birth, remind us of God's unfolding plan for salvation:

- Descendant of Abraham
(*Gen 12:3b, Matt 1:1*).
- From the house of David
(*Jer 23:5-6, Luke 1:31-33*).
- Born of a virgin
(*Is 7:14, Matt 1:20-23*).
- Born in Bethlehem
(*Micah 5:2, Luke 2:1-7*).
- Called out of Egypt
(*Hosea 11:1, Matt 2:1-15*).

Reflecting on these prophecies helps us see how God's promises have been fulfilled – offering both hope and clear evidence of His truth to the world. Spend some time now discussing the questions below:

1. What has been your experience with promises in your own life? How do human promises compare to the promises God makes?
2. Is there a particular prophecy from the list above that stands out or speaks to you? If yes, can you share why?



Bangladesh

PARTNER STORY: USING THE PROPHETS TO POINT TO JESUS

In Bangladesh, where 90% of the population is Muslim, Feba's partner, *Rural Ministries Bangladesh (RMB)*, uses shortwave radio to reach people in remote and rural areas with the message of Jesus – providing not only spiritual nourishment but also practical advice on health and social issues.

God's use of prophets to speak to His people in the Old Testament carries relevance today, particularly in places, like Bangladesh, where people are unfamiliar with the Bible. *RMB* often use familiar figures from the Old Testament, like Abraham and the prophets, as bridges to introduce Muslims to the gospel. These prophets, and Jesus (known as Isa), also appear in the Qur'an, where they are respected as messengers of Allah. By showing how these figures instead point to Jesus as the saving Son of God, Feba's partners reveal God's redeeming plan for the world.

In 2012, a man attended *RMB's Radio Listeners' Conference*. As a devout Muslim, he was determined to prove that *RMB* misinterpreted religious texts. However, following the conference his heart began to change. Having met with many Islamic scholars who couldn't give him satisfactory answers to his questions, he began to see the truth of what *RMB* had been teaching.

Ten years later, he returned to *RMB*, not as an adversary but as a believer, seeking baptism and a deeper relationship with Jesus. His story reminds us of the transforming power of God's word, even in the most unexpected circumstances.

Discuss



1. How does God's promise to bless all nations through Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3) find its ultimate fulfilment in Jesus's death and resurrection? For more detail read **Galatians 3:8-9** and **Romans 3 and 4**.
2. The prophets were often unexpected messengers with surprising messages. Have you ever experienced God speaking to you in unexpected ways? How did you respond?
3. What stands out for you in the story from *RMB*? How does it encourage you to persevere in sharing the gospel, even when results aren't immediate?
4. How can you support and pray for Feba's partner, *RMB*, as they reach out with the gospel to people in hard-to-reach places?
5. *RMB* use the prophets to point to Jesus in a way that is culturally and contextually relevant for their audience. What unique tools has God given you to share the gospel in your own context? Maybe there is something in your personal testimony that could connect with others?

P

Pray

Ask God to show you the opportunities you have to share the gospel with the people you meet in your own life. Pray that He would give you creative, relevant ways to communicate His love and salvation to those around you.

Pray for those who are hearing the message of Jesus through *RMB*'s broadcasts, that their hearts would be open to the truth of the gospel. Ask God to give wisdom and encouragement to the *RMB* team as they continue their mission in challenging circumstances.

You could end your time of prayer with these words:

Lord, we thank you for the ways you reach people through your active and living word. Thank you for showing us how you spoke through the prophets to point to Jesus. Help us to see how we too can be ambassadors

for your Kingdom in our own lives. We lift up the team at *RMB* as they continue this work, sharing Christ's good news in creative ways. We ask you to bless their broadcasts and follow-up work. May your message speak to the hearts of all who hear it. Strengthen the *RMB* team and guide them as they bring your hope and love to those in need. Amen

Act on what you have heard



This week, consider how you can support those sharing the gospel in challenging places. Could you commit to praying for a missionary or contributing your time or money to a ministry like Feba? Is God calling you to share His life-changing message with someone in your own life?

Go deeper with our additional Advent resources

Encourage your small group to sign up at www.feba.org.uk/advent for more daily reflections and a deeper exploration of each week's focus sent straight to their inbox. You'll also find further rich content and stories relating to this year's Advent theme, *Reached by God*.



FEBA'S ADVENT SMALL GROUP RESOURCE

Reached by God

SESSION 2: REACHED THROUGH JESUS

Introduction

How to use this resource

Welcome to the second session of our two-part small group resource based on Feba's Advent Reflections, *Reached by God*.

Our Advent theme reminds us that just as God reached humanity over 2,000 years ago through His Son, Jesus, He continues to meet each of us today and will, one day, come again. His message of hope, peace, and salvation speaks to us personally. Whether we are celebrating moments of joy, navigating times of sorrow, standing firm in our faith, or wrestling with doubt, God's hand is always extended towards us. He invites us to draw closer, to know Him more deeply, and to experience the transforming power of His love.

This session focuses on how God revealed Himself through Jesus and how Feba's partner, *Radio Wimbe*, is making this truth

Read the word

1 John 4:9-10 (NIV)



'This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.'

known in northern Mozambique – bringing Christ's message of hope to people for the first time in their own heart language.

The resource is flexible and designed to be tailored to your group's needs. In each session there is a chance to **Read the word** together and **Reflect** on the key Bible passage, before hearing an inspiring Feba **Partner Story** and taking time to **Discuss** as a group. At the end of the devotional, we invite you to **Pray** with one another and think about how God is calling you to **Act on what you have heard**.

R

Reflect

In these verses, we see that while God spoke to His people in many ways throughout history, He now reaches us in the most personal way possible – through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus, ‘The Word made flesh’ (John 1:14), is the fullest expression of God’s love, grace, and truth, revealing His glory and inviting us into a relationship with Him. In **Ephesians 3:18-19**, Paul prays that we ‘may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses all knowledge’.

In **1 John 4:9-10**, we are reminded that God’s plan to send Jesus into the world was not only to show His love among us, but also to be an ‘atoning sacrifice’ – making forgiveness and reconciliation with God possible. Jesus came to make it possible for us to live in personal relationship with God, and, as He says in **John 10:10**, to have life ‘to the full’.

These truths invite us to consider how God’s reach extends to every person, including those who may feel far from Him. Just as Jesus came to dwell among us and show God’s love, we are also called to share this message with others, offering His hope and truth in ways that will resonate and speak deeply into the hearts of those around us.

To help your group go deeper, take some time to read the verses below. Reflect on how they help us understand God’s love for us, shown through Jesus.

John 1:14 (NIV)

‘The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.’

Hebrews 1:1-3a (NIV)

‘In the past, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.’

Mozambique



The Radio Wimbe team

PARTNER STORY: SPEAKING IN HEART LANGUAGES TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

Silvia is from the Mwani people – a predominantly Muslim community living in northern Mozambique. As a believer, she had been praying fervently for her family and community to come to know Jesus. God answered her prayer in an unexpected way by giving her the opportunity to be a presenter with Feba's partner, *Radio Wimbe*. Through her broadcasts in the local Kimuani language, Silvia is able to share God's word in a deeply personal and heartfelt way with her community.

Soon after she began presenting on *Radio Wimbe*, her mother started tuning in and taking a real interest in Silvia's programmes. When she heard the truth about Jesus in her heart language, Silvia's mother began to change. Although she hasn't fully accepted Jesus yet, Silvia continues to pray for her, trusting in God's timing.

Silvia's story reminds us that when we speak to people in their own heart language, God's message can touch the depths of their hearts – allowing the Holy Spirit to begin a lasting work of transformation.

Discuss



1. What does God's choice to become human and live among us reveal to you about His love for each of us? (How would you explain this to someone who might be hearing the gospel for the first time?)
2. Silvia's story highlights the importance of speaking to people in their own heart language. Have you experienced God speaking to you in a deeply personal way through His word or other people?
3. Does anything stand out for you in the story from *Radio Wimbe*? Are there non-believers who you know that God wants you to persevere in prayer for?
4. Think about Jesus returning. How does it make you feel?
5. What unique gifts or experiences has God given you that could help others connect with the good news of Jesus?

P

Pray

Ask God to reveal His love for you, shown through Jesus, in a deeper way this week. Pray that the Lord would show you how you can reach out with His love to those around you, especially those who might be feeling far from God at this time.

Pray for the work of *Radio Wimbe* in northern Mozambique, that God would continue to speak through their broadcasts and open hearts to His truth, especially over the Christmas season. Pray too for Silvia's mother, that God will continue working in her heart and bring her to salvation.

You could end your time of prayer with these words:

Lord, thank you for reaching out to us through your Son, Jesus, and for showing us the fullness of your love, grace, and truth. Help us to carry your message of hope to others,

speaking in ways that connect deeply with their hearts. We lift up the team at *Radio Wimbe* as they share the good news in northern Mozambique. Bless their broadcasts and may your message reach those who have yet to hear about Jesus. Amen.

Act on what you have heard



This week, could you set aside time to pray for those in your community who may need to hear God's message of hope? Could you join together in your small group to give a special Christmas gift to Feba UK that will enable God's word to be heard in some of the hardest-to-reach places in the world today?

See more people Reached by God in 2025...

Request to receive **Feba's voice magazine and monthly Prayer Focus.**
Please ask members of your small group to visit **www.feba.org.uk/stay-in-touch**
or call **01903 286400.**

Thank you.

