



Small group discussion questions **October 2017**

Chapter & verse – Jack Dyce (page 18)

Read Ephesians 1:16, followed by Jack Dyce’s article.

1. Jack’s first paragraph describes modern detectives as antiheroes. Are there any biblical people you’d describe in this way?
2. What problems can arise as a result of the throw-away culture described by Mankell, through Wallander, in the second paragraph of the article?
3. Quoting Rowan Williams, Jack’s third paragraph develops the view that ‘God doesn’t do waste.’ What biblical examples can you think of that support this theory?
4. What do you regularly thank God for?
5. What difference does giving thanks make to your life?
6. The fourth paragraph highlights Paul’s references to thanksgiving in other biblical letters: Philippians 1:3 and I Thessalonians 1:2-3. In context, would you agree that these verses are (as Jack suggests) ‘easily skipped over’? Why?
7. The concluding paragraph argues that humankind can be ‘recklessly and sometimes tragically unmindful of the human dimension in what we do’. What real-life examples can you add to Jack’s list of solutions?

For further reflection: ‘O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. ...’ 1 Chronicles 16:8-36

Prayer: God of grace, all that we have comes from you, our friends and our pleasures, the hardships that build us, the world around us and our very minds and bodies. Help us to remember to take a step back, to appreciate what we have and to give thanks. Thank you. Amen.