



## DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

TRANSFORMING CHURCH. TOGETHER.

<b>Agenda ref</b>	11.
<b>Report title</b>	Bible Study – Dwelling in the Word
<b>Author</b>	Various
<b>Date</b>	11 May 2026

An opening prayer will be said by Caroline Jowett-Ive (House of Laity; Bristol West):

God of calling, you call shepherds to lead your people –  
Rachel who was the ancestor of your people, and David who was their king –  
guide by your Holy Spirit the person you are calling to be our Bishop  
Give us a shepherd after your own heart,  
who will serve with humility and vision, to guide and lead us in your ways.  
May this time of waiting be filled with grace, anticipation,  
and a renewed sense of your mission in the world,  
as we seek to follow Jesus, serve others  
and transform the communities of this diocese.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd. **Amen.**

- The passage (John 1: 43-51) will be read out loud by Caroline Jowett-Ive. See overleaf for bible passage.
- Silence is kept for a minute. Reflect on two questions
  - *What captured your attention or imagination?*
  - *What questions does the passage raise for you?*
- Turn to your neighbour and talk through your responses.
- On your table, share your reflections and ask what God might be saying  
[10 mins]

We will end by saying the final prayer together, led by Caroline Jowett-Ive:

Holy and Life renewing God,  
as your people across the Diocese of Bristol  
we have heard the call to be partners in your restoring of creation,

and witnesses to your reconciling of humanity;  
Where our horizons have narrowed, increase our openness,  
Where we have turned inwards, revive our generosity,  
Where we are fearful, strengthen our bravery,  
Where our painting of your kingdom is monochrome, ignite your creativity;  
Through the power of your Spirit, transform your Church  
that we might serve those around us,  
and your Kingdom may be revealed among us.  
Amen

#### John 1.43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."