

The Thursday Discussion Group

This group meets on Thursday mornings in The Coffee Lounge. The Discussion group has grown out of a long-standing ecumenical study group. It started in October 1983, over forty years ago, following a Franciscan led Mission to Wootton, involving people from St. Edmund's, St. Mark's, The High Street Methodist Church and The Station Road Methodist Churches.

Our lively discussions are Bible based and cover a wide range of topics.

We began 2024 by looking at the '*Holy Habits*' series, published by The Bible Reading Fellowship. Later in the year, we focused our discussions around two '*Cover to Cover*' study guides published by Waverly Abbey. First, we read the study guide *The Image of God* by Trevor Partridge, which led to interesting discussions about the attributes and character of God. Following this, we based our weekly discussions on the study guide *The Beatitudes* by John Houghton. We reflected on the eight beatitudes in Matthew's account of Jesus preaching The Sermon on the Mount. We discussed the importance of each of these encouraging statements to our faith today.

Each week different people in the group prepare and lead the sessions and we often include additional readings and reflections, with music and poetry.

We open and close our meetings with prayer and always learn so much from discussing and sharing together.

We are always pleased to welcome people to join us.

Erica Hall