



**PROJECT RECONNECT**

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***Liturgical Date: Year B, Season of Creation, "Forest Sunday"***

***15th September 2024***

***Presenter: Miriam Pepper***

***Focus Reading: Mark 8:27-38***

***Message*** 7 minutes 42 seconds

***"Forest Ministry for Christ's Sake"***

### **Discussion Starters**

- 1** What is one thing you found meaningful in today's message?
- 2** How do you experience the call to take up your cross and follow Jesus?
- 3** In what ways is your church responding to this call in the Season of Creation?
- 4** How might these actions make a difference in the wider community?

### **Lectionary readings for the day**

**Proverbs 1:22-33** Wisdom is a voice that cries out to anyone in the street who will listen, but there are many who ignore the reproof. Calamity pursues the wayward, those who "didn't choose the fear of the Lord" (v29).

**Psalms 19** The law of the Lord is perfect, "reviving one's very being" (v7). The ordinances of God are to be desired to guard faults and the company of the insolent.

**James 3:1-12** The tongue "is a small flame of fire" (v6) and is capable of blessing and cursing, so it is necessary to keep a strong check on the mouth, taming its base instincts, much like a bridle on a horse, or a rudder guiding a boat.

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**All Age Message: Bec Westphal**

***"Lessons from the Trees."***

***Length*** 3 minutes 39 seconds

### **Precis of AAM**

Bec refers to a book written by Julia Rawlinson, "Fletcher & the Falling Leaves".

In this book Fletcher struggles with the fact that the tree has seasons and the changes that happen are necessary. In the bible reading, Jesus tells Peter the hard truth of what is going to happen to him, and Peter really struggles to understand this is a change that is a part of God's plans.

**Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 19 - Pages 255-256**

### **Miriam Pepper**

Dr Miriam Pepper is a social researcher with NCLS Research, a long-standing member of Uniting Eco Group, and secretary of the Forest Advocacy Ministry Committee.