

*Connecting the Sunday Sparkle at Hearsall Baptist with the Daily Dust of Life*

## Welcome

How many of your neighbours do you know by name? How do you get on with them?

## Worship

- Read Psalm 91 together, perhaps giving each reader a section to read aloud.
- After a pause, let people express whatever thoughts the Psalm has stimulated in them.

## Word

### **Read Luke 16:19-31**

*Jesus tells a story to make us all think. It's a work of fiction designed to make us reflect deeply about the reality of life now and in eternity.*

- The first character is a **rich man**. What kind of person is brought to your mind?.
- Who does he care about?
- Who does he ignore?
- Would he be viewed as a bad person or a good person by society around him?
- How does he separate himself from those he does not care about?
- What kind of modern person might we imagine when we read of this rich man?
- The second character is **Lazarus, a beggar**. What kind of person is brought to your mind?
- What agency does Lazarus have to improve his lot in life?
- What modern day characters does he suggest to you?
- Jesus' story ends with another separation after death, one that is portrayed as permanent and impassible. Why does Jesus tell such a frightening story about the fate of the rich man?

Here's David's attempt to say in a few words what this story is suggesting about humanity, life, heaven and hell:

*Heaven is togetherness; hell is separation; to live rejecting other people is to live already in hell; to live in unity with others is to live already in heaven.*

- How do you respond to that? Can you come up with your own summary?

### Response

- Do something nice for your neighbours this week, something that brings you a little closer together.