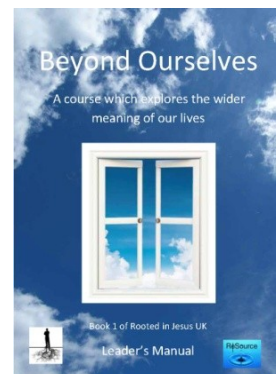


# Beyond Ourselves

a course which explores the wider meaning of our lives

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***Beyond Ourselves* is the first book in a new series entitled *Rooted in Jesus UK*. It is a group course which enables ordinary people, Christian and not yet Christian, to discover what it means to develop a relationship with Jesus. The aim is that each group following the course would be drawn together into a confident, prayerful and outward-looking community. This first book is ideal for use with people who are exploring faith for the first time, or with those who wish to take a fresh look at what they believe.**



*Beyond Ourselves* begins by looking at creation and asking whether the universe has a designer – whether there is anything beyond ourselves. The course continues by enquiring why it is that there is so much suffering in our world, and then by examining the claims of Jesus and in particular the way that the cross deals with sin and suffering. It moves on to consider the question of life after death; this is followed by an explanation of how a person can become a true Christian and receive the Holy Spirit. The course ends by looking at the life of faith and trust in the promises of God.

This new series takes its inspiration from *Rooted in Jesus*, a practical discipleship course for Africa created 10 years ago. Highly interactive and practical, *Rooted in Jesus* is currently in use in ten African countries, and we have received many stories of the transformation not just of individual lives but of whole churches and communities. The new version is a response to the increasingly voiced need for similar practical and relational discipleship material for this country, material which will focus primarily not on what we know but on who we are becoming. Like the original, *Rooted in Jesus UK* has been written by a team of contributors, and is edited by Roger Morgan with Anita Benson and Alison Morgan, all of whom have many years experience of facilitating small groups. There is a Leader's Manual and a separate course book for each group member. As in Africa, we offer training and support to group leaders – do contact us to find out more.

***Beyond Ourselves*, the first volume of *Rooted in Jesus UK*, is:**

- a 10 session course
- interactive and based on discussion (no talks)
- not dependent on the personal charisma of a leader
- based on key verses of scripture
- includes a course member's booklet with session summaries and creative practical exercises for use during the week

*Beyond Ourselves* leads naturally into Book 2 of *Rooted in Jesus UK* (provisionally entitled 'The New Community') and Book 3 ('Faith Monday to Friday'). The books can be used in succession or independently; groups of established Christians may prefer to begin with Book 2.

The overall editor of *Rooted in Jesus* is Canon Roger Morgan, ReSource's mission specialist. Roger has 25 years' experience in parish ministry, and over the years he has seen many people grow in faith and discipleship through membership of small groups. Roger is also the author of ReSource's *Beautiful Lives* evangelism course and of two booklets: *Stay Evangelism - how to reach the people next door*, and *Decision - an explanation of what is involved in becoming a Christian*. These and other course materials can be ordered from our website.



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*Helping to build a church which is diverse, local, renewed in the Spirit and effective in mission*