

ADVENT 2: Preparing the way of the Lord

QUESTIONS FOR HOME GROUPS

1. What were the blocks (and the stepping stones) on the way to your coming to the comfort that is Jesus? How did God prepare your way?

How might God want to use us individually and as a community, especially in these weeks before Christmas, to prepare the way for others to share the comfort we have received – in the office, with the family, on the street, in the hypermarket queue, amid the tinsel and the stress.

2. How do you understand comfort in the light of Isaiah 4: 1-11 and the ministry of John the Baptist?
3. Spend time reflecting on the people God used in His preparing the way, especially Elizabeth and Zachariah, Mary (Luke 1) and Joseph (Matthew 1) – a childless elderly couple, a virgin teenager and a village carpenter. *(In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways – Heb 1: 1)*
4. What does desert mean to us? Can we use the desert experiences of our lives to find God? And to let him prepare us for the fulfilling of His calling on our lives? Think of Moses, Elijah and John the Baptist.

John the Baptist is the forerunner preparing the way for Jesus (Is 40; Mal 4, 5, 6; Luke 1, 2 and Matt 11: 11). John's story is told in all four Gospels and he is frequently referred to in Acts.