

# Soul Spark: Session 4



## Who is God to me?

### Talk outline

Frank Lake's Dynamic cycle provides a means of looking at the way God's grace can be recognised in the way in which life is motivated. It offers a way of recognizing when forces are operating on our living that are harmful and separate us from the God of grace. This connects human experience with the life of Christ and the meaning of the cross in bringing God's hope and healing to a wounded world. The cycle becomes a valuable discerning tool, providing a way of noticing the contrasting effects of life motivated by grace and life driven by works.

### The Dynamic Cycle

- Describe the movement of Lake's Dynamic Cycle around its four points, acceptance, sustenance, performance and achievement, connecting them with the life of Jesus
- Contrast the movement of Jesus life with the more common human movement in the opposite direction around the cycle. Going one way is a movement of grace, the other the movement of justification by works.
- Draw attention to the damage this 'works' movement causes and the casualties that it produces.

### Where God is in relation to these casualties?

- The Cross of Christ puts God among the casualties offering accepting love.
- Describe how this model enables us to recognise the distorted images of God that seek to push us in a counter-grace direction.

The Dynamic Cycle from Frank Lake, *Clinical Theology* (Darton, Longman and Todd, 1986) forms the foundation for this way into exploring images of God. There is a helpful chapter on this in David Runcorn, *Touch Wood* (Darton, Longman and Todd, 1992).