DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FOOD WASTE FEAST

Questions for first half of the event – to be printed out and placed on tables for discussion as people arrive and during the main course.

1. If you brought food here tonight, how did you respond to the challenge of relating it to food waste? What did you bring?

2. Have you ever thought of food in theological terms? What scripture references come to mind when thinking about food? What do these verses tell us about God?

3. Here in the UK, we throw away edible food worth £470 per household each year.¹ This amounts to enough to fill Wembley Stadium nine times over. What do you think contributes to people throwing away perfectly edible food? How do you think this could be changed? Why do you think Christians should be concerned about food waste?

   ¹ Household food waste in the UK (WRAP, 2017)

4. How does our relationship with food as Christians reflect our discipleship and honour God? As the church, are there ways we show our transformed lives well through food? What could we do better?

5. In the UK, if we stopped wasting food from our homes it would have the same environmental benefit as taking one in four cars off the road.² Have you ever considered the relationship of food waste to climate change? Does this make you think differently about food waste?

   ² Household food and drink waste in the United Kingdom 2015 (WRAP, 2017)
Questions for second half of the event – to be printed out and distributed during the dessert course.

1. What struck you from the film or the talk? Why?

2. Salem Baptist Church in Wales has a small congregation, but they didn't let that stop them tackling food waste in their community. This then brought the added benefit of growing their relationships with the people around them. Do you have any ideas of ways your church could do something about food waste or climate change, as a way of loving your neighbours both near and far?

3. ‘So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out.' (Romans 12:1-2, The Message)

Have we just got too used to a consumerist culture that doesn't value the gifts of food appropriately? How can the church counter this?

4. What practical actions would help you to reduce your own household food waste? Is there anything you'd like to do differently after this event?