

EMERGING HOPEFULLY

SUPPORT FOR LEADERS,
PARISHES AND CHURCHES

Re-igniting Vision Workshop



WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Workshop

This is the 2nd part of a series of workshops focussed on emerging hopefully from the pandemic and lockdown. Part One was - Mission Recovery.

In this workshop we will be paying particular attention to re-igniting your vision and we hope that these will be a support for leaders, in your churches, parishes, benefices and deaneries.

We want these sessions to support your mission action planning and plans to restart or start NWC's (new worshipping communities) of FX's (fresh expressions).

This pack gives you creative ways of reflecting and thinking and discussing.

This workshop pack also includes:

- MAP (Mission Action Plan) guide and workshop and contact information
- RNP (Reaching New People) guide and contact information
- The "Why" Activity sheet
- Powerpoint presentation

This workshop can be done in person or online and will help you to discuss as a team/PCC or whole church.

At times you will need to break into small groups if you are a larger group.

This workshop will raise a lot of questions and there will be much to think about, and you will probably need much more time afterwards at some point to think and pray some more and continue the conversations/discussions.

We hope that this workshop will create opportunities to spark your thinking and to raise deep questions. You will begin the thought process, and it will take you time to find all the answers.

Aims of the workshop

- To enable you as leaders and teams to rediscover God's purpose for yourselves and your church (es) as we emerge from lockdown.
- To gain a renewed sense of vision to support your MAP(s) and to assist plans to start or restart NWC's (new worshipping communities).

SUGGESTED OPENING WORSHIP

(approximate timing: 5 mins)

Silence

In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, come.

Breath of God,
breath of life,
breath of deepest yearning.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Comforter,
disturber,
enthusier,
Come, Holy Spirit.

Heavenly friend,
lamplighter,
Revealer of truth,
midwife of change,

Come, Holy Spirit.

Silence

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in him,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

EMERGING

(approximate timing: 5 mins)



Instructions for this section

To get you tuned in to where we are and what we are feeling, I will read out each question and after each question there will be a pause for you to answer either; using the chat function (if online) or in person.

(If you are doing this in person it could take much more time, make sure you allow for this in your timings):

- Where do you see God at work at the moment?
Pause
- What is your greatest obstacle?
Pause
- What are you thankful for?
Pause

THE MIRACULOUS CATCH OF FISH

(approximate timings: 15 mins)



For this session we will be basing our discussions around this passage from John's gospel which is the second of the two narratives depicting the miraculous catch of fish, the other being in Luke.

This painting by 14th century artist Duccio illustrates this amazing encounter.

I wonder how this painting and the bible passage speaks into your current experience and all that lies ahead as we merge from this strangest of years.

BIBLICAL REFLECTION

(approximate timing: 15 mins)

Read John 21:1-14

Ask your participants to consider these questions in groups - (allow 10 mins for this part of the exercise)

(if using online you will need to put the questions into the chat function so that they can be seen when in the breakout rooms).

- Where do you see yourself in this narrative?
- Which character or part of the narrative best represents you at the moment?
- Which character or part of the narrative best represents your church(es) or context?



Discussion in groups

This does not need to be fed back to whole group at this point, although if there is time it is good to hear from 2 or 3 people.



Leaders Instructions

We are going to continue to reflect on this scripture and all that it can say to us at this time (participants will need to use a notebook at this point for their personal time of reflection or to jot down ideas to share).



Reflection (instructions for this section)

(Spend a few minutes looking at the painting)

- What do you see?
- How does it inspire you?

Silence

(If online share insights in the chat or hear from as many people as the time allows)



PETER SAID TO THEM, 'I AM GOING FISHING'

In this time after the crucifixion of Jesus and his appearances to the disciples and many others, the disciples did not know what to do next, so the disciples joined Peter and returned to their fishing business, back to the familiar, to what they knew well, to the way of life in which they had been formed.

So we ask you to consider the following questions and reflect on how you would answer these and make a note of your responses at this time.

As we emerge from the pandemic:

- What old patterns do you need to re-establish? How will you do it?
- What familiar and comfortable aspects of ministry, mission and church life do you need to resist falling back into? How will this be done?

Reflect

Make a note

Suggested Comfort Break

(approximate timing: 5 mins online - this will need longer if meeting in person)

IT IS THE LORD

(approx. timing: 10 mins)

John noticed that it was the Lord speaking to them from the shore.

- Where do you see the Lord calling to you in your community(ies) at the moment?
- As you consider your own context where can you see the Lord?



Discussion in groups

BRING SOME OF THE FISH THAT YOU HAVE JUST CAUGHT

(approx. timing: 10 mins)

As we stand before the Lord we are not empty handed but we are really good at seeing what we do not have, what we can't do. It would be good to reflect at this point on what the gifts and resources you do have that God has given you for this time.

- What gifts and resources do you have - both individually and as a parish/benefice?
- What new skills have been learnt that you want to develop at this point?



Reflect on this for a moment then move onto the 'But Why' Activity

BUT WHY? ACTIVITY

- see attached Activity Form (approx. timing: 10 mins)

(Explanation)

In this next activity we would like you to work together in small groups to answer the following question, the purpose of this is to ask that question and whatever your 'Why' answer, continue to drill down and ask 'But Why' on five separate occasions.

For example:

- What is Christ asking you to share with others? Why?

Your response maybe to the first **Why?**

- 1 Time to listen.
But Why?
- 2 Because we want to show that in this busy fearful world we have time for people when others don't appear to.
But Why?
- 3 Because Jesus tells us that everyone is worthy and precious in the Kingdom of God.
But Why?
- 4 Because all men and women are made in God's image and are born equal with a story to share.
But Why?
- 5 Jesus wants to listen to them and welcome everyone into the Kingdom of God.

The question to consider for this activity:

What is Christ asking you to share with others? Why?

Reflect on the above question and when you've come up with a response - then answer the 'but why?' question another 5 times.

Let the whole group hear one or two examples.

CAST THE NET TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BOAT

(approximate timing: 20 mins)

Sometimes we describe the drawing up of vision as 'vision casting'. In some ways it is like casting a net - we want to catch something, achieve something, or go for our dream.

The Mission Action Planning cycle helps with this (see slide)

In this complex and demanding time, all of us are needing to review, listen and learn.

As you think and talk through this process of reviewing, listening and learning:-

- What God-given dream or purpose are you beginning to discern? (What would your church look like if all your prayers/dreams/ideas were answered?)



Discussion in groups

- What priorities are emerging for you?
(Make a note)
- What will be your next step?
(Make a note)



Leaders Instructions

See the enclosed resource on the MAP process and the Flourishing Churches contact details for support and information about up and coming workshops.

See the enclosed Reaching New People Guide and the RNP team contact details for tailored discussion, support and training for your context

Please do make use of the ongoing support that the Mission and Ministry Department can offer you.



Leaders Instructions

You may find this short closing act of worship a good way to end your time together.

CONCLUDING WORSHIP

Final prayer

As we plan and make decisions

God be our way.

As we learn and ask questions,

God be our truth

As we grow and as we change

God be our life.

God the Father,

by whose glory Christ

was raised from the dead,

strengthen you (us) to walk

with him in his risen life;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ. Amen.

WHY?

What is Christ asking you to share with others? Why?

...BUT WHY?

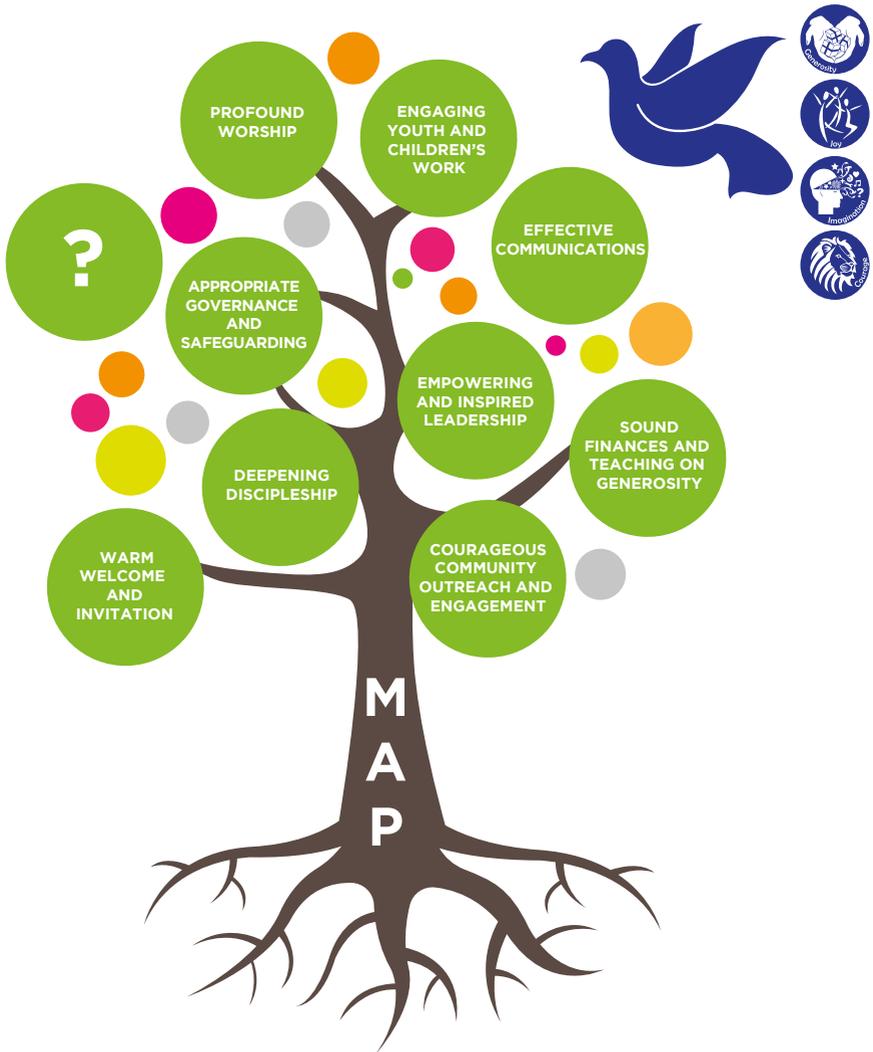
...BUT WHY?

...BUT WHY?

...BUT WHY?

“BEAR FRUIT, FRUIT THAT WILL LAST”

JOHN 15 v16



ROOTED IN
GOD'S WORD &
GOD'S PRESENCE