

STARTING POINTS FOR SHARING FAITH AND DISCIPLING WELL

HAVING A GOOD CONVERSATION:

How can I listen well? Where can I see God already at work in this person?

- Who are you?
- Where are you?
- Why don't you?

HELPING SOMEONE START THE JOURNEY

What is the good news for them?

- What does surrender to God look like for this person?
- In what ways might they need to change their thinking about life?
- In what ways do they need to trust God?
- How might they put that into words?
- What might we ask the Holy Spirit to do?

SOME GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR DISCIPLING WELL:

We grow through content, demonstration, practice...

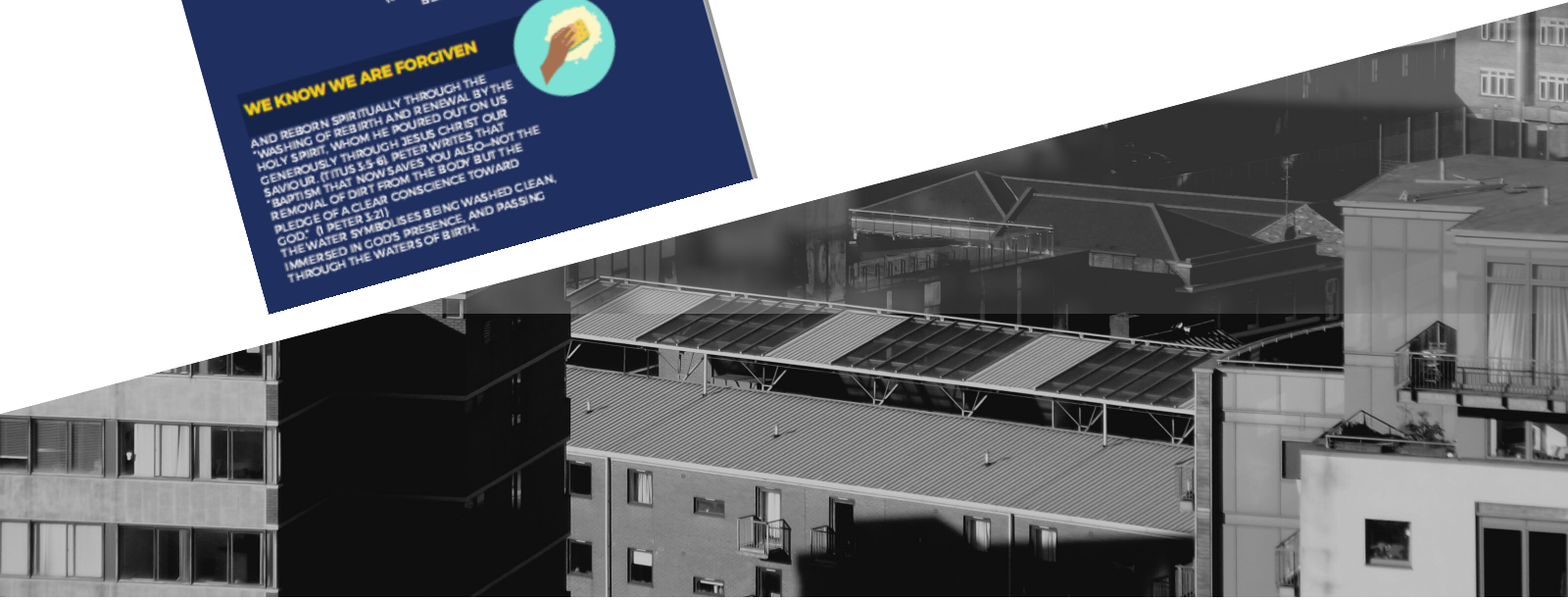
- Am I modelling as well as explaining?
- Am I supporting them in putting into practice what God is showing them?
- What can I share of my own experience/struggles which might help?
- How can I pray with and for this person?

BUILDING CONFIDENCE

Can they be baptised or confirmed?
You might like to use the “What baptism means” bookmark

- How can I help them understand the two main themes of being a disciple: their identity (as God’s covenant partner) and their purpose/calling (where they can seek His kingdom)?
- You might like to use the “Being completely secure in who you are” leaflet.

- How can I help them understand the big story of God’s mission?
- You might like to read the two pages on “The Story of God’s Mission”.



EVERYDAY DISCIPLESHIP

How can I help them understand everyday discipleship?
You might like to use the “What is everyday discipleship?” bookmark.

How can I start to help this person start to pay attention to where God is at work in their lives and respond? How can I share/model this?

Which practices will help them start “being with God”? Worship, prayer, study, contemplating Scripture, resting, being still? How can I share/model them?
You might like to use the Lord’s Prayer bookmark and the Daily Prayer Resources bookmark.

How can I help their mind be renewed through Scripture? What method of Bible reading might help? DBS?
You might like to focus on Discovery Bible Study Questions and to go through the passages below.

How can I help them see their daily work as discipleship?
You might like to use the “Everyday Faith” bookmark.

Living an Everyday Faith

The Church of England wants to:
Equip all people to find and follow God confidently in every part of life, and
Recognise the gifts and callings of all people, whether ordained or not, and encouraging all people to use these skills for the good of God's Kingdom.



What can get in the way of us being disciples every day of the week?

Growing up with the sense that certain activities matter less to God.

Absorbing the idea that certain callings are more acceptable expressions of discipleship.

“I do Sunday school for one hour a week, and my church got me up to the front and pray for me. I teach 30 children for 30 hours a week and no one ever mentions it in church.”



This can lead to us having a split view of life and God's mission. We can have one way of looking at things in church, but as soon as we step into a workplace, we can be operating by a different set of assumptions. We can split life up into "sacred" and "secular".

Thinking that being "spiritual" does not include worldly things.

In a lot of religion, it is common to see the body as something to "escape from". Christians have been influenced to see life this way in part by thinkers such as Plato, for whom "the body is a source of endless trouble..." The more we can be freed from "worldly" concerns, the more truly "spiritual" we will be.

If we are influenced by this in any way, it is easy to see why this would lead to an understanding of some areas of life being more set apart for God than others, some callings being more sacred than others, and why some things which seem more "worldly" are

Believing that ultimately the earth will no longer exist, and instead our souls (without our bodies) will go to be in a place called heaven when we die.

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GROWING LIKE CHRIST

How can I help them understand how God can grow Christ's character in us?
You might like to use the Character Change bookmark.

How can I help them grow in a spiritually healthy life by sharing and modelling the balance between relationship with God (up), with church family (in) and with serving others (out)? Which needs emphasising the most?
You may like to use the “Keeping Spiritually healthy” leaflet.

Is going to church helpful at this stage or am I/we their church in this season?
How can I help them experience Christian community?

How can I help this person live into their giftings?

SUGGESTED DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY PASSAGES

- Worth giving up everything for Matthew 13:44-46
- What really matters to God Matthew 23:1-15, 25-28
- Loving people like Christ Luke 10:25-37
- The Kingdom is a reality Mark 2:1-12
- The main thing Matthew 6:25-33
- Not all who hear are fruitful Matthew 13:1-23
- A religious leader learns from Jesus John 3:1-21
- Show mercy and forgive others Matthew 18:21-35
- Leadership in God's Kingdom Matthew 20:20-28
- Doing life in the Kingdom with others Colossians 3:1-17
- The Holy Spirit empowers Ephesians 3:14-20; Luke 10:1-12
- True faith and false faith Matthew 7:13-28; Matthew 21:28-32

GOD'S CHARACTER



What do we learn about God?

HUMAN NATURE



What do we learn about humanity?

OBEDIENCE



What does this passage say about obedience?

LIFE



In light of what we now know about this passage, what is God calling you to do?

SHARE



Who will you share this story with this week?

People don't need a perfect example, they just need a real one.