Diocese of Salisbury

Changed lives change lives
Session 1

Mark Russell
Thank you!!!
Growth is not the biggest challenge the Church of England faces.

The biggest challenge is how to embed discipleship in the Church of England.
We want to see a bigger church to make a bigger difference

Paul Bayes
Bishop of Liverpool
1. What disciples do
“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”
Disciples ask the questions

- Who are the poor and what or who is impoverishing them?
- Who are the prisoners and what or who is imprisoning them?
- Who are the blind and what or who is blinding them?
- Who are the oppressed and what or who is oppressing them?
There is no Planet B
The Church of England is making a huge difference

22 million volunteer hours!
National Secular Society

4000 members
What if every Anglican...

• Was generous to those in need
• Reached out to the marginalised
• Spoke out prophetically to those in power
• Found ways to include the excluded
• Worked to save the planet
2. Disciples follow Jesus
3. Disciples learn from Jesus in a small group
How do people learn from Jesus in your parish?
What are they learning from Christ?
How can we help people learn more?
How did Jesus do it?

- In a small group
- Usually over food
- He gave opportunity for questions
- He then encouraged them to put it into practice
- He allowed his disciples to get it wrong
https://vimeo.com/145526664

@markrusselluk
4. Disciples live counter cultural lives that change the world
Greenwich Centre of Mission

“They might look like a regular bunch of kids shooting pool and pushing weights at a youth club, but the youngsters attending Superkidz are anything but. Grant 27 became a criminal at 12 to put food on the table and has spent a third of his life in jail. Charley 19 was arrested for his first theft aged 10. Kelsey 21 was thrown out of school and charged with burglary when she was 16 and Ben has suffered post traumatic stress after coming home to find his mum dead on the street outside his house, run over by a bus....
Greenwich Centre of Mission

The dysfunction and distress of the 25 people who regularly attend the community hall on the Middle Park estate in Eltham would be enough to permanently occupy a team of social workers and probation officers, but in reality they depend on one single man.

Nick Russell, 62, a softly spoken grey haired linguist from Cambridge, and married father of 2, is an unlikely saviour. Yet as these youngsters will passionately tell you, “on our estates Nick is a f**king legend, a total hero”

London Evening Standard
5. Disciples are confident at sharing faith in word and action
6. How is your own discipleship?
“How we attend to our own formation as ministers, how we cultivate spiritual depth and insight, how we give ourselves to the calling and privilege of knowing God; these decisions are not very public or observable. We are not often asked whether we say our prayers our read the Bible, reflect on our experience or practice the presence of God in silence and meditation. And if we are asked to give an account of our spirituality, we can easily acquire the art of fobbing the questioner off, and ourselves at the same time. But this is the antithesis of wisdom. Wisdom is to do what Jesus commands, go into our room, and shut the door, and be there as we would be with the world looking on.”
Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23
Diocese of Salisbury

Changed lives change lives
Session 2

Mark Russell
A centre of mission is a focus of our work to change communities. Two evangelists work in local communities where there is great need or where there is little or no meaningful relationship with church.

We share faith in words and action and work in close partnership with the local church to enable and empower them in evangelism and mission.
BRADFORD COM
THE SORTED PROJECT

A church for young people, run by young people.
Established as a fresh expression of church in 2005
Grown into three separate youth churches with a focus on teenagers and young adults from non-church backgrounds.
Awarded a Bishops’ Mission Order which officially recognises it within the Church of England.
Work includes: three youth churches; outreach to schools and housing estates youth clubs; worship evenings; home groups and one-to-one mentoring and discipleship.
Working with homeless women in London, this is one of the largest projects and hostels of its kind within the UK and Ireland.

Provides 112 long and short term beds to homeless women and offers essential facilities and support to women who visit the rough sleeper’s drop-in.

The Marylebone Centre also delivers education, employment and training opportunities and meaningful activities in order to support service users into independent living.
“This amazing project serves hundreds of homeless women every week and helps them to make a fresh start. I love how the project empowers women to make the changes to transform their own lives. I see this myself when I visit and am always truly inspired”

Ellie Goulding
Marylebone Project Patron
faith pictures
a fresh way to talk about things that matter

Why on earth ... ?
a fresh way to talk about life’s big questions
The world is changed by hope filled people

Rebecca Solnit
“There is nothing like the local church when it is working right. Its beauty is indescribable, its power is breathtaking. Its potential is unlimited. It comforts the grieving and heals the broken in the context of community. It builds bridges to seekers and offers truth to the confused. It provides resources to those in need, and opens its arms to the forgotten, the downtrodden, the disillusioned....

@markrusselluk
It breaks the chains of addictions, frees the oppressed and offers belonging to the marginalised of the world. Whatever the capacity for human suffering, the church has a greater capacity for healing and wholeness. Still to this day, the potential of the local church is almost more than I can grasp. No other organisation on the earth is like the church. Nothing comes close”

Bill Hybels
1. Reach those on the margins
Cute fluffy lambs do not run away!
The Good Shepherd leaves the 99 well behaved sheep to go after this one!
• Parenting programme
• Lunch for elderly people
• Messy church or another type of fresh expression of church
• Chaplaincy to schools, prisons, hospitals, supermarkets etc
• Giveaways
• Pastoral follow up on occasional offices
2. Make our churches more welcoming and accessible
Church is what happens when people come together in community, to meet Jesus, each other, and share his love with the world around.

Dr Rowan Williams
Changing models of faith sharing..

Believe → Belong → Behave

Belong → Behave → Believe

Bless → Belong → Behave → Believe
AFTER-SERVICE COFFEE

This is the time when newcomers can get to know the congregation.

CartoonChurch.com
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DuA9OPyp61
3. Remember God thinks you are fantastic
You are loved strongly and relentlessly, faithfully and without reservation. Your God does not watch you undecided, he does not wait to be convinced, the jury is not out. The verdict in Christ is unflinching and irreversible. He is for you, always. Without hesitation, deviation, and with endless repetition

Revd Chris Russell in his book “Ten Letters”
Jesus punctures our view of love in the most dramatic way possible. The love embodied in Jesus Christ, and in the friends of Jesus Christ, is not a love for people like you, not a love bound up with belonging, it is a love that perseveres when it is not returned. It is a love that is extravagantly poured out on the unlovable, and in case you forget, the unlovable is not them it is us........

Dr Rowan Williams, President of Church Army
…..Jesus is reminding his disciples at the very table of his last supper that God’s love is without cause, God loves without reserve or condition. God’s love is extraordinary, absolutely free, absolutely overwhelmingly unreasonable, and that is the love Jesus invites us to become part of.

Dr Rowan Williams, President of Church Army
4. Your life can change the lives of those around you
5. Let’s help people find their home in our churches
There are many reasons to compare our churches to an old male tortoise ... 

Slow-moving ... isolated ... 

Ancient-looking 
withdrawn in its shell ... 

won’t stick its neck out
There are many reasons to compare our culture to an orphaned hippo ...

Orphaned by religion ...

science ... government ...

the economy ...

technology ... consumerism...
There are many reasons to compare the changes in our world to a hurricane or tsunami ...
Jesus spoke the values of the Kingdom
COLOURS

• SECONDARY PALETTE Accent colours
  • Orange RGB: R232 G70 B25
  • Green: R226 G222 B0
  • Yellow: R251 G201 B0

• TERTIARY COLOURWAY
  • Teal: R119 G140 B144
Church Army, Wilson Carlile Centre, 50 Cavendish Street, Sheffield S3 7RZ
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