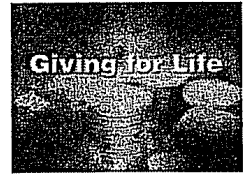


Giving in Grace Resource materials



Giving in Grace, produced by Liverpool Diocese and available at www.givinginGrace.org provides over 200 web pages together with over 200 attachments containing a very wide spread of material both in supporting preaching and teaching opportunities, and in suggesting timetables and agendas for a planning group. There are encouraging case studies from churches which have used the material to advantage.

Giving in Grace highlights five key areas in putting together a parish programme:

- Leadership - emphasising the vital importance of lay and clergy involvement and commitment
- Prayer - ensuring personal and congregational prayer
- Preaching - underlining the importance of preaching and teaching our congregations through a series of sermons
- Communication - preparation of material (letters, brochures etc) to communicate with members of the congregation
- Interaction - opportunities for making meeting points for members of the congregation (eg in presentations or in smaller groups) together with suggestions for visiting.

It provides suggested formats for key analysis and development, including:

- Case Statement - providing a basis for developing and recording vision for the congregation
- Summaries of tasks to be undertaken and examples of presentations
- Outlines of preaching material in series of sermons. There are four such series, each with 4-5 sermons using Biblical material as follows:
 - ✦ Matthew's Gospel
 - ✦ Luke's Gospel
 - ✦ 2 Corinthians 8-9
 - ✦ Exodus - this material is particularly suitable for all age worship, and incorporates plenty of congregational involvement
- Suggestions for materials to assist communication, including draft letters and outline presentations.

A strength of 'Giving in Grace' is its emphasis that teaching and communication in relation to Christian giving needs to be tailored to individuals, recognising that our church members are at different stages of understanding and experience in their discipleship.

Hence both within the preaching series and in letters prepared to congregation members there will be specific points made of relevance to those members at different stages of Christian experience. Such a process involves 'differentiation' - emphatically **not** on the basis of the amounts being given through planned giving, but rather on the basis of the level of involvement within church life, and in particular members' regularity and process for giving.

Giving in Grace also has very practical help regarding Gift Aid - similar material can be found also at www.parishresources.org.uk