

Being a Disciple at Work

Session 3. Moving Forward

Members' Notes

7.30 Welcome and Prayer

Review of reflection work from previous session

7.45 Opening activity

Martin Wallace passage (Session 3 handout).

In pairs, share a work / world issue you have had a conversation with God about in the past week – or a conversation you would have liked to have had.

How can we chat with God, bouncing ideas together with him, between the truths of the Bible and the truths of everyday life?

8.00 Our calling

'It takes a whole world to know Jesus.'

By his grace:

- we have a worshipping life with God
- we are a unique expression of humanity and divinity
- we have a mission purpose in this world and beyond (Ephesians 3:10-11)

God's life-affirming love and the nature of Heaven.

With these things in mind, how we can witness in the workplace:

8.10 Witnessing in the workplace

John Wyatt has suggested there are 6 types of witness in the workplace (see Session 3. Handout for fuller details):

1. through Christ's presence in us
2. through the work we do
3. through bringing a Biblical perspective on personal issues
4. through bringing a Biblical perspective on general issues
5. through bringing a Biblical perspective on business issues and work ethics
6. by sharing the Gospel

In small groups / pairs, discuss:

Which of these ways is 'within our comfort zone'? You may wish to share examples.

In which of these ways would you like to grow more confident?

What would help this to happen?

8.20 Taking things further

In this part of the session, there is a choice from a range of options for further study. (You may wish to look at some of the alternatives in your own time after the course.)

- **The Church in the World** – passages and questions for discussion on this Session's handout

Or from the '**Additional resources for study**' or '**Further resources**' in the Downloads section of the Diocesan website.

8.50 Connecting Church and Work

An opportunity to share and explore ways in which our church life could be shaped and mobilized to address the needs of the workplace, community and world, through the working lives of its members.

In what ways can we help to interpret the world of work to the church?

In what ways can the church support, nourish and equip its members for the workplace?

Share ideas on a flipchart.

Or, using the Church Action diagram in this Session's handout, discuss and note down:

- in what ways could the in what ways could the Worship, Prayer, Teaching/Study, Celebration, Fellowship/Networking and Mission in our churches be developed to support our working discipleship? (inner square)
 - what work issues can we bring into the life of the church for consideration in the light of our faith and how might we do this? (outer areas)
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9.10 My Action Plan

An opportunity for you to reflect on what has been covered in the course, and to respond by identifying areas for prayer, witness and action in your own life.

To help with this, you may wish to use the Action Cube:

- *Prayer points may be written on one side of the template;*
- *Ways of witnessing may be written on 3 squares*
- *Action points may be written on the other 3 squares*

Then the cube may be constructed, with the prayer points on the inside.

9.20 Worship

(You may, if you wish, add a suitable hymn or song during the worship)

Opening Prayer : Psalm 105

Give thanks to the Lord,

Call on his name

Make known among the nations what he has done

Sing to him, sing praise to him

Tell of all his wonderful acts

Glory in his holy name

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice

Look to the Lord and his strength

Seek his face always. Amen

A short time of quiet, to reflect on what we have shared and discussed in this session.

You may wish to hold your Action cube and pray for the things you have noted on it.

1st Reading: John 5: 16 – 20

We commit ourselves to God's service, in the words of **The Lord's Prayer**.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2: 10

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord - **In the name of Christ, Amen**