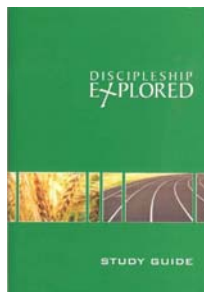
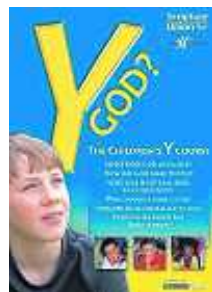
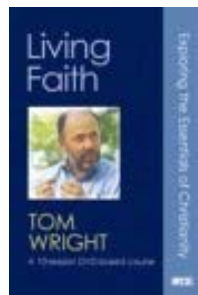


Resources - Discipleship and more



Start!

A survey of some resources for developing lay discipleship and ministry

Spring 2009

Discipleship Resources – and more

In Matthew 28 Jesus tasks his followers with making **disciples** of all nations. A disciple is someone who is learning and growing in faith and life – coming to faith is just the beginning.



Recent years have seen a huge growth in the use of “process evangelism” courses like Alpha and Christianity Explored – and have left many churches with the question of what to do once people have been through that sort of course. What resources are there for helping people to grow and develop past the basics of what it means to be a Christian?

This document is designed to give some idea of some of the resources available.

The first section lays out some of the options for **structured discipleship courses** like Emmaus, the Doorway course and others that take people through main points of what Christians believe and what it means to live as a Christian disciple. These are mainly designed for small groups working over a number of weeks.

The next section details some of the wide range of resources available for **children and young people** (and one all-age resource) – again, resources designed to look in a structured way at what it means to live life as a Christian.

Following that are details of some **small group resources** that may be useful for ongoing learning in house groups or similar settings. This is just a small selection of the huge range of resources available.

One specialist area that can really help people engage with their Christian faith is to help them think about **faith sharing**. The next section gives details of some resources for helping people develop confidence in talking about their faith.

There is a section on some of the **enquirers’ courses** available, designed to help people outside the church or “on the fringe” to think about what it means to be a Christian.

Finally, there are some suggestions on resources for **equipping and supporting small group leaders**.

As well as a brief description of each resource, there is a link to the relevant website for more information. In some cases there are also links to the websites of Fresh Expressions and LICC (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity), which give some independent reviews of how these resources work. LICC have put together a full report on a number of these courses – if you would like to download the whole report rather than look at individual courses, go to <http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/files/Discipleship%20Courses%20Review.pdf>

This is just a snapshot of some of the resources currently available. If you are aware of others that you have found useful, do get in touch with us. Also, if you have used any of these particular resources and would be happy to talk to someone else about how best to use it, do get in contact.

It’s also worth being aware that there are other resources available at diocesan level to help people move on in their discipleship and calling. For some people, doing a short course such as the Christian listening course can be a crucial step forward in their Christian growth. For many people over the past 10 years, the *Foundations for Ministry* course has proved a key resource for helping them grow in faith and find their way forward on Christian service.

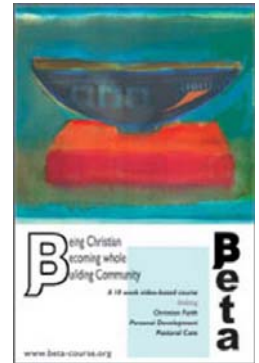
We hope you find this resource list useful in building up people in their faith and walk with Jesus.

Simon Chesters
Ministry Development Officer
simon.chesters@chester.anglican.org

Structured discipleship courses

Beta

Designed for Christians seeking to develop their faith, personal lives and church community. Described as an holistic 10 week course linking Christian faith with personal development and pastoral care. The course emphasises the need for healing and wholeness, both personally and in our relationships. 'Being Christian, becoming whole, building community.' Topics include: relationships, community, forgiveness, atonement, depression, suffering, loss, self & God.



The full set of videos and course books costs £99. Participants booklets cost £3 each

For more information, go to

www.beta-course.org

For a review of the course, go to

<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1239&cachefixer=>

Doorway

Doorway is a “home grown resource” developed by and used in both Chester and Liverpool dioceses. It is aimed both at relatively new Christians and people who have been coming to church for a while and want to develop more in faith.

Doorway provides three blocks of 8 sessions – you can either do all three as three “terms” or choose to use one or more of the 8-session blocks. The three blocks are:-



- **Opening up the Bible** - An 8-session run through of the whole Bible, with material on how we read and use the Bible in Christian life.

- Opening up Christian life

4 sessions looking at what Christians believe – God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Cross, salvation and resurrection

4 sessions looking at some key elements of Christian life – worship, prayer, church, sacraments and ministry

- Taking it Out

4 sessions on opening up the issues, looking at how we apply our faith to issues in daily life

4 sessions on sharing faith and living it out where we are

To see more detail on the course content, go to

http://www.chester.anglican.org/page_mission.asp?Page=132

The session materials provide a number of options, so it does require some work on the part of a small group leader to select which materials to use and how to make best use of the time. Materials include an overall leader’s guide and leader’s notes, handouts, worship resources and Powerpoints for each session. These are provided on CD, with the option of Church House providing photocopies for local groups.

The course materials are provided free to local groups within Chester Diocese.

For more information, go to

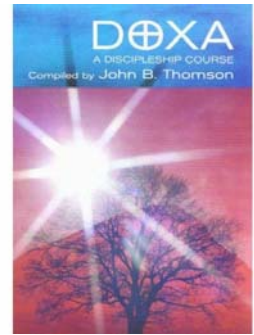
http://www.chester.anglican.org/page_mission.asp?Page=132

or contact Jane Hood at Church House - jane.hood@chester.anglican.org

Doxa

DOXA is an 18-week discipleship course which can be done as a whole or in sections, for example as a Lent Course or short three week Advent series.

DOXA is not about teaching doctrine, rather, it invites participants to reflect upon how God is forming their discipleship as they worship. Each week focuses on a particular aspect of the Common Worship Eucharist.



Sessions include prayer time, a reflection on liturgical practice, exploration of a Bible passage and a challenge task to work on for the next session. There are also 'Share Spots', contributions from a variety of writers which expand on the themes of each session, and 'Ponder Points' giving participants time to reflect upon their understanding of discipleship.

Complete with clear instructions and notes for facilitators, DOXA offers a new and different way of exploring discipleship via the Eucharist.

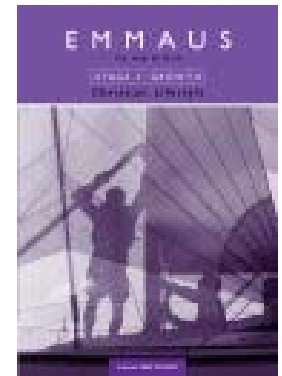
Doxa originates from Sheffield Diocese – for more information, go to <http://www.sheffield-diocese.org.uk/MinistryTrainingDOXA.htm>

For a very brief review, go to <http://www.churchtimes.co.uk/content.asp?id=48099>

Doxa is published as a paperback by DLT and costs £9.95, so for example go to <http://www.wesleyowen.com/WesleyOwenSite/pages/product/product.asp?prod=9780232526608&ctgry=Church%20Resources&cookie%5Ftest=1>

Emmaus

Emmaus is a full programme of resources for teaching Christian basics and developing the discipleship of more mature Christians. It consists of a variety of short courses (usually 4-6 sessions each) for use in small groups. Emmaus provides material from contact and enquirers stage to a range of resources for developing and growing in faith.



Stage 1 Contact – helps fellowships to make the most of their connections within the community. It is mostly a book of ideas, but includes 4 optional studies.

Stage 2 Nurture – offers 15 sessions exploring the Christian faith. It is divided into three sections: What Christians Believe (6), How Christians Grow (4), Living the Christian Life (4).

Stage 3 Growth – contains 3 books of courses covering basic doctrine, sacraments, spiritual formation, identity, worship, the Church.

The books include leader's notes, session handouts and a CD-Rom containing handouts, liturgical material, worship resources, and Powerpoint presentations. The costs for these are

Contact £5.95

Nurture £22.50

Growth – Knowing God £17.50, Growing as a Christian £22.50, Christian Lifestyle £22.50

Partly because of the options available, *Emmaus* demands quite a high level of skill from small group leaders, to select which material to use.

The book *Leading an Emmaus Group* (£5.95) is an excellent guide for anyone running any sort of small group.

An online course (piloted in 2000) is available for anyone to use - www.allbelievers.org

For more information, go to

www.e-mmaus.org.uk OR www.chpublishing.co.uk

For a review of the materials, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/emmaus>

Foundations21

A different resource, designed as individual on-line study with elements of interaction with others. F21 has been developed to help the growing number of people who wish to learn in their own time, prefer a multi-media environment, and are comfortable with virtual conversations.



Foundations21 offers an online modular study programme, based round a choice of four learning styles (linked to one of the 4 gospels). Designed to allow everyone to explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ and to discover their own personal direction in Christian service.

Emphasis is on the spiritual journey and the chance to mature rather than gaining academic achievement. Supported by on-line study groups and a personal mentor, users decide how much to study before completing each assignment.

Registration is £39.99 per person.

For more information, go to

www.foundations21.org.uk

For a review of the materials, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/foundations21>

OR

<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1942&cachefixer=>

Foundations – Purpose Driven Discipleship

Linked to the Rick Warren “Purpose Driven Life” materials, this course is designed to explore ‘11 core truths to build your life on’.

Foundations is a resource for teaching Christians the essential doctrines of Christian faith, providing the theological basis for living a purpose-driven life. The 11 topics are The Bible, God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, Creation, Salvation, Sanctification, Good and Evil, The Afterlife, The Church, The Second Coming



There are two leader’s guides at £19.99 each and a CD of resources at £10.00

For more information, go to

<http://www.purposedriven.co.uk/resources/products.aspx?productType=17,18,19,20,21,28>

Landings

Developed by the Paulist Fathers in the USA, *Landings* is currently used in several Roman Catholic dioceses in the UK. Described as a “ministry of compassion and listening” it allows people who have been away from regular worship to tell their stories and share their experiences within a small friendly group.



Landings is a dedicated programme for welcoming Catholics back to the Church, although with a few slight modifications it has been successfully used in other contexts too. It can't be 'bought off the shelf' but is taught at workshops.

For more information, go to www.landingsUK.org.uk

An alternative popular course designed for Roman Catholics is Evangelium – for more information, go to <http://www.evangelium.co.uk/evangelium.php>

Learning to Live

A series from Navigators exploring basic ideas of what it means to be a Christian. Originally published as 4 books, three of the books are available as free downloads from the Navigators website.



Book 1 - Clarifying Your Commitment

Book 2 - Guidelines For Growth

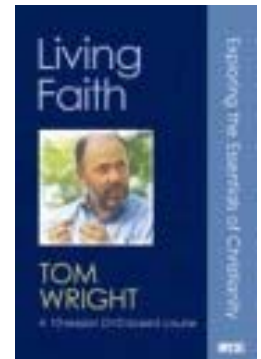
Book 4 - Developing in Discipleship

The studies are designed for groups whose members are committed to at least one hour of preparation before the discussion, but they can also be used for personal study.

For more information, go to <http://navigators.co.uk/resources/books.php>

Living Faith: Exploring the Essentials of Christianity

Living Faith is a 10 session DVD-based course in which Bishop Tom Wright aims to explore the essential truths of the Christian faith. For new Christians and those looking for a better understanding of the basics of the faith.



There are ten units of teaching on DVD by Tom Wright, a short study guide providing background to each topic, and discussion materials for use in small groups. Solid material on Biblical studies and some doctrine – quite academic in level and style but would work well for some groups.

A starter pack for 5 participants costs £60.00 (2 DVD's, 5 x study guides, 1 x leaders guide). Additional study guides cost £4.99.

If you are considering using this product we recommend you first request the free sample DVD which will introduce you to the format of the course.

For more information, go to www.spck.org.uk/livingfaith

For a review of the material, go to <http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/living-faith>
OR
<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1246&cachefixer=>

On the Way

A short, simple, creative, lo-tech, jargon-free course for small groups. It's good for those who have some links but only a little knowledge of the Christian faith. It's anchored around a central colour image 'The Road', symbolising the journey of faith, and this is used for response and prayer.

On The Way requires less reading or clever thinking and more willingness to share, question, and be open about the journey and search that we share together.

The complete pack costs £6.00 and is available direct from CPAS.

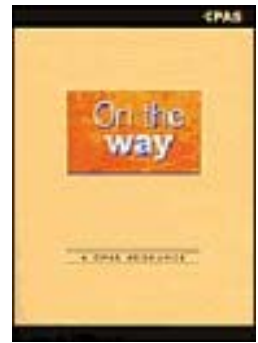
Optional resources can be bought from CPO (Christian Publishing & Outreach). A large floor mat of The Road costs £15.00 + p&p, a pack of 10 postcards of The Road costs £1.70 + p&p.

For more information, go to

http://www.cpas.org.uk/home/bookshop/book_detail.php?id=102

For a review of the material, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/on-the-way>



Sean (Study for Extension for All Nations)

A range of courses available for new and more mature Christians to enable ongoing discipleship. E.g. *Life to the full* – 18 home studies to help new Christians think through the basics of living out their faith as new believers. Described as 'ideal for post-Alpha'.

Originally written by missionaries in South America to provide Biblical teaching and discipleship of new believers, SEAN (pronounced say-an) is now used worldwide. SEAN has been run very successfully over a number of years in some churches in Chester Diocese.

Learning is through personal preparation followed by small group meetings. The aim is to present biblical knowledge simply and clearly, with much use of repeating and learning material and filling in blanks in a workbook.

Student workbooks range from £8.00-£10.50

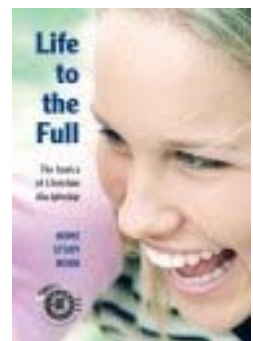
Tutor Manuals are £5.50-£7.50, depending on the specific course.

For more information, go to

www.sean.uk.net

For a review of the material, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/sean>



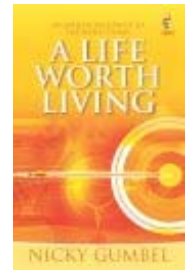
Two Study-based resources for Discipleship

Though both basically study courses on a single book of the New Testament, both of the following resources are designed as “discipleship follow-ups” to popular enquirers courses, and seek to address discipleship issues in a structured way.

A Life Worth Living

A 9 session course aimed specifically at those who are just starting out in the Christian life (but the course would benefit any small group) it explains how it is possible to live the Christian life positively, practically and joyfully. It is the official post-*Alpha* course. Based on the book of Philippians it follows the *Alpha* format of a meal, then a talk followed by discussion.

Set of talks on 2 videos cost £50.00, audio tapes for any missed meetings cost £25.00, a guest manual £2.00, and leader’s manual £2.00.
An accompanying book ‘A Life Worth Living’ by Nicky Gumbel costs £5.99.



For a review of the material, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/a-life-worth-living>

OR

<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1945&cachefixer=>

Discipleship Explored

The official follow-up to *Christianity Explored*. An 8 session course based on the book of Philippians, designed to help new Christians to become grounded in the faith and as a refresher for more established Christians. For new Christians, *Discipleship Explored* would make a helpful way into regular Bible study.

Leader’s book £6, user guide £3. A DVD is currently in production.

For more information, go to

www.christianityexplored.com OR www.thegoodbook.co.uk

For a review of the material, go to

<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1944&cachefixer=>



All age and childrens' materials

*This is a small selection of appropriate resources for children and young people.
For more detailed information, contact*

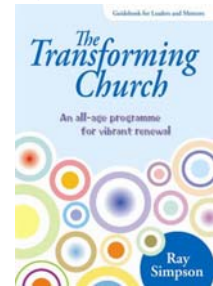
David Bell (Adviser in Children's work) - david.bell@chester.anglican.org

OR

Mark Montgomery (Youth Officer) – mark.montgomery@chester.anglican.org

The Transforming Church

An 11 –session course designed as an all-age, all-church resource. There is a main guidebook for leaders and mentors and then resource materials (personal “logbooks” and books of prayers) for adults, young people and children.



For more information, go to

http://www.kevinmayhew.com/Shop/Products/78868/Kevin_Mayhew_Publishers/Church_Resources/The_Transforming_Church.aspx

ALF (About Life & Faith)

A discovery course for children aged 7-11.

Using activities, games, crafts, interactive teaching and professionally produced DVD, *ALF* has been produced 'to help children to discover the message of God's love in fun, exciting and interesting ways.'

Consists of 6 main themes; enough material to run as a 3 month programme.



ALF 2, in a similar format to *ALF*, is a discipleship course designed to help children aged 7-11 to discover how they can follow Jesus.

For more information, go to

www.vizaviz.org

CY

A seven-week journey into Mark's Gospel for young people. Designed to bring young people to a clear understanding of the gospel with the aid of specially written talks, Bible studies, games and activities. Linked to the Christianity Explored series of resources.

For more information, go to

<http://www.christianityexplored.org/resources/cy/>



Youth Emmaus

Designed to help those aged 11 to 16 explore the basics of the Christian Faith.

Youth Emmaus 2

A fourteen-session interactive discipleship course for young people, designed to help 11 to 16 year olds integrate their faith into life and to equip them as worshippers and disciples.

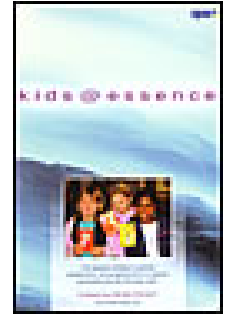


For more information, go to

www.e-mmaus.org.uk OR www.chpublishing.co.uk

kids@essence

kids@essence is a leaders guide, containing six activity sessions primarily for children aged 7-11. It contains photocopyable templates to support the craft activities and a CD which includes Bible readings, music and meditations. Aimed to help children explore Christian spirituality, to look at their world and to discover their place in it.



For more information, go to

http://www.cpas.org.uk/evangelism/content/evangelism_111.php?e=176

Quest Youth Evangelism

A 7 session DVD/video series designed to present Christianity in a non-threatening, relevant and creative way by engaging youth in discussion of spiritual issues from a Christian perspective.



For more information, go to

<http://www.matrixtrust.com/Group/Group.aspx?id=5156>

So, Why God?

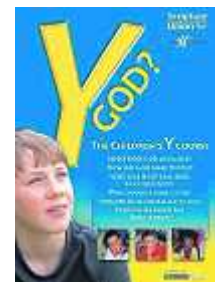
A 12-week discipleship course for children aged 5-11. Each session takes a genuine question that children ask and seeks to answer it through exploring Bible passages and using the testimony of group leaders. Children are given time and space to explore the questions and are also given the opportunity to ask questions of their own. Fun activities and ways to engage with the Bible are outlined for leaders to use, as suits their groups.

For more information, go to

<http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk/WeeklyClubs/Resources/SoWhyGod/5572.id>

Y God

Linked to the Y course, this six session course leads junior aged children towards a commitment to Christ. The course has a strong Bible base. It's simple and flexible to use and focuses on the relationship between children and their group leader. Each session uses common questions asked by this age group such as What does God look like? and How did Jesus come back to life?

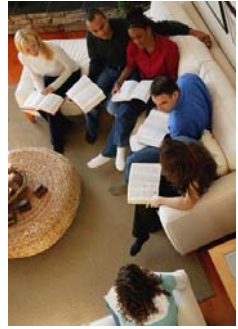


For more information, go to

<http://premieronline.co.uk/premol/pages/ycourse/ycourse.htm>

Group Study materials

There is an enormous range of resources for small group bible study – this section offers a taste of some of what is currently available. Some focus on specific parts of the Bible, some more on topics and issues. Some are resource books, some include CD or DVD material, some are basically books with some suggested resources for group discussion.



Awesome on the inside – Bible study

www.thegoodbook.co.uk

These seven Bible studies uncover how God wants to change us from the inside out. 'Each carefully crafted session will help teenagers express their own feelings, and discover the truth about themselves, from God's Word.'

Contemporary Creed

www.contemporarycreed.org.uk

Contemporary Creed aims to translate ancient beliefs into today's language. It is written for those who, like the author, do not find it easy to believe and whose faith is married to doubt.

It offers an intelligent pathway through sixty intellectual problems of traditional Christian beliefs. Described as a 'novel and popular mini-course on modern Christianity, in transparent English, without jargon.' It requires a basic familiarity with the Bible. A book that could be used as the basis for discussion groups.

Deeper Encounter: Total Forgiveness

www.scriptureunion.org.uk

At one level, forgiveness is simple – the free gift of grace bought for us on the cross of Christ. But the realities can be more challenging. Drawing on insights from the Gospels and 1 John, there are seven sessions for confident small groups, accompanied by an audio CD and printable notes for each group member so only one copy per group is required.

Deeper Encounter: Serve the Lord

www.scriptureunion.org.uk

We readily accept that the career missionary serving overseas has been 'called' by God. But can the Christian working on the supermarket checkout, or caring for children at home, be said to be 'called'? Seven sessions for confident small groups, accompanied by audio tracks on CD, and with question sheets also on CD so only one copy per group is required.

Fawcett Bible Studies

www.anglicanshop.com

Seven courses for group use. The series consists of the following topics: Living with Questions, Paul, Something to Share, Prayer, Unsung Gifts, Love, Women of Faith.

God is closer than you think

www.zondervan.com

A 6 session study course by John Ortberg. A resource that is aimed at helping Christians experience God's presence in the busy-ness of everyday life, hear God speak in ways that can be understood and discover God's desire to be with us in the present moment.

Sessions include DVD clips, Bible study and group discussions. Participant's guide, leader's notes, DVD available.

God's Good Fruit

www.anglican.shop.com

A study course on the fruit of the Spirit for groups and individuals. Based on St. Paul's metaphor of the fruit of the Spirit to depict Christian character, the study looks at the nine aspects of 'God's Good Fruit'. As each virtue is examined we see that it is a reflection of the nature of God.

Good Book Guides

www.thegoodbook.co.uk

An extensive range of Bible study courses for small group use. Various levels and 'pathways' to suit different levels of Christian maturity and Bible knowledge. Each guide features the study material itself plus leader's notes and optional extras to adjust the length of the study. Each session seeks to uncover the meaning of the Bible passage and see how it fits into the big picture of the Bible and also leads people to apply what they have learnt to their lives.

If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat

www.zondervan.com

A 6 session study course based on the book of the same title by John Ortberg. A resource for Christians that is a 'journey on learning to trust God'. Relating the story in Matthew 14 to life today, the course aims to help participants 'discover how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure and trust God'.

Sessions include DVD clips, Bible study and group discussions.

Range of materials available including participant's guide, leader's notes, DVD.

Lifebuilder Series

www.scriptureunion.org.uk/shop

An extensive series of inductive Bible studies for individual or group use. The aim of the studies is stated as being to help people build their lives on God's word and be transformed by its message. The material is produced in booklet form including group leader's notes.

Examples include:

Topical studies: Christian beliefs, Christian character, Evangelism, Parables, Fruit of the Spirit, (12 studies each).

Old Testament books: Joshua, Psalms, Daniel (12 studies each).

New Testament books: Matthew (24 studies in 2 parts), Ephesians (13 studies), James (11 studies)

Lifelines

www.anglicanshop.com

Lifelines is described as an accessible guide for use in Christian study groups, house groups and other small group settings and is intended for those interested in exploring, or new to, the Christian faith. It looks at some of the issues that concern everyone in a society where God has been marginalized or forgotten.

Lord's Prayer Study Guide

www.anglicanshop.com

A study series for use in small groups built on the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. The book includes a guide to leading a group effectively so that new leaders may be nurtured.

An Ordinary Day with Jesus

<http://www.willowcreek.org.uk/resource.php?r=4>

An 8-week study course by John Ortberg and Ruth Haley Barton. By reconsidering our activities throughout the day, however routine, we're challenged to form some new habits and gain a new perspective so that we live extraordinary days with Jesus.

A complete kit costs £74.99, and you will need some additional participant's guides at £7.50 each. The kit includes leader manual, participant's guide, CD rom, and Video.

For a review of this material, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/an-ordinary-day-with-jesus>

A Passionate Life

www.lifeshapes.com

A Passionate Life is an easy to read guidebook (236 pages) that takes the reader through eight shapes providing memory models for key areas of discipleship. The book reads like an amalgam of a management handbook and a revision guide. This does make the teaching highly memorable.

The book has been developed into a training course with

- An 8 session DVD featuring 15 minute presentations by Mike Breen and power point presentations for Group Leaders
- A leader's guide book
- A participant's workbook

The resources are supported by a website that provides further stories, audio and video features and news of online training events.

For a review of this material, go to

<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1244&cachefixer=>

Purpose Driven Life

Popular book, to be used daily over a 40-day period. Short chapters offer thematic teaching followed by material for reflection. Rick Warren aims to explain the meaning and purpose of life, both decisively and succinctly. The book may challenge the seeker or remind the long-term believer. It can be used by individuals, small groups or congregations. For whole-church use there is a 40-day campaign option, with appropriate media resources.

The book is widely available - you can also order a wider selection of resources direct from the Purpose Driven Life UK website: resources@purposedrivenuk.com

Please note that churches must register in order to begin 40 Days of Purpose and to buy the necessary resources. Campaigns begin on set dates each year.

The small group study guides cost £2.50, and the DVD/Video £6.00.

For a review of this material, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/purpose-driven-life>

Saints Alive!

For all these resources, see www.resource-arm.net

Saints Alive! Healing in the Church

A practical and informative course for groups of Christians wanting basic introductory training in the healing ministry.

It consists of 9 sessions and is suitable for churches of all traditions.

Saints Alive! Life in the Spirit

This course is ideal for helping to bring renewal into the life of the Church. It has proved useful for people enquiring about the Christian faith, seeking deeper commitment, exploring the work of the Holy Spirit and for baptism and confirmation preparation.

Saints at Prayer

An ideal resource to teach and encourage people to pray in groups with confidence. It makes a good follow up to *Alpha* and *Emmaus* courses.

The life you've always wanted

www.zondervan.com

A 6 session study course by John Ortberg. A resource that aims at guiding participants 'down the ancient path of the spiritual disciplines.' It looks at how we may grow in discipleship through integrating the spiritual disciplines into our lives.

Sessions include DVD clips, Bible study and group discussions.

Participant's guide, leader's notes, DVD available.

What's so amazing about grace?

www.zondervan.com

A 10 session study course by Philip Yancey based on the award winning book of the same title. The course aims to help participants understand that grace is and to experience its life-changing power.

Sessions include DVD clips and group discussions.

Participant's guide.

Willow Creek Bible Studies

www.willowcreek.com

An extensive range of Bible study series on various themes for use in a small group setting. Each series has a number of themes each of which is covered in 6 or more sessions. They span the range from learning the essentials of the Bible, to deeper spiritual development, to answering challenging questions about our faith. The studies are described as 'ideal tools to facilitate life-changing small groups.'

All series are available as study books.

Examples of study series titles:

Bible 101, GIGs (Groups Investigating God), Interactions, Jesus 101 New Community, Pursuing Spiritual Transformation, Reality Check Tough Questions, Walking with God

York Courses

www.yorkcourses.co.uk

A range of short study courses (5 sessions) designed for Lent or any other season. All courses include well-known Christian leaders on CD/audiotape and are accompanied by a course booklet with questions for groups. A recent title, (Lent 2007), is '*Can we build a better world – learning from William Wilberforce*'.

Faith-sharing courses

Many Christians lack confidence in their ability to share their faith, feeling inadequate and then guilty, or else uncomfortable with perceived stereotypes of evangelism.

The following resources are specifically designed to enable Christians to gain confidence in sharing their faith and to establish principles of Christian discipleship that help church members live the good news and share the good news of Christ in their everyday lives.

All these resources are most effective as part of a broader ongoing strategy for evangelism within the life of the local church.

Blowing Your Cover

www.blowingyourcover.com

Blowing Your Cover is an evangelism training package consisting of 6 training sessions designed to equip people to share their faith confidently among their family and friends.



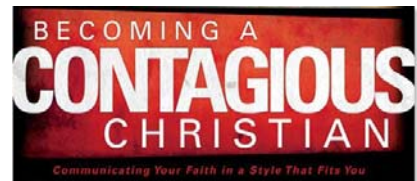
The resource includes workbooks, leader's guide, including a 30 minute leader's training programme and a 2 x DVD Media Pack set.

The course aims to take the mystery and guilt out of evangelism, equip church members to share their faith effectively, release people into their style of evangelism and enable the church to work evangelistically as a team, rather than as individuals.

Becoming a Contagious Christian

<http://www.willowcreek.org.uk/resource.php?r=3>

Becoming a Contagious Christian is a 6 session course designed to equip Christians for effective relational evangelism in today's world. It avoids stereotyped approaches that feel intimidating to many Christians.



Instead, it shows ordinary believers how they can share the gospel in a natural and powerful way while being the person God made them to be. Each session's exercises, discussions, self-assessments, and video vignettes give step-by-step guidance to help participants become effective communicators for Christ to those around them.

Extensive resources include 2 x DVDs, leader's and participant's guides.

Lost for Words

http://www.cpas.org.uk/evangelism/content/evangelism_112.php?e=176

This popular 6 week course in faith sharing is specifically designed for the 'non-expert', those who might shudder at the thought of evangelism, either because they feel it is not for them, or because they feel inadequate.



The aim of *Lost for Words* is to help ordinary Christians speak about their faith in the course of everyday life in a relaxed, natural and helpful way, so that others may discover the respond to God's love for them.

The resource consists of 3 separate courses (for children, youth and adult) with leader's notes, a CD-ROM with PowerPoint presentations, handouts, activities and publicity material.

The Children's course consists of 3 sessions using a variety of media. The sessions explore the story of what God is doing in his world and how children can play their part.

Age range: 5-11 Length: 60 minutes per session

The Youth course consists of 6 sessions packed with ideal activities for young people to explore what their faith means to them and how they share it with their peers.

Age range: 12-18 Length: 90 minutes per session

The Adult course has 6 interactive sessions and has been used effectively throughout the UK across the spectrum of church traditions.

Age range: 18+ Length: 120 minutes per session

Mind the Gap

www.agape.org.uk

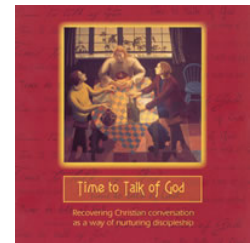
This training course addresses the issue of the 'gap' between church culture and society. Six workshops help participants understand better the context in which their church is set and consider what method of evangelism would work best. Each workshop uses video clips - the course comes on DVD with supporting materials on CD for printing off notes.



Time to Talk of God

A book from The Methodist Church that aims to encourage Methodists and other Christians to renew their ability to talk about God.

Time to Talk of God, subtitled *Recovering Christian conversation as a way of nurturing discipleship*, is aimed at ordinary Christians. The book honestly addresses the reasons why Christians can find it hard to talk about their faith, and how easy it is for churches and congregations to develop habits that make Christian conversation hard.



The richly-illustrated book contains group and individual exercises, prayers, Bible passages and practical guides to shifting church culture so that talking to each other about God is easier and more natural.

Copies cost £3.50 each (PA339), 5 or more cost £2.75 each (PA359).

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=churchlife.content&cmid=1182>

Enquirers courses

Alpha

www.alpha.org

The *Alpha* course is described as “an opportunity to explore the meaning of life”. Aimed at those enquiring about Christian faith and those wanting a refresher course, it tackles topics such as ‘Who is Jesus?’ and ‘Why and how do I pray?’ in a relaxed, non-threatening setting over ten thought-provoking weekly sessions. It is supplemented part-way through the course by a day or weekend away.

Each session consists of a shared meal, a talk on one of the topics followed by discussion in small groups.

Widely used in the UK and now in many other countries too, *Alpha* is endorsed by all the major Christian denominations.

Alpha Express is a new abridged course in which each talk lasts 20 minutes.

Also available:

Alpha in a Catholic context, *Alpha* for Forces, *Alpha* for Prisons, *Alpha* in the Workplace, Student *Alpha*, Youth *Alpha*.



Christianity Explored

www.christianityexplored.com

www.thegoodbook.co.uk

A 10 session course based on Mark’s Gospel that explores who Jesus is, why he came and what it means to follow him.

Described as ‘an informal course for people who’d like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics’.

Involves teaching input, Bible study and group discussion. Full resource materials available, including comprehensive teaching material on CD plus free downloads from CE website.

Talks available on DVD.



Credo

Credo is a 7-week course for introducing people to Christian faith, written to be used in more anglo-catholic settings. The package comes as an A4 photocopiable book, with a video of main sessions. The course materials are now mainly out of print but you can still get a copy via SCM-Canterbury Press. Go to:-

<http://www.scm-canterburypress.co.uk/bookdetails.asp?ISBN=0851913113>

Emmaus

www.e-mmaus.org.uk www.chpublishing.co.uk

See earlier for more detailed information on Emmaus.

The Contact section of the course provides resources for making links with the local community and drawing people in. It also includes some group sessions that can act as an introduction, leading into the first part of the Nurture course.



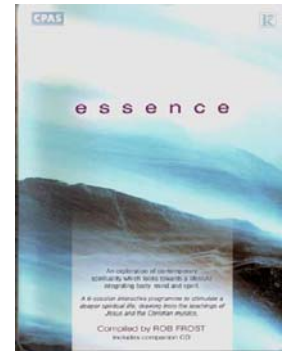
For a review of the materials, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/emmaus>

Essence

www.kingsway.co.uk OR www.cpas.org.uk

A six-session interactive programme to stimulate a deeper spiritual life, drawing from the teachings of Jesus and the Christian mystics. This evangelistic course explores contemporary spirituality which looks towards a lifestyle integrating body, mind and spirit. It is aimed at people who recognize that they are on a spiritual journey, but are probably not involved with Christianity. The course material costs £19.99.



For a review of this material, go to

<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk//standard.asp?id=1242&cachefixer=>

Glad you Asked

Web: www.innovista.org

An innovative seeker course with excellent apologetic content that can help people at all stages of faith. It offers a fast-paced exploration of life's big questions followed by an imaginative presentation of Jesus' life. The style is contemporary and interactive, offering bite-sized presentations on DVD and big open questions to be thrashed out by a small group.



To better serve the unique needs of churches, Innovista now offers a DVD package designed to help churches start and run 'Glad You Asked'. This package includes:

- 1 'Glad You Asked' DVD
- 3 Leader's Guides
- 1 Promotional DVD
- a 20% reduction on 'Glad You Asked' training

Total cost for this package is £49.99

The material is available in several languages, and the DVD comes with optional English subtitles. The individual pack (DVD plus one leader's manual) costs £29.99.

For a review of the material, go to

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine2/resources/discipleship-courses/glad-you-asked>

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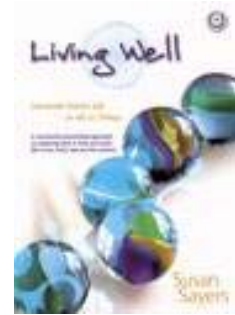
Living Well

www.kevinmayhew.com

An unusual resource by Susan Sayers that describes itself as “A community partnership approach to exploring what it feels and looks like to live God’s way and be content.” Based around a café-type approach, it is designed to run as 4 weekly meetings followed by monthly meetings for the rest of the year (15 sessions in all).

The main resource book & CD package is backed up by eight “gift books” on living well as a human being, parent, child, toddler, baby, grandparent, godparent, in suffering and sadness.

The main resource book and CD is 29.99 and the others are £4.99.



More to Life

www.vizaviz.org

This evangelistic resource sponsored by Christian Enquiry Agency and other national bodies includes some powerful stories on video for showing to or distributing to seekers, telling of how the Lord changes people’s lives. The full evangelistic *More to Life* resource includes a training video and manual ideal for forming up an outreach strategy backed by prayer. The DVD could be used as input into a local Christian enquirers’ group.



Start!

www.cpas.org.uk

Start! is a basic six-session introduction to the Christian faith for use in small groups. The sessions assume no previous knowledge of anything Christian. They use a mix of DVD input, time to chat, simple discussion activities and space for reflection. Designed primarily for a group of about five to ten members with two leaders. As well as those who want to know more about Christianity, *Start!* works well with baptism families, wedding contacts, bereaved families, parents of children and teenagers and those who are new to the church.

Start!

Y Course

<http://premieronline.co.uk/premol/pages/ycourse/ycourse.htm>

OR www.wesleyowen.com

An 8 session course in a ‘supper, talk and small group’ format. Deliberately geared towards those with no Christian background as well as those on the church fringe. Described as being designed ‘to reach today’s postmodern, post-Christian society with the good news about Jesus by exploring major contemporary questions enquirers ask’, e.g. ‘why so many religions?’ and ‘why so much suffering?’ Good resource materials, including leader’s handbook, participant’s notes and videos of all the talks.





Small Group Leadership training resources

Most of the resources listed here are for small groups, usually requiring skilled and wise leadership. A key area in making these resources work well is training and supporting small group leaders.

The Committee for Mission & Ministry can provide training in small group leadership. There are also some excellent resources available for training and supporting small group leaders – some are listed

below.

Emmaus – Leading an Emmaus Group

www.e-mmaus.org.uk www.chpublishing.co.uk

A resource to help set up and run a small group. Although specifically geared towards use with the *Emmaus* courses, it provides a wealth of practical advice on running any small group in the local church. Laying a biblical framework for group leadership, it includes information and advice on the following issues:

- the role of the leader in the group
- making newcomers to the group feel welcome
- how to prepare for each session
- leading Nurture and Growth groups
- how to use shared meals and retreats to help a group grow

Whichever resource you are using, this is £5.95 very well spent for anyone running a small group.

Imagine how we can reach the UK

www.licc.org.uk/image/home

This 50 minute film from LICC explores the main reasons for the church's difficulties in envisioning, equipping, resourcing and supporting Christians for today's world and proposes a simple but radical way forward, focusing on two great biblical truths – the concern of the Creator-redeemer God for every aspect of our lives and Jesus' mandate to make disciples not converts.

The DVD comes with extra resources making it highly flexible for use in one, two or three session formats in small groups, cells, leadership teams or churches.

LICC also provide some helpful downloadable resources to help church leadership teams think through how they use the Bible and encourage whole-life discipleship:-

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources>

We hope you find this resource book useful in developing and supporting discipleship in your churches. If you have any suggestions on how it could be more useful, do get in contact.

Many thanks to Simon Baker and Stephen Pittis of the Diocese of Winchester for use of some of their material on discipleship resources.