

Work with others on how the church can be better equipped for mission and ministry

It might be useful for people to do Foundations for Ministry after some other course of Christian learning (e.g. Emmaus, Alpha, adult confirmation course, etc.)

Foundations is a course about applying the Bible and Christian thinking to ministry in the church and the world - it is not a course mainly about how the Bible fits together, so we expect people to have some of that material under their belts before they come on Foundations.

We expect that all applicants will already be actively involved as Christians in serving God through the church and in their lives. We ask that anyone applying discuss it with their church's incumbent and gain their approval and backing for doing the course.

### How to apply

Application forms can be obtained from the Discipleship and Ministry office at Church House. These need to be returned, with payment, by July 2012.

The course costs £60 and in 2012 we are offering 15 free places, one person per parish to parishes that haven't yet sent anyone on the course.

Lait Development grants are also available to help meet the cost of the course.

Develop collaborative ways of working with others in ministry

### How to contact us:

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# Foundations for Ministry

Develop your gifts



designed to help people find and grow in the ministry to which God is calling them.



open to anyone already active in church life who wants to grow in Christian ministry.



applies the Bible and Christian thought to ministry in the church and the world.



## What is Foundations for Ministry?

Foundations for Ministry is a part-time course spread over three terms. It is designed to help people find and grow in the ministry to which God is calling them. The course was developed in the Diocese of Chester and has been run there successfully for many years.

## Who is it for?

Foundations for Ministry is for lots of different kinds of lay people who want to serve God in the church and in the world.

People may go on Foundations for Ministry to explore many different kinds of Christian ministry:

- Serving God where they are at work, in the family, in the community
- Roles within the church (children's work, youth work, music ministry, churchwardens, PCC members, pastoral work, administration and more)
- Ordained ministry
- Licensed lay ministry (Readers, Church Army)

## What does the course cover?

The course will look at the following areas:

- God's kingdom and what it means to be the church
- How we apply our faith to life
- What ministry is and how we can find and develop our own ministry
- What are our own gifts and skills and how we can use them with others
- How the Bible, prayer and working with others can support our ministry



Think about serving God where you are in church, at work and in daily life

- Ways of working together that can enrich the ministry of the whole church
- How small groups work
- The challenge of mission and how we can share our faith as churches and as individuals

As well as the main course content, what many people learn the most from on the course is each other. Foundations is designed as a course where people from different parishes can meet together to learn from and encourage each other.

## How much work is involved?

The course consists of 24 Wednesday evening sessions, spread over three terms from September to June (8 evenings per term, 6.45 - 9.00pm).

There is also an induction day at the start of the course and two Saturdays study days. All sessions take place at Church House Manchester.

The evening sessions are usually split into two halves - worship and a lively presentation from the front on the topic of the evening followed by small group time. This involves discussion, reflection, practical exercises, personal sharing and prayer.

Participants are expected to take part in discussion and various exercises – so need to come prepared to be involved. Each group is led by an experienced group leader.

Participants are also expected to do about an hour of 'linkwork' between sessions, which feeds into the group discussion. There are no essays or assessed work.

## Who can apply?

The course is open to anyone who wants to grow and develop in Christian ministry. It is not a basics course, so we expect participants to have some background in Christian life and thinking.

Develop resources for the ministry you already have - explore your own gifts and skills



Broaden your vision of God's kingdom and the work of the church