

Shift #4 - Small Discipleship Groups

Session Goals:

1. To explain the purpose and nature of small groups in enabling all Christians to grow their faith.
2. To discuss how small groups might be able to focus on everyday faith and enable disciples to support each other beyond Sunday.
3. To explore how parishes/mission communities might be able to develop and resource small discipleship groups in their contexts.

| Time | Session | Leader's Notes |
|---------|---|----------------|
| 10 mins | Welcome and opening prayer TTT | |
| 5 | Feedback and updates from last session Have you tried anything new? | |
| 10 | Intro to shift/ setting the scene - read from the handbook. Icebreaker Activity: Make a list of all the different types of small groups at your church and their particular focus, eg. personal discipleship, Enquirers course, flower arranging group, Lent course etc. | |
| 10 | Video - Choose one of the following that best suits your context: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview from St Mary's Ellenbrook • St Martin's Norris Bank. | |
| 15 | Breakout Session #1 What is your experience of small groups and what have you gained from them? | |
| 5 | Feedback from some groups | |
| 10 | Break | |

| Time | Session | Leader's Notes |
|------|--|----------------|
| 10 | <p>Video – Choose one of the following that best suits your context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIBs – Christ Church Pennington. • Barrow Bridge Mission. | |
| 15 | <p>Breakout Session #2</p> <p>How could we get small discipleship groups going in our context? or if you already have Small Groups:</p> <p>How can we enable our small groups to become more focussed on supporting faith in our everyday lives?</p> | |
| 5 | Feedback | |
| 10 | <p>Highlight some resources – from main booklet and others known by the leader/group.</p> <p>DNA Reflection: Give participants the opportunity on their own or together to reflect on the three final questions on the handout. These focus on what has been Discovered, what may need to be Nurtured and any potential Actions to put in place moving forwards.</p> | |
| 5 | Close in prayer (suggest Diocesan Prayer of Thanksgiving and Hope). | |

This document is to be used along side the #MoreThanSunday Handbook available on the Diocese of Manchester website, at: www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-sunday

If you are in need of addition support please contact Kim Morgan-Jones, Head of Lay Development and Discipleship, at kimmorgan-jones@manchester.anglican.org