

Discipleship Formation Resources

Dear Friends,

At our Circuit meeting in 2012, we agreed to take the costly and risky approach of identifying our key priorities and concentrating our resources.

Together we agreed that:

The priority of NKMC is to shape every Church as a body of Christ to participate in God's mission. This means exploring new horizons when we sense God's call to do so by depending on his grace, which always goes before us.

We believe that as the Churches of the North Kent Circuit we are called by God to concentrate upon the following:

DEVELOPING DISCIPLESHIP (Becoming the friends and followers of Jesus)

ENGAGING IN GOD'S MISSION (Sharing with God in his work)

BUILDING FELLOWSHIP (Supporting one another as the people of God)

To achieve this as a Circuit we have to ask some hard questions:

- What does God want from us?
- What is this vehicle that we have (circuit and local churches) and how do we use it more effectively to reach more people?

The Circuit has resourced churches with the 'Life on the Front Line' course which helps explore the frontlines in our lives. These are the places where we come into contact with people who do not have a relationship with Jesus and the places where we can make a difference. Through this course we have seen many new small groups continue beyond this course and at least 80 people committed (at present) ready to continue to work out their faith in small groups. We want to offer resources that facilitate the on-going journey of discipleship and enable people to grow in their faith and have the confidence to share this faith with others.

The values of our small groups are:

- Up – with God
- In – with God's people
- Out – in the world via Incarnational witness

The resources listed below are in order of preference:

Life on the Frontline (DVD ROM): Six week discipleship course

<http://www.licc.org.uk/shop/product/life-on-the-frontline>

<http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources/imagine-on-the-road/>:

LYFE: Small group material developed by the bible society

LYFE is recommended as a follow up to Life on the Front-Line and offers a more reflective and spiritual focus on discipleship, yet still focused on whole life discipleship.

LYFE can be used as six introductory sessions or as a full course offering 32 individual sessions. There are also video clips and a wealth of other resources which can be used in the group or for personal study. It is also free you just need to print the material or use your computer, laptop or tablet.

STILL LYFE / REAL LYFE / SPIRIT LYFE / JUST LYFE / WORD LYFE AND
WHOLE LYFE

<http://www.lyfe.org.uk/resources/>

LifeShapes

(This resource will be used with the staff team and small group leaders initially)



What does it mean to follow God in the Way of Jesus? We call it discipleship – which means *being* a learner and follower of Jesus.

We use eight geometric shapes to help us share a common language. Here's how we consider, reflect, and talk about our journey:



Circle: Choosing to learn from life:

- Engaging God's kingdom coming through repentance and belief



Semi-Circle: Living in God's rhythm for life:

- Work from rest, abide to be fruitful, retreat so as to venture forth



Triangle: Balancing the relationships of life:

- Up – with God
- In – with God's people
- Out – in the world via Incarnational witness



Square: Defining priorities of life:

- Lead and follow as Jesus practiced



Pentagon: Knowing one's role in life:

- Live and lead within base and phase ministries of Ephesians 4:11



Hexagon: Praying as a way of life:

- Being a people of prayer



Heptagon: Practicing the principles of a vital life:

- Movement forward as Christ's disciples
- Spirit-filled living (respiration)
- Sensitivity to the Spirit's leading
- Growing as a lifestyle; life-long learning
- Spiritual reproduction
- A lifestyle of confession, repentance, and forgiveness
- Feeding on God's word, with God's people, in God's world



Octagon: Living a life with a mission:

- Engaging “persons of peace” evangelistically

This teaching is found in two resources:

A passionate life

An easy to read guide book that takes the reader through eight 'life-shapes' to remind them of key aspects of discipleship.

www.sharetheguide.org/discipleship/resources/03

Also available in MP3 format with notes:

<http://weare3dm.co.uk/shop/lifeshapes-teaching/>

Disciple:

The **Disciple** Bible study course has transformed the lives of individuals and congregations in many parts of Great Britain and across the world. It has drawn people closer to God, deepened their discipleship and opens their eyes into the way that God is leading them.

For more information and to watch a series of introductory videos go to the website below:

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/deepening-discipleship/small-groups/key-resources/disciple>

BASIC (A DVD series on the basics of the Christian Faith)

Francis Chan

Explore the nature of God and examine the state of the church today with the BASIC series.

This digital set includes downloads of *FEAR GOD*, *FOLLOW JESUS*, *HOLY SPIRIT*, *FELLOWSHIP*, *TEACHING*, *PRAYER*, and *COMMUNION*.

Download now for \$29 at this website: <https://flannel.org/products/basic-download-bundle>

NOOMA®

NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. NOOMA is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion.

NOOMA films are created and produced by [Flannel](https://flannel.org), a nonprofit organization. We are a group of people committed to giving everyone a fresh and compelling look at the teachings of Jesus.

This is a great resources of 24 short films which can be used in many different contexts and especially good for use in contexts where non-Christians will be involved.

Download all 24 films for \$39 just for a limited time at:
<https://flannel.org/products/nooma-download-bundle>

What on Earth am I here for? by Rick Warren:

The understanding of our unique purpose depends on how we answer this question.

The ‘**What on Earth Am I Here For?**’ Campaign is an all-new 6-session video & workbook teaching from Pastor Rick Warren. Inspired by the original Purpose Driven Life small group study, this all-new curriculum is designed to unite and ignite small groups in your Church.

Every new generation must rediscover God's purpose for themselves, and as a church body. This is why I have expanded *The Purpose Driven Life* with 2 new chapters, and created an all new Church-wide Campaign called *What On Earth Am I Here For?* that will answer this fundamental question of life's meaning.



Pastor Rick

The Book

10 years ago, Pastor Rick Warren wrote *The Purpose Driven Life* that changed the way millions of people understand their meaning and significance. The book has since become the best-selling nonfiction hardback book in history. This transformative book has been expanded and reimaged with 2 new chapters, a new cover, and free online extras that address the crucial needs of a new generation.

The Six Sessions Include:

- You Matter to God
- You Were Planned for God's Pleasure
- You Were Planned for God's Family
- You Were Created to Become Like Christ
- You Were Shaped to Serve God
- You Were Made for a Mission

Cost of registration and Campaign Preview Kit: £50.00

<http://www.purposedriven.co.uk/whatonearth.aspx>



C4L provides contemporary resources for churches and individuals to reach out to unconnected and disconnected friends.

The inspirational materials for discipleship and outreach are all based around the connection metaphor – ‘connection brings life’. Using 21st century language about the connection that brings identity, value and purpose, these resources dovetail into short feeder events for other courses like Alpha, Christianity Explored and Freedom in Christ.

You can use selected elements or run it as a church programme for discipleship and outreach.

This could be used as a complete programme for your church.

Emmaus

Emmaus, Way of Faith

A popular series of resources to develop discipleship, which will work in many different church contexts.

Stage 3: Growth (Christian Lifestyle)

www.chpublishing.co.uk

Emmaus Stage 2: Nurture Course

<http://www.chpublishing.co.uk/product.asp?id=8150>

Beta Course: A ten week course linking Christian faith with personal development and pastoral care.

www.sharetheguide.org/discipleship/resources/01

Follow me on Monday is a new course developed by After Sunday to encourage everyone to explore their discipleship in daily life and work.

<http://www.aftersunday.org.uk/main-resources/essence-of-after-sunday/follow-me-on-monday>

Alove: Cell resources for Youth developed by the Salvation Army

<http://www2.salvationarmy.org.uk/alove>

Methodist Membership Course: A Companion to Called by name (Developed by the Southampton District)

<http://www.southamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/content/pages/documents/1320150909.pdf>

A Class of Your Own: A Methodist Style Class Meeting with studies in discipleship

<http://www.deepeningdiscipleship.org.uk/?p=519>

The How and Why of Small Groups: Introductory videos about setting up a small group in your church

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/deepening-discipleship/small-groups/the-how-and-why-of-small-groups>

I hope you find these resources helpful and if you need more information or help please contact your minister / lay worker or Rev Gary Watt:

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