



LEADING EVANGELISM

LEARNING HUB

Connect • Model • Order • Mobilise

SESSION 8
NOVEMBER 2024

ONLINE



WELCOME

Welcome to the Leading Evangelism Learning Hub. This is the last of our sessions together, and the second one this term focusing on Mobilise. Last time we thought about how to mobilise all our congregation members in the sharing of faith. This workbook includes lots of additional resources on how to identify and mobilise evangelists and pioneers, although we won't have time to go into this when we are online together. We will also think about where we go from here, celebrate our progress towards a faith-sharing culture, and pray for the ongoing work of evangelism in our contexts.

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SUGGESTIONS FOR GOOD ZOOM ENGAGEMENT

- **Please participate, don't just observe** Ask questions (use virtual hand or just dive in with a question), contribute your best insights.
- **Set aside distractions** Close down other programmes, resist the temptations of your phone/tablet, put out of reach other reading material.
- **Keep your video on throughout** It will help you be fully present, and will help others engage with you. A blank screen is rather dispiriting.
- **Don't mute your sound** It helps with the flow of interaction, and an occasional background noise actually makes it feel less artificial. However, if there is a lot of noise in your room, or you are meeting as a group in one place, please do mute.
- **Combat Zoom fatigue** Two things will help combat weariness. Hide your self view (right click on your own image and select hide self view) and take regular stretch breaks (every 20 minutes or so stand up, stretch, take a few deep breaths).
- **Be patient** At some point something will go wrong. Please be patient with us as we try to sort it out.

GUIDELINES FOR GOOD INTERACTION

- **Learning together** We are all here to learn from God and one another. **Adopt a learning posture.**
- **Participate** Share your thoughts, insights and questions. Listen carefully to what others say. **Have an enquiring mind.** You'll get the most out of it if you do.
- **Confidentiality** What is said in the room cannot be shared outside the room attributed to anyone in the room. That makes it a safe place for us to be honest and share more deeply. **Choose honesty and openness.**
- **Reality check** It is always easy to become disconnected from reality in a training session, so please keep us connected with reality by taking us back to how things really are in your context. **Keep grounded.**
- **Next step** We will cover a lot of ground, but throughout our time together **be attentive** to what might be your next step following the session. We will give you a chance to identify that at the end of the session.

TIMINGS

7.30	Welcome and Part 1
8.45	Stretch break
8.50	Part 2
9.30	Finish

Timings are for guidance only, apart from the end time. We will finish by 9.30pm.

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DWELLING IN THE WORD

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

Dwelling in the Word is a process that many people are using to listen to Scripture, to each other and to God. It's not about sharing information or seeking scholarly answers or even the right answers to the issues raised in the text, but it is about listening well to one another and discerning what God is up to amongst us.

We invite the Holy Spirit in prayer to open our ears, hearts and minds. We listen to the passage read out loud and notice where our attention is drawn – a verse, phrase or single word. We then remain in silence for a minute or two, staying with the place in the passage that stood out for us.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

² Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. ⁵ Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

(NIV UK)

²⁻⁴ Pray diligently. Stay alert, with your eyes wide open in gratitude. Don't forget to pray for us, that God will open doors for telling the mystery of Christ, even while I'm locked up in this jail. Pray that every time I open my mouth I'll be able to make Christ plain as day to them. ⁵⁻⁶ Use your heads as you live and work among outsiders. Don't miss a trick. Make the most of every opportunity. Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out.

(The Message)

- 1 We each turn to a person in our group. If there is someone you don't know so well engage with them.
- 2 We listen to that person as he or she says what they heard in the passage in a particular verse, phrase or even single word. They may mention something they'd never heard before, something odd or something comforting, or something about which they'd like to find out more about.
- 3 Listen well, because your job will be to report to the rest of your group what your partner has said, not what you yourself said. Some people even take notes to help them focus and remember. Each one takes their turn when they are ready to speak.
- 4 If there is time a conversation develops around what God is saying to us today from the themes arising in the whole group. Please ask someone to post your insights to the Jamboard using the link in the Chat function or the QR code on the screen.

Space for Your Reflections on the Passage

Core Themes

Use the link in the Chat or the QR code to post your core themes from your group onto the Padlet board. Please post with your Church name first and then your comment.





PIONEERS

DEFINITION

'A person called by God who has the character and gifting to respond first to the Holy Spirit's initiative within a particular context and to create something in response to these promptings that opens up new horizons.'

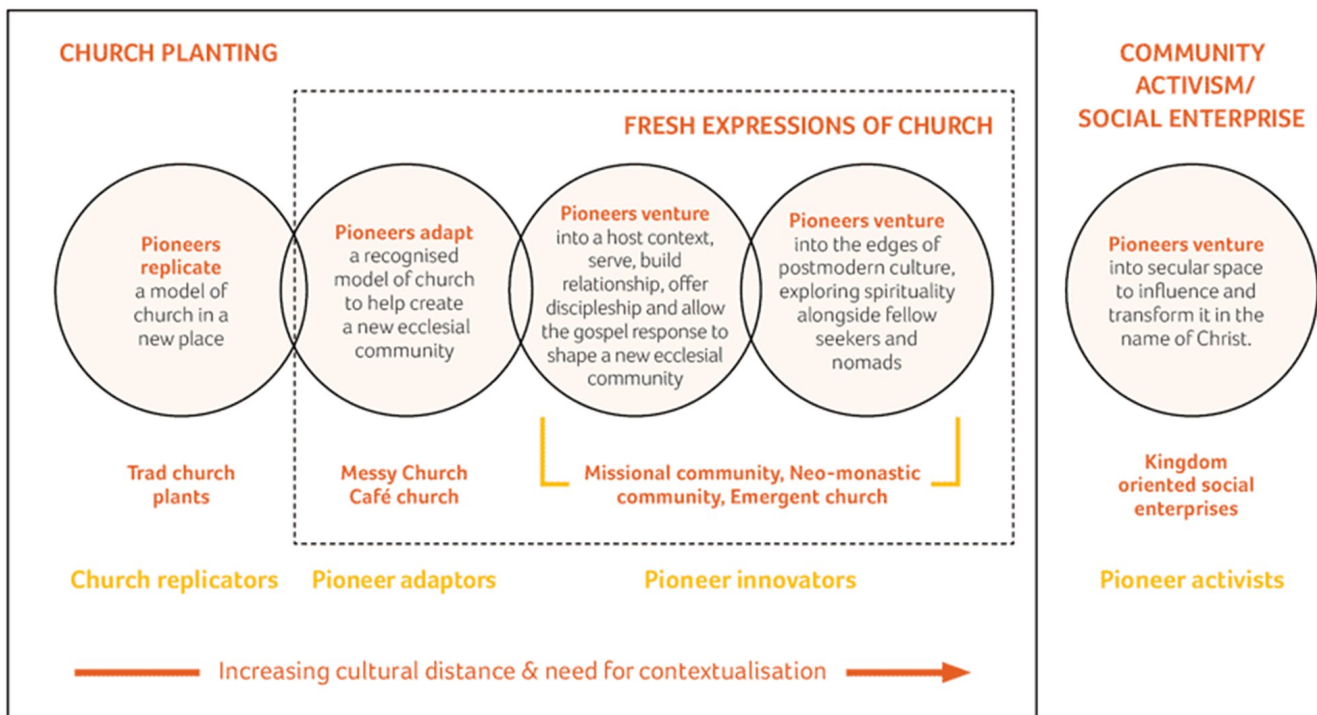
Dave Male, Pioneering Leadership

QUALITIES

1. Enjoy starting new things.
2. Feel at home on the edge.
3. Enjoy taking risks.
4. Like people.
5. Robust characters.
6. Know when to stay or go.
7. Know when to bring order or chaos.
8. Often thinking about moving out.
9. Dissenters.
10. Able to reflect/connect.

PIONEER SPECTRUM

From Tina Hodgett and Paul Bradbury, CMS



For resource links for developing pioneers, see Google classroom, including:

- Fresh Expressions.
- Centre for Church Multiplication.
- Myriad.
- How to Pioneer.



EVANGELIST

DEFINITION

'The evangelist is someone whom God gifts in a special way in evangelism to (a) help the Church be all that it is meant to be by modelling, inspiring and training the people of God in evangelism (b) be particularly fruitful in connecting with those outside the Church and drawing them into a life transforming relationship with Jesus.'

Anglican Evangelists

'The evangelist is a gift ministry... however, there is nothing in the New Testament that declares the evangelists are only meant to operate in particular ways, or for that matter on a particular scale. There have been many truly gifted evangelists over the years that nobody has heard of, and who have never filled a church hall let alone a stadium'

Gavin Reid

QUALITIES

1. Called and gifted by God.
2. Concern for people outside of Church.
3. Able to connect faith and people's lives together in a way that makes sense to the non Christian.
4. Able to explain aspects of the gospel.
5. Able to help people take their next appropriate step.
6. Equips people of God to play their part as witnesses.
7. Indebtedness to the grace of God.

Based on work by Mark Brown and written up in an evangelist gift inventory available on the Google classroom.

THREE THINGS TO AVOID

'Unless and until the Church identifies and trains evangelists both for the work of evangelism and for the work of equipping all God's people in their witness, we will struggle to get beyond the guilt inducing patterns of the past.'

Bishop Martyn Snow

For resource links for evangelists, see Google classroom, including:

- College of Evangelists.
- Evangelists Conference.
- Evangelists – A Gift to the Church and Evangelist Inventory.
- The disappearing evangelist.



Five Perceptions of Evangelists within the Church that Must be Faced

1. EVANGELISTS ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFICULT AND UNCOOPERATIVE

They are lone rangers who brook no authority and 'do their own thing'. There is an element of truth in this — as can be seen in the definition in paragraph 4.3, part of the ministry of an evangelist is to challenge the Church. The evangelist proclaims the gospel, and that is always uncomfortable. He or she also seeks to interpret the world to the Church, and often the Church finds that daunting, as it is faced by the realities of the context in which it is set. But that is precisely why the Church needs the evangelist — as a spur to the Church to lift its eyes off its own concerns. Not surprisingly, evangelists sometimes feel that the Church is not listening. We found diocesan evangelists longed to be accepted and used by the Church and to receive any support and training that was offered.

2. ALL EVANGELISTS ARE EVANGELICALS

As a matter of fact we found that this was simply not true. All traditions within the Church were well represented in the people we met.

3. EVANGELISTS ARE PREACHERS

In communicating the gospel many different means are used, and preaching is one that is God-given. A comparatively small number of the evangelists we met saw themselves as preachers: most of them were visiting, leading groups, encouraging the young, praying and sitting alongside people.

4. EVANGELISTS TRAVEL

The image is of someone who is footloose and rootless. Those diocesan evangelists who had a ministry across their diocese were naturally not in their church every Sunday, but we found a deep desire by the great majority

of evangelists to be part of a church that would accept and support their ministry and from which they could feed.

5. EVANGELISTS KNOCK ON DOORS OR PREACH ON STREET CORNERS AND EMBARRASS PEOPLE

The ministries of the evangelists we met seldom involved the first and never the second. Most ministered through friendship and Christian nurture, through church planting and initiating work among the sick and the homeless, the young and those outside the Church.

Only as the Church rids itself of these inaccurate pictures can it fully use the ministry that is vital to its wellbeing.

Selection of Evangelists

The areas that need to be borne in mind during any selection process for an evangelist are:

- A spiritual life founded upon a real experience of Christ in their lives, both in the past and in the present — this should be evidenced by regular spiritual discipline and study of the scriptures.
- An enthusiasm for passing on the good news to others alongside a love and respect for people.
- A wish to be rooted in the local church even if God is calling him or her to a more itinerant ministry — this should be shown in an active life within a local church and a willingness to work with others under leadership.
- Some understanding of the way in which the gospel relates to their own context at work and at home, and the ethical issues that arise.
- A warm and relaxed personality allied to a sense of humour. They should have shown themselves to be flexible in their approach to a wide variety of people and situations, and to have an understanding of failure in themselves and in others.

Code of Conduct for Diocesan Evangelists

As Christians, born again by the Spirit of God, we must ensure that our message is incarnational, and that our lives speak as loudly as our words. We will therefore endeavour to work within the ethical framework outlined below.

MANDATE

- We believe that God in his love seeks to reconcile the world to himself and to make Christ known to the people.
- We believe that God has called us to be evangelists with Christ and that he has equipped us by the Holy Spirit with particular gifting to fulfil that calling.
- We believe that our call to ministry is a call to service, and we will not be motivated by a desire for personal gain. Rather we embrace a sacrificial lifestyle of availability to the direction of the Holy Spirit.



MEANS

- Our methods must stem from a conviction of the need to incarnate the gospel, and a recognition that all of humanity is made in the image of God, with inherent value and dignity.
- In recognition of the dignity and responsibility given by God to humanity, we will avoid manipulation and coercion, acknowledging that we are fellow-workers with Christ himself.
- It is our commitment to work ecumenically with local churches of all denominations and we will not undermine the ministry of local church leaders.
- Our actions will display an awareness of the importance of differing contexts and culture.
- We will endeavour to ensure that those who become Christians as a result of our ministry are fully integrated into a local worshipping community.
- As servants of the God who is truth, in integrity we will strive for absolute accuracy in our publicity and in the reporting of statistical data.
- We will maintain accurate and open financial records and avoid any misuse of money.
- We will seek to be efficient in administrative matters and extend Christian courtesy to all.
- We will endeavour at all times to maintain a lifestyle that reflects the gospel, living lives of moral purity and joy.

- We acknowledge that our families are a gift given to us by God, and we will be faithful in serving them and fulfilling our responsibilities to them, giving them love, care, respect and time.
- We accept the oversight of the Church, recognising our need for care and support and our need of accountability in ministry. We will seek to ensure that appropriate support is given to us and that we honour those who are in positions of leadership in the church.
- We will be faithful in prayer and Bible reading and seek further opportunities to enlarge our knowledge of the faith and to deepen our spiritual life.

Code of Conduct for the Church in Relation to Evangelists

If an evangelist is recognised by the Church there should be a mutual accountability by which the church supports the evangelist as someone gifted by God in the communication of the gospel. This will include:

- Helping the whole church to honour and respect the evangelist and his or her particular ministry and informing the church so that it is aware of his or her work.
- Encouraging both public and private prayer for the evangelist.
- Ensuring that the church is aware of the particular gifts of the evangelist and that they are used to the full.
- Providing clarity of accountability so that the evangelist knows to whom he or she is primarily responsible. There should be regular times for appraisal, and for discussion of the most appropriate forms of support.
- Ensuring that the evangelist has a spiritual director, mentor, support group or similar means of encouragement, prayer and guidance.
- Giving the evangelist the greatest degree of freedom so that, subject to the accountability structure that has been established, he or she is free to experiment and venture into new areas of ministry.
- Providing suitable initial training and subsequent continuing opportunities for learning, together with appropriate funding.
- Ensuring that all appropriate expenses are paid promptly.
- Ensuring that the evangelist has sufficient time for relaxation and for his or her family. In particular, the evangelist should not be burdened by tasks within the life of the church that hinder his or her evangelistic ministry.

From Good News People, Recognising Diocesan Evangelists, Church of England Report Misc GS565 (1999)



EXERCISE

Evangelists and Pioneers

INSTRUCTIONS

Can you identify those within your congregation who have the specific gifts of pioneering or evangelism? Share your names with your group, and see if you come up with an agreed list of possible people and write them in the identify row below. Then capture any immediate thoughts on how to resource and release them. You won't have long, but hopefully enough time to write down key points for you to come back to at your next meeting.

	PIONEERS	EVANGELISTS
Identify: possible people		
Resource: what could you do as a church to nurture these people in their gift's?		
Release: what could you do to give them opportunities to exercise their gifts?		

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



OUR GOOD NEWS STORIES

What encouragements would you like to share with the whole group?

What have you heard this evening that brings you encouragement?





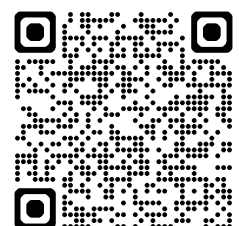
WORKING ON YOUR PLAN

REVIEW YOUR ACTION PLAN

What will you do to keep this focus on evangelism, to go down the road less travelled?

What is likely to lead you down the road well travelled? How might you counteract these things?

What would you like prayer for? Please share these things on the Prayer Board.



RESOURCES

THE ONE TO READ

- How to Pioneer (even if You Haven't a Clue), Dave Male (CHP)

TOP READS

- Good News People, GS Misc 565 (CHP)
- Godsend, Michael Moynagh, (Independent)
- The DNA of Pioneer Ministry, Andy Milne (SCM)
- Send Me, John McGinley (CCX)
- Church in Life: Innovation, Mission and Ecclesiology, Michael Moynagh (SCM) – for those who want something more meaty, theological and comprehensive.

OTHER RESOURCES

- Look at the evangelists and pioneers columns on this [resource Padlet board](#) for a variety of resource links.
- [Godsend](#) is a book and App to help you think about how to get started creating a new church community.
- The [Fresh Expressions](#) website has a vast array of material, much of it free.
- The [Centre for Church Multiplication](#) has lots of material on church planting.
- The CMS [Guide to Creative Conversations](#).



Lead On

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Grove Leadership Series

CPAS has partnered with Grove Books to produce a series of leadership books. Each one is 10,000 words and offers thought provoking insight on a wide variety of themes, everything from how to leave well to leading with Gen Y. You can find them at the shop on the [CPAS website](#).



Venture and Falcon Holidays

CPAS runs around 90 fun-filled holidays for 8-18 year olds each year. The holidays are run by volunteers, and if you are interested in helping on one or know a young person who would benefit from a great holiday with a focus on Jesus visit www.ventures.org.uk.



Making Mission Possible

CPAS enables churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus. We are a registered charity working with individuals, churches and dioceses to resource local churches for mission in the UK and Republic of Ireland. To support our work or find out more, please visit www.cpas.org.uk or contact 0300 123 0780.