

Why do church differently?

A missionary God

A missionary God

Mission is not a 2nd step for God

A missionary God

Mission is not a 2nd step for God

Fresh expressions are:

Missional

Contextual

Formational

Ecclesial

A missionary God

Mission is not a 2nd step for God

Fresh expressions are:

Missional

Contextual

Formational

Ecclesial

An example of mission not being a 2nd step

A missionary God

Mission is not a 2nd step for God

Fresh expressions are: missional, contextual,
formational, ecclesial

An example of mission not being a 2nd step

Do fresh expressions work?

2000 fresh expressions

Approaching 100,000 people involved

Average size: 50

Half of attendees from outside church

**(Figures extrapolated from G. Lings, *A Day of Small Things*,
2016)**

Anticipating the kingdom

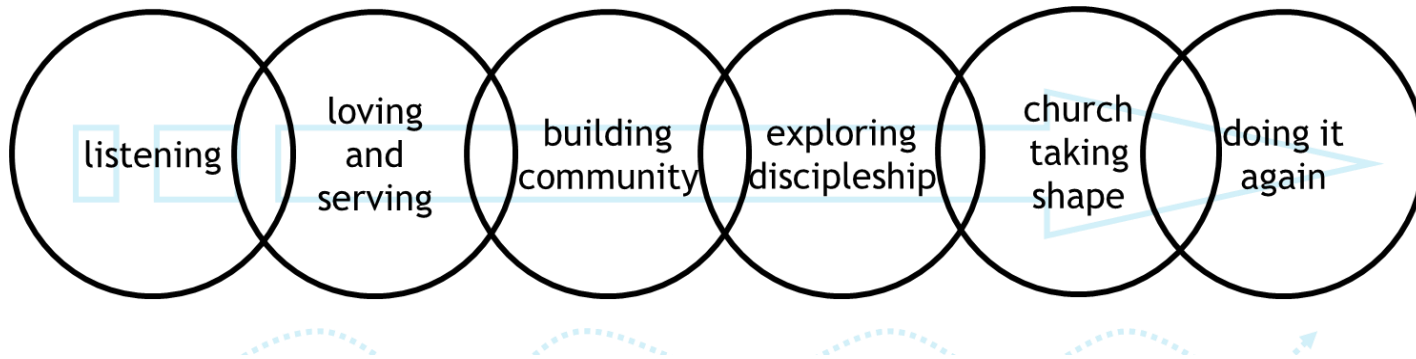
Anticipating the kingdom

Anticipates when Christ will fill all things

Anticipating the kingdom

Anticipates when Christ will fill all things

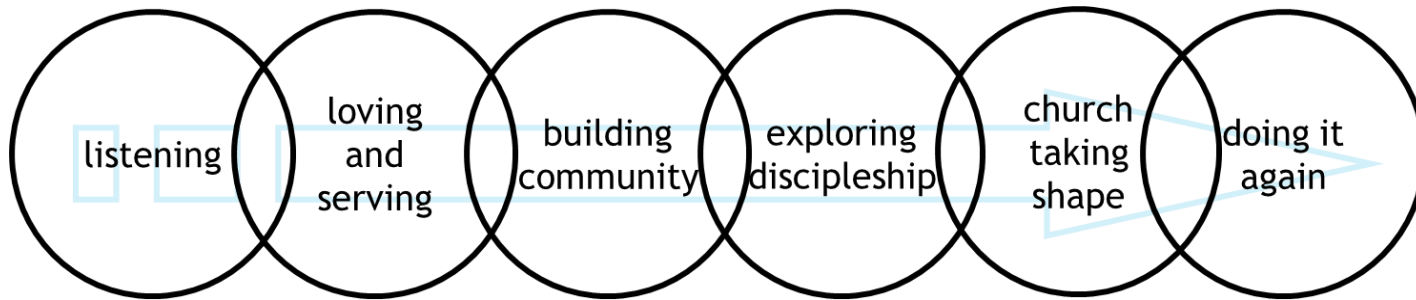
A journey



Anticipating the kingdom

Anticipates when Christ will fill all things

A journey

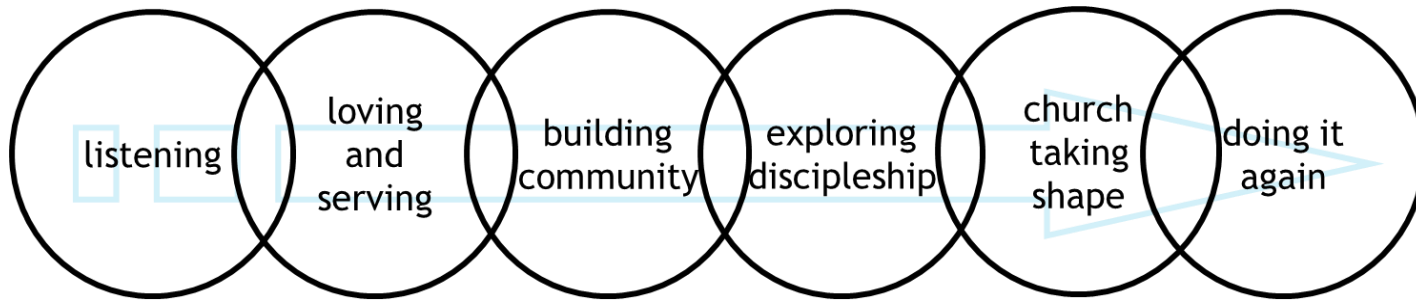


Each stage unfolds the kingdom

Anticipating the kingdom

Anticipates when Christ will fill all things

A journey



Each stage unfolds the kingdom

Propelled by an exchange of gifts

Divine generosity

The church as a gift to the world

Divine generosity

The church as a gift to the world

The gift must take a suitable form

Divine generosity

The church as a gift to the world

The gift must take a suitable form

The gift must be released

Divine generosity

The church as a gift to the world

The gift must take a suitable form

The gift must be released

A Eucharistic-like movement

3 reasons for fresh expressions

Mission is a priority for God

Herald the kingdom

An expression of divine generosity

What can and can't we change?

Our everyday experience

Our everyday experience
To embed the gospel

Four reasons

Our everyday experience

To embed the gospel

Scripture is highly contextualised

Four reasons

Our everyday experience

To embed the gospel

Scripture is highly contextualised

The incarnation

The nature of the church

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

Essence of the church is 4 sets of relationships:

With God directly

With the world

With the wider church

Within the fellowship

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

Essence of the church is 4 sets of relationships:

With God directly

With the world

With the wider church

Within the fellowship

**Essential practices arise from and serve
these relationships**

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

Essence of the church is 4 sets of relationships - with God, the world, wider church, within the fellowship

Essential practices arise from/serve these relationships

Some advantages of this approach

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

Essence of the church is 4 sets of relationships - with God, the world, wider church, within the fellowship

Essential practices arise from/serve these relationships

Some advantages of this approach

- Practices are servants of the church's relationships

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

Essence of the church is 4 sets of relationships - with God, the world, wider church, within the fellowship

Essential practices arise from/serve these relationships

Some advantages of this approach

- **Practices are servants of the church's relationships**
- **Fits the New Testament picture**

The nature of the church

Based on certain practices?

A communion that adopts certain practices?

Essence of the church is 4 sets of relationships - with God, the world, wider church, within the fellowship

Essential practices arise from/serve these relationships

Some advantages of this approach

- **Practices are servants of the church's relationships**
- **Fits the New Testament picture**
- **Takes 'pilgrim people' view to its logical conclusion**

Some implications

A set of relational boundaries

Some implications

A set of relational boundaries

Helps with recognition

So what can change in contextualisation?

Everything!

A form of courtesy

Enables formation to occur in depth

God speaks through Scripture contextually (and so with variety)

He reveals himself contextually in Jesus

Boundaries are the church's 4 relationships

With God directly

With the world

With the wider church

Within the fellowship

Handing the church on

Jesus' practice of handing over

W.H.Vanstone, *The Stature of Waiting* (1982)



Jesus' practice of handing over

The crucifixion as a handing over

Jesus' practice of handing over

The crucifixion as a handing over

The ascension as a handing over

Jesus' practice of handing over

The crucifixion as a handing over

The ascension as a handing over

Jesus passed on not a Lego church, but Lego bricks

Is the ascension a model for us?

St Paul did the same

Is the ascension a model for us?

St Paul did the same

It's part of the church's history

Is the ascension a model for us?

St Paul did the same

It's part of the church's history

It's consistent with our foundational meal

Three examples

11 Alive

Three examples

11 Alive

Discovery Bible study:

What might this story look like today?

What does it mean to you?

Might it make a difference to your life?

Three examples

11 Alive

Discovery Bible study:

What might this story look like today?

What does it mean to you?

Might it make a difference to your life?

Cook@Chapel

We are called to hand over not a ready-made church, but the tools to form church

Jesus did this

So did Paul

So has the church subsequently at its best

It's a Eucharistic action