

## **Notes from SCC WEBINAR 4 17<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Welcome, prayer and John 6 v1-15 Feeding of 5000

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Go back to church and just breathe...

- Don't rush back to 'normal'
- Don't be too quick to do new things either
- Rest, reflect and restore resilience

Work from rest, not rest from work

### **TAKE STOCK...**

#### **What has happened over the last year?**

- As individuals
- As church corporately
- For our community

Losses to lament? Loss of loved ones, jobs, fellowship etc

Opportunities to consider? On social media, wellbeing groups etc

Shut down or speeded up during the pandemic?

What has accelerated during lockdown? Further decline, finances

What creativity and innovation have you seen in mission?

Who has thrived in this season? Future leaders equipped for change etc

### **REBUILD OR RESET?**

- Will rebuilding what was there before be sufficient for what lies ahead? Picture of a bridge in Honduras after the hurricane where the river has changed course. Picture of the church – stay the same when everything else has moved!
- Reset – back to factory settings – back to foundations. Society has changed and the church must serve its purpose in this new climate.
- Are we ready to re:imagine?

### **LESSONS LEARNED**

- Rule of 6 – power of the small
- Importance of being good neighbours – many people showing goodwill, not just Christians, partner with them. Be the guest not the organiser!
- Presence of spiritual hunger – high numbers of people searching on internet for 'how to pray'
- New era of online and hybrid church

Change is possible! We may have been reluctant but we have had to change quickly and we did!

### **TIME FOR A DISTRIBUTED CHURCH?**

- What did your church do during lockdown?
- Are we talking about being church gathered and scattered?
- How do we distribute mission and ministry? We need to equip the saints Eph 4 v11-13
- Mindset shift – the church as a mission agency and members as missionaries. Equip people to talk to neighbours. It not about how many people come but equipping the church to go.
- Jesus said 'I will build my church'
- We are told to go Matthew 28 v18-20

### **BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP**

#### **1 Thessalonians 1 v5-7**

Model v5a > Assist v5b > Watch v6 > Leave v7

Leaders don't do it all! Mentor people. Mission and Discipleship go together

<http://bit.ly/distributedchurchrecordings>

Book - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christian [www.fxresourcing.org](http://www.fxresourcing.org)

### **3 TOOLS TO CONSIDER**

#### **1. Start with WHY**

In Simon Sinek's book 'Start with Why', he suggests that organisations as 3 questions. Why, How and What in that order.

**WHY** do you do what you do? define your purpose. (why is the church here etc)

**HOW** do you do what you do? What are the values

**WHAT** do you do? Activities that serve the purpose and values

Don't change the WHAT without looking at the WHY purpose and the HOW values.

Clarify your vision – **why do you exist as church?**

Clarify your values – **what do you value as you pursue you purpose? What is important to you?**

Then work out the activities that move you towards your vision in line with your values.

#### **2. Taking a S.H.A.P.E. Inventory**

Book by Erik Rees 'SHAPE' and also found in Rick Warren's 'Purpose Driven Life'.

Spiritual Gifts

Heart

Abilities

Passion

Experience

Focus on the people you have – find out their SHAPE. What passions connect them to others eg, hobbies. Equip people in their friendship groups.

### 3. The Season Assessment

For each activity that may be restarting, consider which season it was in...

- **Spring** – there were signs of future fruitfulness
- **Summer** – it was flourishing and fruitful
- **Autumn** – time to give thanks and end well
- **Winter** – time to reflect and recycle resources

Similar to agriculture picture – plant & water, growth, reap (harvest), rest the ground

Is the activity a pathway or a gateway?

**Discussion** – what could you do? what will you do?

Do a few things really well. Do not overstretch.