

## **Optional first and second questions**

### **The first question**

*'How is Jesus/God changing your life now?'*

In pairs for 4-5 minutes *'share a recent experience or perspective on this'*.

This first question is crucial as a way of helping people on a team to share something of their faith experience, and particularly to reflect on how Jesus Christ is making a difference in the person they are, and are becoming- to identify the impact of God!

These **optional first questions** can be a warm-up and are not intended to replace the first question. They are offered to help build up the confidence of those whose language of faith might find the first question's wording foreign, or unfamiliar, to their faith experience. And yet, the first question has come to us as a 64,000 dollar question- if we are a disciple of Christ finding ways to share God's story in us is important and helping it be shaped is a community practice. None of us find it simple or easy!

These options are designed to help articulate what we experience of God in our lives and to reflectively gift those experiences to those we walk alongside as disciples. The following are potential questions to craft appropriately:

1. How have you recently been aware of God in your life?
2. What have you noticed around you recently as a divine moment?
3. Give an example of a recent 'good God' moment?
4. What is impacting your life right now and how is your faith helping you respond?
5. Where is God in your life experiences at the present time?
6. If Jesus was a journalist wanting to ask you a question about your life now, what would he be asking?

### **The second question**

*'How can we best encourage one another to be everyday disciples?'*

The same pair takes 4-5 minutes to identify what encouragement looks like.

The second question is about supporting one another as members of the body of Christ, each with our different journeys of faith and personalities. Instead of simply making assumptions about what is supportive to another, the questions provide ways of individuals sharing what they choose in a trusting way, with others in the community of faith.

### **Optional second questions**

1. What could I pray for you so that you grow as a disciple?
2. What work or home or community issue is really important to you because you are a Christian?
3. What gifts or skills do you find important in your work and how is God helping to shape them?
4. Tell me a story about someone who has encouraged you in your journey of faith and why?
5. What aspect of your rule of life or spiritual practices:
  - a. makes your spirit sing?
  - b. Needs an MOT?
  - c. Needs amending?
  - d. Is your sustaining nourishment?