



# How to ...

## Explore whole-life discipleship in small groups

Small groups provide a context in which disciples grow and develop in their faith. For more information and resources about this see: [www.bristol.anglican.org/MDIYP/small-groups](http://www.bristol.anglican.org/MDIYP/small-groups).

Within small groups we seek to encourage people to live out their faith in the whole of their lives and focus on equipping group members to be Christ's ambassadors, growing as whole life, faith-filled, mission-focused disciples. In small groups members are nurtured and given confidence to live out their faith in their families, leisure activities, at work, and in their communities.

To download a short booklet which introduces the concept of whole-life discipleship, please click here: <https://www.bristol.anglican.org/documents/make-difference-where-you-are/>

To explore whole-life discipleship within your small group, we would encourage you to use the LICC Fruitfulness on the Frontline DVD course. This is available online, or please contact the Diocesan office who may be able to loan you a copy.

<https://www.licc.org.uk/resources/discover-fruitfulness-on-the-frontline/>

### **The Six M's** (developed by LICC and explored within the Fruitfulness on the Frontline resources)

Sharing God's love in everyday life is about how we live out our relationship with Jesus, not only about how we talk about it. It means making God's love and His Kingdom visible in everyday life. It will mean that we:

**Model Godly Character** - being a distinctive presence as the Spirit of God ripens his fruit in our lives.

**Make Good Work** - doing all that we do (whether paid or voluntary) as though we were doing it just for Jesus.

**Minister Grace and Love** - being willing to go the extra mile to serve those around us - even our enemies!

**Mould Culture** - attempting to shape the bits of life where we have influence, as though God was in charge there.

Are **Mouthpieces for Truth and Justice** - speaking (and acting) to defend the oppressed and marginalised, snuffing out gossip and combating lies.

Are **Messengers of the Gospel** - and yes, being willing to explain why we do what we do, and the difference Jesus has made - and continues to make - to our lives.

### **Frontline Interviews**

Using the six-week Fruitfulness on the Frontline course in your small groups is a great place to start, but it is important to build on this and to develop a culture within small groups where whole-life discipleship continues to be discussed and explored. An effective way to do this is to build regular space into your meetings where a member of the group is asked the following

questions. Through this the group can reflect upon how a group member is putting *their* faith into practice and support that person in prayer.

Q1) Tell us about your 'frontline'.

*(The place where you spend most of your time/most time with non-Christians)*

Q2) What is it like for you as a Christian in that situation?

Q3) What two things can you give thanks for on your frontline?

Q4) Which of the 6 M's (above) have you been able to use recently on your frontline?

Tell us about what you did and/or said, and what happened.

Q5) Tell us about a challenge you are currently facing on your frontline.

Q6) How might we pray for you now, and uphold you in prayer on your frontline in the future?

## **With Children and Young People**

To build this practice into a small group or Sunday school group with children and/or young people, you might like to use the following questions and six S's, which replace the six M's:

**Speak up for others** – say something when you see someone being treated badly, and stick up for those who get left out.

**Share Jesus** – tell your friends about your faith, attendance at church and what following Jesus means to you.

**Smile!** – be full of joy and share that joy with others.

**Spread love and peace** – be kind, thoughtful and generous. Help others to work together. Forgive people and say sorry when you're wrong.

**Set a good example** – show others a good way to live: they will notice what you do and how you do it.

**See things through** – whatever you do, do it well.

Q1) Tell us about your school/college and what else you get up to outside of school.

*(These places are your 'Frontline' – the places where you are representing Jesus.)*

Q2) What is it like being a Christian there?

Q2) What two things have been really good, or have you really enjoyed on your frontline recently?

Q3) Which of the 6 S's (above) have you used recently on your frontline?

Tell us about what you did and/or said, and what happened.

*(Did you set a good example by playing with someone who was feeling left out in the playground for example?)*

Q4) Is there anything you are currently finding really hard on your frontline?

Q5) How can we pray for you on your frontline?

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