

More Than Sunday

DISCIPLESHIP SERMON FRAMEWORK

We are reminded at Pentecost that the disciples were given the gift of tongues to equip them to share their faith with anyone whom they met.

Much of the ministry that we learn about from the Acts of the Apostles and the letters of Paul takes place outside of the worshipping community. The growth of the Early Church was built upon ordinary people sharing their faith with family and friends, and more publicly.

Each week tens of thousands of people attend church in our diocese. If each one of us was equipped and confident to share our faith like those in the Early Church we could start to re-evangelise our communities and generate significant growth: numerically and spiritually.

And yet.... So much of our faith today seems to be lived out within our church communities and buildings rather than outside of them; talking about and showing our faith to those closest to us, let alone strangers, can feel frightening.

That is where #MoreThanSunday comes in. It is a 12 month discipleship programme exploring different themes each month and offering reflection, inspiration and practical ideas. It has something for everyone – content is delivered in a number of ways: podcasts, videos, written articles. Contributors are lay and ordained, young and old.

We hope that whole church communities, as well as individuals, will sign up to the programme – so that we can support one another as we journey together and grow in confidence as disciples and evangelists.

Jesus came that we 'may have life, and have it abundantly'. Our faith is what many in this world are crying out for in their day to day lives; is about so much #MoreThanSunday.

Canon Nick Smeeton

HOW TO JOIN IN

Sign up for #MoreThanSunday at www.manchester.anglican.org/mre-than-Sunday/ to receive a monthly email on a theme with bible verse, reflection, podcast and action.

Share your thoughts on social media with the hashtag #MoreThanSunday and join the MoreThanSunday Facebook group.