

Resources for Early modernity Evangelism (as at 4 February 2011)

These resources are those that have been found helpful by those working with:

- *People who are familiar with the Christian faith but have not embraced Christ*
- *People who share with you a similar cultural, historical, religious background*
- *People you may initially feel at home with*
- *A context with some similarities to the evangelism to 'Jerusalem' in the Acts of the Apostles.*

The Anglican Communion Office can take no responsibility for the appropriateness of the content of these resources, but the following have been recommended by Anglicans who are involved in evangelism and church growth

1. **Parent & Toddler Groups** - *These groups can take many different forms and can be run by churches, groups of churches or even an individual cell group. In essence they recognize that in our culture a parent who is not in work and is at home caring for a pre-school child, or children, can be very isolated. This is also a stage in life, following the birth of a child, when adults ask questions about the meaning of life and faith. The group can be held in a home, church room, community room, swimming pool, etc. but the essential elements are praying church members (who don't need to be young – sometime a 'grandparent' figure is just what is needed), a welcoming and safe environment, toys, and helpers to care for the children whilst parents talk. In my last church in one period of two years 65% of new church members were first contacted through the Parent and Toddler group. Helpers need some training/advice on how to appropriately share their faith in this context. Further information at <http://www.engagetoday.org.uk/expand/parent-and-toddlers/starting-a-parent-and-toddler-group>*
2. **Alpha & Youth Alpha** - *These two courses are so well known that little needs to be said here except that I have used the course in middle class Oxford, inner-city Wembley and the forests of Sarawak amongst Iban youth and each time with some success. I have also helped to adapt Alpha for use in Orthodox churches in Romania and Russia and I know it is used widely by Roman Catholic churches. But it is not appropriate everywhere. It did not work, for some reason, in my parish in Newcastle. Much more information of course at <http://www.alpha.org/home>*
3. **Emmaus Course** - *Less well known than the Alpha Course, but equally helpful, is the Emmaus Course (sometimes used more by Anglo-Catholic parishes but equally suitable for all traditions). The writers of the course believe that most people come to faith in Jesus gradually, that they come through a relationship with another person who already follows Jesus and that we all need to be accompanied on the path of faith. They say, "Emmaus: The Way of Faith is a course designed to welcome people into the Christian faith and the life of the church. It aims to involve the whole church in evangelism, the nurture of new believers and ongoing Christian discipleship. It is rooted in an understanding of evangelism, nurture and discipleship modelled on the example of Jesus in the story of the Emmaus Road." See www.e-mmaus.org.uk*

4. **Bible's Big Story** - *This is really a church growth tool rather than an evangelism tool but I have known several people who have come to faith by really getting to grips with the totality of the Biblical narrative for the first time. Using powerful and very colourful graphics and diagrams "Bible's Big Story" tells the whole story of the Bible and helps those who go through this training to really understand how the Bible works. It is based on narrative theology but is accessible to Christians of many different backgrounds and academic abilities. A full training course ('experience' might be a better word) normally takes place over a weekend but shorter courses are possible. For more of a description see <http://www.prettygoodneighbor.com/neighborhood/crossways-tells-bible-stories-in-pictures/> All the materials are available from Crossways International at <http://www.crossways.org/index.cfm/category/34/the-bibles-big-storytell-tale-time-line.cfm>*

5. **Cursillo** - *Cursillo says of itself that it "is a movement of the Church, providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action and enabled to share Gods love with everyone." Cursillo seeks to serve the whole Church, and to equip Christians to be the church wherever they are, and in whatever stream of tradition or theology they are comfortable. In particular it emphasises the ministry of the laity alongside the clergy and through friendship and servanthood seeks nurture, growth and confidence in the faith. There is a strong focus on the work of the Holy Spirit in community. At the heart of the Cursillo experience are weekends when participants are given space to grow and be served by others. The British Cursillo website can be found at <http://www.bacc-cursillo.co.uk/>*

6. **Worship Well Done** - *In many different traditions we are discovering that good worship (a) attracts non-Christians and (b) grows the church. In Britain examples of growing churches are (1) Cathedrals where professional classical (and contemporary) music is used and staff understand how to lead others in worship, (2) Black-led churches that often have a highly professional approach to worship using good musicians, high tech visuals, etc., and (3) Orthodox churches who see worship as being at the heart of all they do, see it as mission, and do it very well.*

7. **Christians Against Poverty** - *This is a national debt counselling charity in England working through a network of centres based in local churches. CAP offers hope and a solution to anyone in debt through its unique, in-depth service. CAP aims to show God's love in action by providing sustainable poverty relief through debt counselling, advice and practical help. CAP's unique 'hands on' approach empowers people to help themselves out of poverty and be released from the fear, oppression and worry generated by overwhelming debts. We are providing sustainable poverty relief as our service teaches clients vital budgeting skills that will last a lifetime www.capuk.org/*

8. **God at Work** (from the Alpha stable), - *This course is based on Ken Costa's book 'God At Work' and aims to equip Christians in finding purpose in their every day work, and to live it out effectively. The course comprises of 6 sessions, with each session designed to last an hour and run on a weekly basis.*
 - *The course provides a Christian perspective on how to approach common challenges familiar to many such as:*
 - *Purpose at Work*
 - *Ambition & Life Choices*

- *Work-Life Balance*
- *Stress*
- *Failure & Hope*
- *How to Make Tough Decisions*
- godatwork.org.uk/about

9. **Coaching For Missional Leadership** - *Bob Hopkins and Freddy Hedley examine the importance of supporting leaders through coaching and mentoring, so that mission initiatives, church plants and fresh expressions of church have access to accompaniment that both provides best practice in mutual reflection and offers connection to the experience and wisdom of other leaders, as well as to the wider church*
www.churchplantingcoach.com/

10. **Mission-shaped parish: traditional church in a changing world** - *By Paul Bayes et al looks at the bread-and-butter things that churches regularly do, through the lens of mission. It takes a fresh look at a typical parish church's worship, pastoral contacts, civic and public responsibilities, faith nurturing opportunities, its administration and government – and creatively points to how all of this can be seen from the point of view God's mission.* www.chpublishing.co.uk/

11. **Mission Shaped Intro Course** - *Has been written to help churches think creatively about mission in your current context, become aware of, and engage with, the cultural changes in contemporary society, explore how to better shape your church for mission understand what "fresh expressions of church" may look like, and how they relate to inherited patterns of church ministry:*

- *week 1: rediscovering mission and what that means for church*
- *week 2: changing world, changing church*
- *week 3: re-imagining church – community*
- *week 4: re-imagining church – worship*
- *week 5: re-imagining church – leadership & discipleship*
- *week 6: where do we go from here?*

www.freshexpressions.org.uk/missionshapedintro

12. **Back to Church Sunday** - *Is national initiative encouraging churches to hold a Back to Church Sunday in late September, preceded by training in welcoming and how to pray for and encourage people to come back to church. It is most effective when it is linked with an up-coming nurture course that returners can be invited to.*
www.backtochurch.co.uk/

13. **The Ven Bob Jackson's PowerPoint presentation** - *Although some of this is related to a specific Archdeaconry, in Lichfield Diocese England, much of it makes the point powerfully about action that can lead to both decline and growth see <http://www.elmdon-parish.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2007/06/bob-jackson-solihull-deanery-synod-june-2007.pdf> The final slide refers to his books, these can be found on*

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/bob-jackson-Books/s?ie=UTF8&keywords=Bob+Jackson&rh=n%3A266239%2Ck%3ABob+Jackson&page=1>

14. **Member Mission Network** - This is a creation of Wayne Schwab, former evangelism officer of the Episcopal church, to support evangelism for Episcopalians and other Christian denominations. <http://membermission.org/>
15. **Natural Church Development** - It is an international movement based on research in 40,000 churches in six continents, and holds the belief that growth is a natural consequence of healthy churches. The process involves a core group of a church in assessing 8 areas of its low life. A church is then asked to devise ways to improve its lowest scores. It has proven to be effective for growth in many churches when they follow through a number of cycles of test, action, and retest. There is a cost involved. <http://www.ncd-international.org>
16. **Evangelism for Normal People** John Bowen, Augsburg Fortress, 2002 - With a combination of story telling, bible studies and cultural observation, John aims to convince and equipped tongue tied Anglicans to begin sharing their faith in Jesus Christ.
17. **Basic Christianity Classes** – this is a possible and powerful tool for assimilating new people and interested people to faith in Jesus Christ. I have done this 20 years and have brought hundreds to Christ. This can be a church's legacy.
18. **Tuition Classes** – This is a powerful tool to draw children and young people. Of course adults can also be drawn in some cases. It can be done FREE or with a little fee. It varies from place to place.
19. **Kidsgames, Teengames, Family Games** – This is an excellent programme for all ages. It is a 4-in-one programme with Leadership Training, Evangelism, Teaching & Bible Study, and Fun Learning. <http://www.thekidsgames.com/>
20. **Carolling** – Each year during Christmastide, churches will send out teams of carollers to homes of parishioners, non-church goers, and supermarkets and shopping malls to bring good tidings and joy, and to sing carols and distribute tracts & gifts. These are done with Christian messages.
21. **Rooted in Jesus**, Alison Morgan (Editor) - This is a discipleship growing in the Province of Southern Africa. The Diocese of Niassa already has more than 1000 small groups running! Especially good for areas challenged by literacy levels. See: www.rootinginjesus.net
22. **Breaking News**, J. John - A friendly course in evangelism
http://www.eden.co.uk/shop/search.php?site_id=3015&keyword=breaking%20news%20j%20john&gclid=CPXztsjvr6cCFchO4QodAC7KQA
23. **The 10 Commandments” J. John** - A series of talks by J. John based on the Ten Commandments which has led thousands of people to Christ. He is the “Billy Graham” of the U.K. <http://just10.org/>

24. **Lay Witness Course** – a practical outreach course designed by Growing the Church. Contact Trevor Pearce on trevor@growingthechurch.co.za for more information.
25. **Disciples are made Not Born** by Walter A. Henrichsen (1989 Edition) - *It describes a modern disciples and how to make disciples of others*
<http://www.amazon.com/Disciples-Are-Made-Not-Born/dp/0781438837>
26. **God's Attributes** by Bill Bright (2004 Edition) - *A small but intensive book that spells out how to view God accurately and clearly so as to know Him intimately.*
http://www.amazon.com/God-Steps-Discovering-His-Attributes/dp/1563991268/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1299078388&sr=1-2-fkmr0
27. **Questions of Life** Nicky Gumbel (2001 – Reprint) <http://www.alpha.org/resources>
28. **Perspective on the World Christian Movement**, (Revised Edition 1992) by Ralph D. Winter, Steven C. Hawthorne. - *It is a Multi-faceted collection of readings on the biblical, historical, cultural and strategic dimensions of the task of world evangelization. It spells out the complexity, the scope and yet the obligation and the emergency of the task of evangelism to which all who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord are called.*
<http://www.amazon.com/Perspectives-World-Christian-Movement-Reader/dp/0878082891>
29. **The Christian Life**, A Doctrinal Introduction by Sinclair B. Ferguson (1981 Edition) - *Christian doctrines matters for Christian Living. It expounds the teaching of Scripture and outlines its meaning for practical Christian living.*
<http://www.amazon.com/Christian-Life-Doctrinal-Introduction/dp/0851515169>
30. **Evidence that Demands a Verdict** by Josh McDowell, Volume 1. - *It's a classic defense of Christian belief. It stimulates and challenges the non-believer while giving every Christian an unshakable foundation for life and faith.*
<http://www.amazon.com/Evidence-That-Demands-Verdict-Historical/dp/0840743785>
31. **Knowing God** by J.I. Packer. - *It has profound and basic spiritual truths put down in a practical way.* BCD <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Knowing-God-J-I-Packer/dp/083081650X>
32. **Know why you believe** by Paul E. Little. - *It is a clear Affirmation of the Reasonableness of the Christian Faith (1987 Printing). It helps people set aside their wills and accept Christ into their hearts.* http://www.amazon.com/Know-Why-Believe-Paul-Little/dp/083082250X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1299077830&sr=1-1
33. **The Man God uses** by Oswald J. Smith http://www.amazon.com/Man-God-Uses-Oswald-Smith/dp/B000MTLWFQ/ref=sr_1_7?ie=UTF8&qid=1299078087&sr=8-7
34. **Basic Christianity** by John Stott
http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Basic+Christianity+by+John+Stott&x=13&y=18

35. **Langham Preaching Program** – *A preaching course of three levels. First on the Bible in general, second on the New Testament and, third on the First Testament.*
<http://www.langhampartnership.org/>
36. **Mother's Union Parenting Program Worldwide** by Mary Sumner House – *This focuses on parenting and family life from conception to death.*
<http://www.themothersunion.org/>
37. **Sharing Of Ministries Abroad (SOMA)** – *This international family of national organisations often sends teams abroad, upon request, addressing a wide range of topics. The Chairman of the International Board is The Most Rev. Dr. Benjamin Kwashi of Jos, Plateau State, NIGERIA. National contacts are as follows: Australia <http://soma.org.au/>, Canada <http://www.somacanada.ca/> New Zealand <http://www.soma.org.nz/> United Kingdom <http://www.somauk.org/> and United States <http://www.somausa.org/1129/Home.aspx> You can contact one of the above to find out more about SOMA in the following countries: Ireland; Nigeria; Singapore; South Africa; Uganda; South Korea*
38. **Whole Life Discipleship** - *Whole life discipleship is a discipleship programme/tool that is aimed at equipping Christians with a holistic understanding of Christian life, that which seriously takes into account that God is interested in every aspect of human life and experience as sum total, and that our faith ought to touch every aspect of our human experience.*

Resources:

London Institute for Contemporary Christianity: <http://www.licc.org.uk/>

The Great Divide (Mark Green) - LICC

The Radical Discipleship (John Stott) - LICC

<http://www.licc.org.uk/shop/books>

http://scog.com/Portals/0/11_Stewardship.pdf

Alpha in work place

39. **Kairos Prison Ministry International (KPMI)** - *Kairos is an International Christian Ministry. Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. is the parent organization of a body of ministries operating as Chapters that are located in many States and Countries addressing the spiritual needs of incarcerated men, women and children, and to their families and to those who work in the prison environment. Kairos sprang from the Cursillo movement and is supported by Christian volunteers including those from Cursillo and those other movements that consider Cursillo as their root.*

On any given Kairos program you may find our guests to be of the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Atheist, Wiccan, non-specified or other beliefs. We welcome all.

Our Kairos Inside program currently operates in 350 prisons in 31 states in the U. S. and 8 additional countries: United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru and Canada. More than 170,000 incarcerated men and women have been

introduced to Kairos, since its inception. The current number of volunteers exceeds 20,000 per year.

The Kairos Outside program is active in 19 states, Canada, England, Australia and South Africa, and includes 35 locations. Currently the Kairos Torch program is operational in 10 locations. <http://kairosprisonministry.org/> **Other resources** : Alpha for prison

40. Business as Mission - An initiative that integrates the Gospel (kingdom) values into business and entrepreneur. "The BAM concept is holistic in nature, believing that God has the power to transform people and communities spiritually, economically, socially and environmentally. The dichotomy between sacred and secular is not Biblical, but this false dichotomy has deeply affected our views on work, business, church and missions."

Source: <http://www.lausanne.org/issue-business-as-mission/overview.html>

Also see: <http://www.businessasmission.org/>

41. Public bible reading – The 400th anniversary of the King James Bible is encouraging much interest in the bible and the beauty of the English prose within this translation; some congregations are running, sponsored reading of whole sections of the bible.

- Instead of approaching the celebration in this way, why not choose suitable narratives and passages that might touch people's lives and read these in public outside of your church or somewhere where people pass by on a Saturday?
- Instead of seeking sponsorship, why not have copies of a gospel to give out to those who are interested, and other biblical resource material that you can encourage people to take away, daily notes that you have already read, that people can take away and use?
- Why not consider other events that can be publicised, perhaps special services focusing on the bible that can be built upon this.
- **For some, the familiarity and beauty of the King James Version will attract them to your event and is a helpful resource;**
- For others the KJV might be a reminder of the archaic language that first made them believe that the Christianity was irrelevant to them and will suggest that the church is still out of date and incomprehensible. The anniversary of the KJV is a reason for an event, but doesn't mean that it is the only version that you can use! Depending upon who your target audience; consider using modern versions that show that the message of the bible can be expressed in current language.
- If you can attract young people why not use *The Word on the street* (previously known as *The Street Bible*) <http://www.eden.co.uk/en/the-word-on-the-street-bible-online> or another version that speaks to un-churched young people? Use your young people to read and dramatise selected narratives.

42. Home Group (Cell Groups or Small Christian Communities) - Sometimes operate as a home or bible study group but function as a community of believers from the same church or congregation, where members provide spiritual, moral and social support to

one another and also reach out in love to the local community – such the elderly, prison, hospital, schools, etc. The number of home groups from one parish/congregation may depend on the size of the Church/congregation.

Home group members often invite friends to the meetings or any functions organised by the home group. Often home groups provide warm, hospitality and “safe” environment where even a “stranger” would be welcome and feels at home!

In countries like Zambia these home groups grow so big that they can develop into a congregation. Home groups have been important means for discipleship and church plant (and growth). They are very popular among most mainline churches in Zambia.

The same principle is used in the Diocese of West Malaysia where various resources have been developed.

For resource contact: Fred David: dvmbpchaplain@gmail.com or dvmbpchaplain@gmail.com Other resources; http://scog.com/Portals/0/11_Stewardship.pdf

- 43. Rooted in Jesus** - *is a discipleship programme for and mostly used in Africa and published and supported by ReSource. The first resource was produced in partnership with the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro, it has been translated into many languages and is now in use in some 24 Anglican dioceses in 10 countries.*

Bishop Martin Breytenbach of the Diocese of St Mark's in South Africa writes "I have no doubt that God has commissioned and anointed this course for Africa in much the same way as he is using Alpha in more urban and 'western' settings. We are already starting to see remarkable things in this Diocese as people and congregations are set on fire with the love of Jesus."

Rooted in Jesus works best as part of the strategic planning of a diocese, and is introduced through diocesan conferences by a team of people from the UK and from Africa. Rooted in Jesus is used in dioceses of all churchmanships.

*Information Source: <http://www.conference.rootedinjesus.net>
<http://starttheweek.typepad.com/stw/2010/11/rooted-in-jesus-day-conference.html>
www.conference.rootedinjesus.net. www.rootedinjesus.net.
Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqT0zldSw9A>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzJjWs7y8xc&feature=related>*

- 44. Kairos** - *Mark Carey explains, “Kairos is a Greek word of great significance for Christians as it speaks of the appointed time in the purpose of God. For Kairos Church this means a fresh expression of the Church of England, focusing on releasing communities of followers to live the mission of Jesus. For us this is being worked out through people who are good news in our workplaces, families and friendships. We gather together at various times and places and also operate in midsized/mission-shaped communities (MSCs).”*

“MSCs are communities of our people each of which has a distinctive vision for mission. Examples are Outnumbered focused on families with children and Wanderers, meeting people in the park and the street.” <http://kairoschurch.net/>