

ReSource

renewal for mission in the power of the Holy Spirit

supporting the local Church

ReSource was commissioned by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 2004 from foundations in two earlier ministries, ARM and Springboard; and has spent the first seven years of its life forming its theology of “renewal for mission in the power of the Holy Spirit”. It has been listening to the Church in the UK and beyond and writing and distributing books and booklets intended to respond to the expressed needs and to support and resource the Church in its ministry and mission – in all its traditions and denominations.

We operate to no formula, bring no “package”. We listen to the church before shaping an offering to its particular needs and resources. What follows is a particular way of working which we have found helpful in enabling a local church to create its own strategy.

- ② **Entry points** - ReSource has designed a number of entry points which can be shaped to the need, including
 - the PCC renewal/mission gathering, in evening or day
 - the "Growing Healthy Churches" spiritual audit
 - the "Discerning Church Vocation" community audit
 - the Lent course, "Season of Renewal".
 - a parish weekend, often shaped around and leading into one of:

- ② **The offering** - After that there is a "virtuous circle" which can be entered at any point, and used to adapt to the church's needs. It includes –
 - a three-part discipleship programme for small groups under the overall title, *The God who is There*, viz. *Beyond Ourselves* (of which lesson 1 and sample exercises are on the website), *A New Community* and *Shining like Stars*
 - an evangelism course, *Beautiful Lives* (again, see the website)
 - a healing course, *In His Name*
 - exploring and applying the gifts of the Spirit, *Doing What Jesus Did*
 - a Parish mission, shaped as required
 - the EQUIP mentoring and coaching course for ordained church leaders

- ② **The working practice** - We are happy where appropriate merely to provide the materials and stand back; but we find this "virtuous circle" works best if: first there is a meeting with the church leader and the home group leaders; secondly, there is a training Conference led by us, at least on Friday evening and all day Saturday; thirdly, during a course there is a follow-up meeting in week 5 with group leaders and the church leader; fourthly, a coordinator is appointed to take responsibility for the course, hold the hands of all the group leaders and chivvy them where necessary; and fifthly, at the end of a course, if it is decided to move on to another part of the circle, the same process begins again.

- ② **On home or small groups**, which we consider key to these things, we would encourage the church to consider our doing a particular work with the leaders which would include
 1. that they should lead life-changing meetings

2. that they should be pastors, looking after the people in their group and having good relations with all of them
3. that they should see their job as bringing new people into the group on a constant and regular basis
4. That they should select and train an assistant leader, with a view to cloning the group.

In addition, ReSource seeks to serve the Church at deanery, diocesan and regional level, through the provision of :

- Deanery or area retreats – midweek breaks of 48 hours or so for church leaders, with direction and guidance. These can be shaped in many different ways for encouragement, refreshment, and reflection on the mission and ministry of the church.
- Day conferences for leaders or CME programmes on renewal, confidence in the gospel, mission and evangelism, prayer, the healing ministry, the gifts of the Spirit, preaching, leadership, growing healthy churches, and others
- Support for Mission Partnerships and local Ministry Teams – retreats, brainstorming days, training events
- Conference speakers and seminars on topics to do with renewal for mission in the power of the Spirit

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