

LLF Away Day

Thurs 19th August 10 am – 4 pm

Breathing Space, Allesley

**Outline of Session**

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| 9.45 – 10.00 | **Arrivals and Refreshments** Milk & Coffee  Settling into venue Bottled Water/Juice/Pastries |
| 10.00 – 10.10 | **Welcome & Introductions**  Say a bit about what you spend most of your life doing at the moment  What’s been the best thing about Summer so far?  What’s given you an interest in LLF? |
| 10.10 – 10.20 | **Commitments**  Before we get into the course material, good to look at some guiding principles for our meeting and discussion together today. Volunteer to read through the commitments. Which one would feel most important to you? Can we agree to these?  Point ‘Perfect love casts out fear’ as one of the undergirding Scriptures in LLF. Use opening reading and responses on p. 16 ‘Fear not for I have redeemed you . . . ‘ |
| 10.20 –  10.35 | **SESSION 2 – IDENTITY Video Input: Identity & Alex & Jo’s Story**  (Video section: 0:00 – 15:00)  Going to be engaging with the LLF material through a mixture of video input introducing the various themes, story films which help us to hear a variety of experiences, Bible study and discussion together. We’ll begin with an introduction to identity and a film story from Alex and Jo who share how they are living in love and faith |
| 10.35 – 10.50 am | **DISCUSSION**  *What have you learned about what it means to be human that gives you joy, pain?*  *What do you think about the way in which the church handles issues relating to identity and sexuality?* |
| 10.50 -  11.05 | **Video Input: Luke’s Story, Bible Study and Identity, Sexuality & Gender**  (Video section 15:19 – 23:19)  Our next session will feature Luke’s story, a bible study on Genesis and reflection on what the Bible says about our identity in Christ and we’ll then go on questions of gender identity, sexual orientation and identity in Christ |
| 11.05 – 11.20  11.20 – 11.30 | **DISCUSSION**  What do you make of the relationship between identity and sexuality? How much does one influence the other?  What do you think it means to have a new identity in Christ  **BREAK** |

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| 11.30 –  11.45 | **SESSION 3 – RELATIONSHIPS: Introduction & Discussion**  G to summarise ‘It’s all about relationships’ p. 32 – 33 and emphasis on friendship.  Discuss:  In which kind of friendships do you feel most ‘at home’ and able to share most fully the things that matter to you? Can you identify why?  How could we celebrate friendship more in the church? |
| 11.45 –  12.05 | **VIDEO Film Stories Laura & Stephen and Julie & Alice & Discussion**  (Video sections: 4:28 – 8:10 and 16:24 – 19:12)  Discussion:  What do you make of these two contrasting stories? What struck you the most  from what was shared? |
| 12.05 –  12.10 | **Bible Study: Matthew 19: 1 – 12 (Video)**  (Video Section: 12:02 – 15:40) |
| 12.10 –  12.25 | **Discussion**  Jesus and the Pharisees both appeal to the Scriptures – how should we use what the Bible says in our discussions about marriage? |
| 12.25 –  12.45 | **Video Input: Marriage & Discussion**  (Video Section: 19:23 – 25:47)  What in the account of Christian teaching on marriage provoked the strongest reaction in you?  How should the church respond to cohabiting, civil partnered and same-sex couples? |
| 12.45 –  12.50 | **Prayer & Reflection**  Using material on p. 39 |
| 12.50 –  1.45 | **LUNCH BREAK** |
| 1.45 –  1.55 | **SESSION 4: Sex and relationships: Bible Reading & Video Input**  (Video Section: 23:03 – 28:28)  Reassure we’re not going to be asked to share or talk about anything deeply personal or that we don’t feel comfortable to.  Read 1 Corinthians 6: 12 – 20 on p. 46 then to video  Introduction to sex and relationships, Christian teaching and church doctrine on the place of sexual activity in relationships |
| 1.55 –  2.15 | **Discussion**  What aspects of sexual behaviour and attitudes in our culture do you find worrying/liberating?  Not all intimate relationships include sex. How can we cultivate greater intimacy in our relationships generally? |
| 2.15 –  2.30 | **Video Input: Story films and Bible Overview: Sex & Bodies**  (Video Section: 4:35 – 18:45) |
| 2.30 –  2.45 | **Discussion**  What do you find most striking or challenging from what you’ve heard in the story films or overview on the Bible’s teaching about sex and relationships and how we interpret that in our times? |
| 2.45 –  3.00 | **BREAK** |
| 3.00 –  3.10 | **SESSION 5: Life Together – Opening Reading & Jesus’ prayer in John 17**  If you could only pray for one thing what would it be?  G to read and give overview of prayer in John 17  Jesus’ prayer was for his disciples to be one just as he is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Church as community is a reflection of God’s relationship in Trinity |
| 3.10 –  3.15 | **Video Input: A Community called by God**  (Video Section: 8:30 – 13:42)  How do we seek to be a united community demonstrating the love of God, even when we disagree? |
| 3.15 –  3.30 | **Discussion**  How have you experienced the tensions around issues of identity, sexuality and relationships within church or within other communities you are part of ?  How might the church more effectively reflect the radical welcome of Jesus whilst maintaining integrity over issues of identity, sexuality and relationships? |
| 3.30 -  3.35 | **BRIEF BREAK** |
| 3.35 –  3.55 | **WRAPPING UP & FEEDBACK**  Emphasise today has been a whistle stop tour of LLF! Video sessions are available in full on the Learning Hub and would be worth going through in more detail. There are also more video films/podcasts  FEEDBACK & RESPONSE: Highlight Online Survey and our Diocesan Code (send in an email) and also CREATIVE RESPONSE – Give Stained Glass sheet as an example. Could complete and send photo in  What have you found most interesting or most challenging from today? How might the learning from today affect how you approach these issues in future? |
| 3.55 –  4.00 pm | **CLOSING PRAYER**  Use Prayer on p. 4 after a time of quiet. |