

## Traditional Method of Bible Study

Start with a text..... *“There once was a man”*



Analyse text & ..... *The good Samaritan  
work out principles helped his neighbour...*



Apply to life ..... *We must help others.*

This style provides a framework within which the person can  
Information for retrieval when it is needed. This requires a way  
of thinking & communicating which is based on book learning.  
It is not the appropriate method for a vast number of people.



## **Traditional Tabloid Culture.**

One of the recognised features of Traditional Tabloid Culture is that people within it don't relate very readily to books and text. These are households where you probably won't see many books, if any, perhaps just a TV guide, or a catalogue. It's not that people can't read; it is just that it isn't part of their way of life.

So what do you do? This is a 'non-book' culture and the thing you want them to engage with is – a book! Not only that, it is a big fat book, usually with no pictures, and loads of text, often in language that is strange to most of us!



## The Unlock Method

### **Unlocking Life Experience**

Start with the group telling stories from their real life experience.

### **Leading to more experience**

What we learn now is learnt for life and changes us. We also learn to keep reflecting!

### **Revealing the Down to Earth Christ**

The real life stories are compared to similar situations in the Bible.

### **Releasing Life Changing Skills**

Change happens as a result of linking real life experience with the Bible. This change often leads to action among others.



## Unlocking Life Experience

With prompts...



### Unwanted Gift

What would you like this to be?

Have you ever had a present that was better than you hoped for?

Ever had a disappointing present?

### Celebration

When did you last have something to celebrate?

Have you ever had a party go wrong?

Have you glimpsed something new about God recently?

Have you ever witnessed a miracle?

Has anything good come out of a bad situation?

What does the image make you think of?



### X Factor

Has a hug or kiss or a simple touch ever changed the way you were feeling?

Have you ever embraced someone who was unclean, perhaps smelly?

Have you been embarrassed or uncomfortable by someone's attention?



## Revealing the Down to Earth Christ

*Listen to the stories AND be prepared...*

Bible stories

Unwanted Gift

The wise men following the star.

Celebration

The wedding at Cana.

*But when I used this in December the group spoke about debt, worry, expense so we listened to the story of the lost coin.*

X Factor

Jesus anointed by a Sinful Woman



## Releasing Life Changing Skills

### Connect

#### Unwanted Gift

How is this like the stories we told earlier?

How was Jesus different to what the wise men expected?

Is he different to how you would expect God to be?

#### Celebration

What do you want to remember from this session?

Anything you want to change in your life because of what we've learnt?

Something you intend to do after the things we have thought about?

Is there any 'water' you could change to 'wine' (a bad situation you could make good)?

#### X Factor

How is this story similar to our stories?

How is this story different to our stories?

Do you need a 'God hug' or a kiss from someone?

Do you know someone who needs to feel loved?



## Releasing Life Changing Skills

### Actively Reflect

#### Unwanted Gift

Placing drawings, pictures or models into a gift bag or box to represent unexpected gifts from God.

#### Celebration

What do you want to remember from this session?

Anything you want to change in your life because of what we've learnt?

Something you intend to do after the things we have thought about?

Is there any 'water' you could change to 'wine'? (a bad situation you could make good)

#### X Factor

How is this story similar to our stories?

How is this story different to our stories?

Do you need a 'God hug' or a kiss from someone?

Do you know someone who needs to feel loved?





Content Led



Learner Led



Project Led





# Learner Led

Local

Patient

Listen

Relationship

Expect  
change

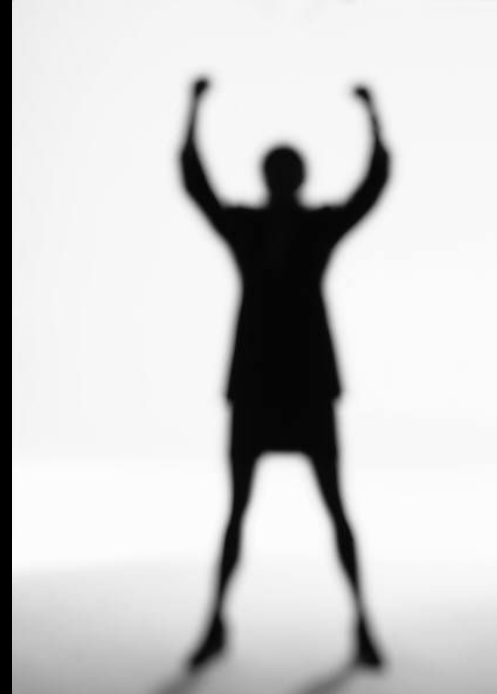
Relationship

Trust

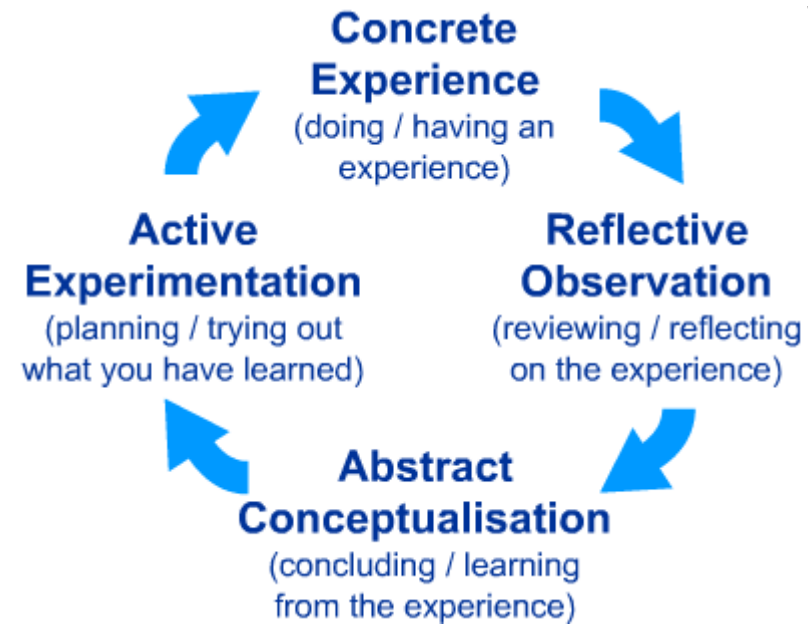
Flexible

Safe  
Venue

Allow group  
to set  
agenda



## Kolb's Learning Cycle



# Honey and Mumford's Learning Styles

Activist

Reflector

Theorist

Pragmatist



## **Activitists (Do)**

Immerse themselves fully in new experiences

Enjoy here and now

Open minded, enthusiastic, flexible

Act first, consider consequences later

Seek to centre activity around themselves



## **Reflectors (Review)**

Stand back and observe

Cautious, take a back seat

Collect and analyze data about  
experience and events, slow to reach  
conclusions

Use information from past, present and  
immediate observations to maintain a big  
picture perspective.



## **Theorists (Conclude)**

Think through problems in a logical manner, value rationality and objectivity  
Assimilate disparate facts into coherent theories

Disciplined, aiming to fit things into rational order

Keen on basic assumptions, principles, theories, models and systems thinking



## **Pragmatists (Plan)**

Keen to put ideas, theories and techniques into practice

Search new ideas and experiment

Act quickly and confidently on ideas, gets straight to the point

Are impatient with endless discussion



# Learning Preferences

Visual

Aural

Read/Write

Kinaesthetic





# The Unlock Cycle and other learning theories

Unlocking Life Experience

Concrete Experience

Activist, Reflector

Kinaesthetic

Leading to more experiences...

Active Experimentation

Pragmatist, Activist

Kinaesthetic

Revealing the Down to Earth Christ

Reflective observation

Reflector, Theorist

Aural, read/write, visual

Releasing Life Changing Skills

Abstract Conceptualisation

Theorist, Pragmatist, Reflector

Visual, Aural, Read/write



## Cooking the Book:

*Have you ever made something that you are proud of?*

Re-upholstering a 3 piece suite and carving book ends.

*How did you feel?*

Kinda too big on the inside, like there wasn't enough room for how pleased I was and I might burst.

Pictorial account of the creation story.

*When God made all those things and when he made each of us, He thought it was good, He probably had the same feelings you did when you were pleased with what you made*

There was a moments silence, one of those holy feeling pauses, then, reverently

That's boss, that is. God thinks I'm alright.



## Some Initial Recommended Reading

Once Upon a Group – Kindred & Kindred

Learning for Life – Yvonne Craig

The Urban Christian – Raymond Bakke

Beyond the Good Samaritan – Ann Morisy

Journeying Out – Ann Morisy

Let's Do Theology – Laurie Green

Pedagogy of the Oppressed – Paulo Freire

