



EQUIPPING URBAN CHRISTIANS

Learning resources for Christian Mission in an Urban World
(Midlands Edition 2009-10)

Equipping Urban Christians

Brochure produced by the Urban Mission Development Project on behalf of the listed organisations.

Action for Transformational Development

Catalyst Trust

Church Action on Poverty

Cliff College

Crucible Course

Development and Missions Network

**Education for Discipleship Steering Group,
W Midlands Regional Training Partnership**

Housing Justice

International Christian College

Livability

Nehemiah Foundation

**New Testament Church of God,
Leadership Training Centre**

Queen's Foundation

**Timothy School of Ministry,
Church of God of Prophecy**

Unlock

Urban Theology Unit

Voice in the City

More copies:

*Download as pdf file from: www.urbanmission.org.uk/umtraining.htm
or www.wmchristianlearning.org.uk*

Paper copies: from admin@urbanmission.org.uk

Introduction



Do you live and serve God in a community in a city centre, inner city, council estate or a town with high unemployment?

Would you like to be more confident in how you and others in your church can show God's love, share your faith as a follower of Jesus, and develop activities to bring hope and reconciliation to your community?

Is God's Spirit prompting you to a new thing to build the Kingdom in your area, and you need some advice?



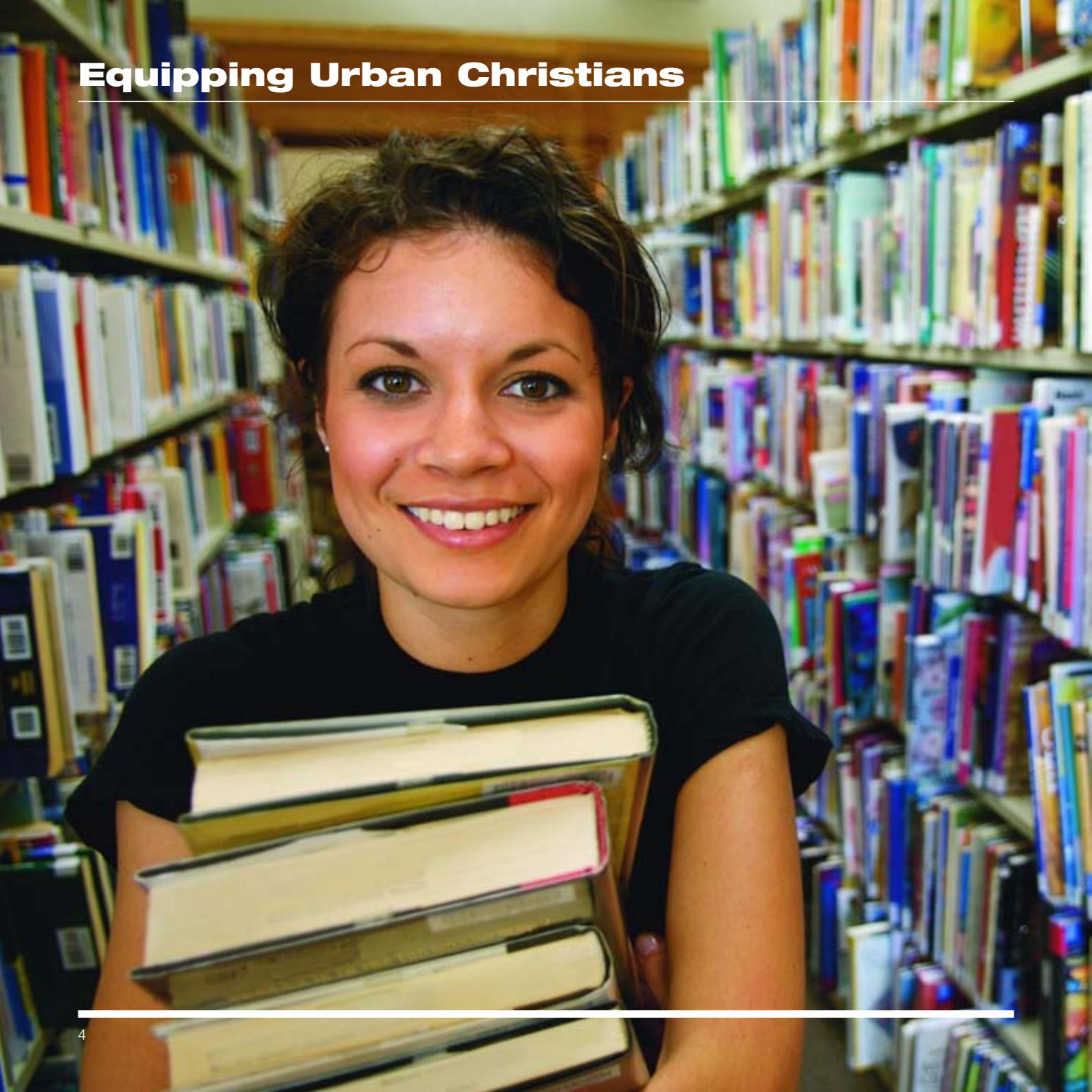
This brochure lists a number of organisations and resources that Christians like you have found helpful, in that task. They come from a variety of Christian traditions and viewpoints, but all have a heart for Jesus' Gospel of good news to gladden the hearts of people poor in goods or in spirit.

Jesus' ministry was one of teaching by words and teaching by doing. So there is a mix of resources listed. Some are about God's practical tasks, and some about our relationship with God. Some are things that you can use on your own, others are best done in groups. Some are based in the Midlands, some are courses where you will study with Christians across the country – and from elsewhere in the world.

We consider however you are serving God in the urban world, you will find something in this brochure to inspire and give you confidence for God's mission in your place.



Equipping Urban Christians



This brochure has listings from a number of organisations, some listing with a full page of detail and others with a few sentences. Each listing includes contact details of how to find out more information about resources they offer. The table below lists all the organisations and shows who their resources are for, how they are delivered and on what page to find further details.

		Action for Transformational Development	Catalyst Trust	Church Action on Poverty	Cliff College MA in Mission programme	Crucible Course	Development and Missions Network	Housing Justice	International Christian College	Livability	Nehemiah Foundation	New Testament Church of God, Leadership Training Centre	Queens Foundation	Timothy School of Ministry Church of God of Prophecy	Urban Theology Unit	Unlock	Voice in the City	West Midlands Education for Discipleship Group	
Who is it for?	Local church members	+	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
What sort of resources and delivery method?	Those in lay or ordained employment	+	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
	Beginners new to topic	⌚	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
	People with some experience	✍	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
	People who wish to engage in depth	📖	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
	Those with some academic theological or bible qualification	💻	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
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Equipping Urban Christians

Housing Justice

FOR: Church members, employed, beginners, experienced

HOW: church-based, course-based

Housing Justice is the national voice of Christian action in the field of housing and homelessness. We exist because we believe human dignity is challenged by the lack of decent housing. We support night-shelters, drop-ins and other practical projects nationwide by providing advice and training for churches and other community groups who work with homeless people. We lobby for change in government policy at national and local levels so that everyone can have a home that truly meets their needs. Housing Justice campaigns for humane treatment of street sleepers and for the provision of more affordable housing.

Our courses are for people interested in, concerned about or working in the area of homelessness in the UK. They include:

Introduction to homelessness - whole day introducing the homelessness scene and key issues for people working in homelessness. An introduction for volunteers at homelessness projects or a refresher for people returning to this field. Can be followed by more intensive sessions on substance abuse and challenging behaviour.

Mentoring and befriending – key skills for befriending homeless contacts made

through other projects. Attenders are equipped to begin work as befrienders. Can also be an introduction to providing a mentoring and befriending project.

Management Committee training
trio – three evenings or a whole day session introducing the role of the management committee member, fundraising and writing a business plan.



TELEPHONE: 020 7723 7273

EMAIL: info@housingjustice.org.uk

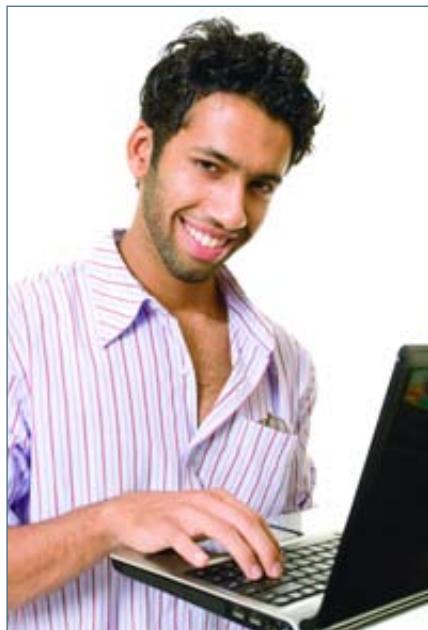
WEBSITE: www.housingjustice.org.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: London

International Christian College

FOR: Church members, employed, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: course-based, mixed learning



The International Christian College provides practice based Masters level training in urban ministry for reflective Christian practitioners. Historical, sociological and theological studies are emphasized in such a way that the student's own context is the central text under examination. The programme highlights an *in-service* structure so that students can remain in ministry, *cohort learning* that is deliberately communal,

an *international* breadth (with residencies in Glasgow, Nairobi and Berlin), with emphasis on *spiritual formation* in order to sustain personal faith and wholeness in the urban context.

This programme of study will have particular appeal to those currently engaged in various Christian ministries that are concerned with urban mission. It will attract those who want space for reflection that maintains theological, sociological and spiritual integrity with a view to improved practice in the context of the city.

ICC offers a *Master of Theology in Ministry in an Urban World* degree. The programme is structured around four parallel tracks. *Urban World Track* explores the history and development of the urban world, using insights from various academic disciplines, especially urban history, sociology and biblical theology. *Urban Church Track* deals with biblical responses to the urban challenges that have direct bearing on effective ecclesiologies. Personal and *Spiritual Development Track* enables participants to reflect on their personal growth in the context of the demands of urban ministry. *Effecting Change Track* offers opportunity to develop skills and practices necessary for improving ministry in the cities of the world.



TELEPHONE: 0141 552 4040

EMAIL: becky.short@icc.ac.uk

WEBSITE: www.icc.ac.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Glasgow



Equipping Urban Christians

Nehemiah Foundation

FOR: Church members, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: Church-based, course-based, mixed learning



The Nehemiah Foundation is developing a new generation of regeneration professionals and equipping churches to support the transformation of the UK's most hard-pressed neighbourhoods.

The regeneration of an area is a complex process. The Nehemiah Foundation builds on 20 years of practitioner experience within community-based regeneration and is based upon the philosophy that regeneration is best initiated within a neighbourhood itself to ensure the sustainability of outcomes. The Nehemiah Foundation has four key aims: training, equipping, supporting

and building community.

The Nehemiah Foundation courses are for people, churches and organisations wanting to engage more fully in the wider community, to understand what a neighbourhood wants and needs, and to be part of developing partnerships to deliver long-term community regeneration.

The Nehemiah Foundation offers:

- An accredited 18-month full time Community Regeneration programme over 4 parts, with participants based with a church or neighbourhood-based organisation, attending training

sessions. Participants will deliver practical and strategic outcomes including the creation of an agreed business plan for local community regeneration.

- A condensed 8-month programme of 6 taught training days, with assignments to be completed with churches and neighbourhoods, helping churches to engage more fully in their wider communities.
- Stand-alone training days on a range of topics (including consultation, community mapping, vision, and governance) to help churches engage with their wider communities.



TELEPHONE: 0121 214 3653

EMAIL: contact@regenworker.com

WEBSITE: www.regenworker.com

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Birmingham

New Testament Church of God, Leadership Training Centre

FOR: Church members, employed, experienced, depth

HOW: mixed learning

The New Testament Church of God (NTCG) exists to advance the Christian Gospel and advocate for its members and other communities within our society.

The NTCG is one of the largest black majority churches in the UK. It has 120 congregations across England and Wales and is represented in every major city.

The NTCG offers courses in biblical, doctrinal and pastoral studies to Christian leaders for personal enrichment and ministerial development at its Leadership Training Centre. The courses are delivered via distance learning. Course participants have the opportunity to:

- Study at the time and pace that best suit their schedule;
- Study individually or with others at home with the help of DVDs;
- Attend two facilitator-led sessions for each course at the Leadership Training Centre;
- Learn from participating in group discussions and fellowship with others;
- Apply learning to life and ministry.

The NTCG offers two courses that are particularly applicable to urban ministry:

1. Planting and Growing Churches

This course provides participants with the opportunity to examine and apply some practical strategies for planting and growing churches. Special attention is given to major strategies for evangelism such as networking, small groups, home visitation, cross-cultural and media ministries. The course will also consider the characteristics of healthy, growing churches, with an emphasis on evangelism and renewal.

2. Ministering to Culturally Diverse Groups.

This course engages participants in a study of ministry to diverse groups with emphasis on urban ministry settings. The course examines the responsibility of the Church to embrace diversity and reach out to all people. It also considers the great potential for ministry in urban areas with the varied expectations and needs of a multi-cultural/ethnic society.



TELEPHONE: 01604 824 233

EMAIL: education@ntcg.org.uk

WEBSITE: www.ntcg.org.uk/education.html

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Northampton

Equipping Urban Christians



The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education

FOR: Church members, employed, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: course-based, mixed learning

The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education is dedicated to excellence in theological education, ministerial training and personal formation in service to the Kingdom of God and our partner churches. We are committed to theological education which is ecumenical, inclusive, engaging, flexible and practical. We aim to form passionate, creative and imaginative disciples of Christ who are able to face the challenges of our world and the church in the 21st century where people must negotiate tradition, change, justice and diversity.

We offer a wide range of courses and programmes – from occasional study for beginners or those wanting to refresh or develop their learning, to full-time study at undergraduate and post graduate levels. Our programmes are usually available to lay and ordained members, but our focus is always on a practical or applied theology: theology that is for the sake of practice, and practice that is theologically reflective.

At Queen's our range of courses can be broken down into three areas:

- Biblical courses, with general introductory courses as well as advanced courses, some of which have an immediate bearing on urban mission, e.g. Reading the Prophets in Public (a study of Amos and Daniel) which is undertaken in Handsworth as well as on the Queen's campus.
- Theological courses, with general introductory courses as well as advanced courses: e.g. Practical Contextual Theology, Theology in the Market Place; Mission in a Post-modern Age, Black and Asian Theologies, interfaith studies.
- For those seeking advanced level courses, we offer an MA in Applied Theological Studies with several 'pathways' which focus and contextualise learning including Mission Leadership, Professional Development in Ministry, Black Ministries and Leadership, feminist theology/spirituality, and plans to develop further strands in interfaith studies and practice.

Most of our teaching is undertaken on the Queen's campus in Edgbaston, with its excellent library resources. You will

learn and reflect with a stimulating group of people whose primary motivation is to deepen their discipleship and to serve God in lay and ordained ministries in the Churches.

The Queen's Foundation
FOR ECUMENICAL THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION



TELEPHONE: 0121 454 1527

EMAIL: enquire@queens.ac.uk

WEBSITE: www.queens.ac.uk

**TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Birmingham,
Edgbaston**

Equipping Urban Christians

Timothy School of Ministry - Church of God of Prophecy

FOR: Church members, employed, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: home based, small group, church-based, course-based

Timothy School of Ministry (TSM), aims is to build up the whole Church to be more effective in establishing faith and ministering the gospel with relevance in today's environment.

Most courses offered are generic to any church organisation. To this end, the School is associated with other Christian centres of education and training and its courses are open to Christians of any Church.

Courses range from Basic/Foundational, Certificate, Practical, and Management levels. We offer the following courses:

Foundation Course: A basic course with 3 modules including Bible, Spiritual Formation and Christian History.

Certificate In Christian Studies: This course is offered in partnership with the St. John's College Nottingham and cover 6 modules, Ministry & Mission In The Local Church, Evangelism, Old & New Testaments, Christian Ethics and God & The World.

Practical Ministries: Selected modules from Conducting Ordinances, Bible Interpretation, Sermon Preparation, and Legal Obligations & Financial Management.

Leadership Development: Designed to suit the needs of each group or church. Typical modules are, Strategic Planning, Ethics, Five-fold Ministry, Team Building, Developing Others etc.



TELEPHONE: 01234 860824

EMAIL: tsmcampus@aol.com

WEBSITE: www.cogop.org.uk/tsm.php

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Bedford

Unlock

FOR: Church members, employed, beginners, experienced

HOW: Church-based, possibly house group

Unlocking real life stories of urban people

Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ

Releasing life changing skills and confidence

The resources and courses that we produce are for anyone working, in text-shy cultures, to connect people's real day to day lives and experiences with the Bible. They are particularly applicable to those working in church fringe, outreach, and social welfare projects, who want appropriate ways of exploring the Christian faith with people in those contexts.

Unlock offers 1 day training events for groups of 10-30 people. Participants will learn about some contemporary UK cultures and focus specifically on 'Traditional Tabloid' culture. They will then experience and explore appropriate ways of working with the Bible in such text-shy communities.

Unlock Bible study resources, developed for use in text-shy cultures are also available to download free from www.unlock-urban.org.uk, so that practitioners can learn by using them in their own contexts. These one off training events can be included as part of a wider training programme.



TELEPHONE: 0114 293 9060

EMAIL: dawn@unlock-urban.org.uk

WEBSITE: www.unlock-urban.org.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Sheffield with an active local project in Birmingham

Equipping Urban Christians

Urban Theology Unit

FOR: Church members, employed, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification
HOW: Church-based, course-based, mixed learning

UTU seeks to bring reflection on the Christian Tradition together with the realities of contemporary issues: it begins with the assumption that theology is contextual and the starting point for theology is our experience, with theology, ethics and biblical studies as a major resource for reflection, reconstruction and practice.

We are an ecumenical charity offering courses at different levels, both validated and unvalidated. The Foundation Degree is now an accepted route for Methodist Local Preachers Training. We also provide pre-ordination training for the Methodist Church.



TELEPHONE: 0114 243 5342

EMAIL: office@utusheffield.org.uk

WEBSITE: www.utusheffield.org.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Sheffield



Voice in the City

FOR: Church members, employed, beginners, experienced, depth

HOW: all delivery methods

Voice in the City is an interdenominational, international missions organisation ministering to thousands worldwide but has a heart for the individual and a mission to reach the lost through global evangelistic crusades and equipping the body of Christ through prayer schools, seminars and evangelism. We endeavour to operate under the banner of servant-hood in all that we do "having a global vision with a local heart."

The style of teachings from Suzette and Gayle is such that it would benefit both the mature and new believer and is great for underpinning a person's faith and for laying the foundations to disciple new believers.



Voice in the City offer over 20 teachings on CD/DVD including:

**Prayer School - including workbook
- as seen on UCB TV
(Suzette Hattingh/Gayle Claxton)**

Gives a fresh understanding of intercession and challenges individuals to live a life of prayer.

The Prayer School can be delivered in person in a church or away from a church but this is only done for larger groups where many churches are coming together to host a prayer school.

**Healing a 3-Part Series
(Suzette Hattingh)**

Amazing truths/practical examples that will teach and guide individuals along the path of biblical healing.

**Effective Evangelism
(Gayle Claxton)**

Will encourage, motivate and show how fruit can come forth in your life as you allow God to use you.

**Impacting Your City – 2-Part Series
(Suzette Hattingh)**

Will inspire people to make a difference in their own neighbourhood, city and surroundings.

The beauty of the CDs/DVDs is that they can be used over and over again, both individually or in small groups.



TELEPHONE: 0121 602 4545

EMAIL: info@voiceinthecity.org

WEBSITE: www.voiceinthecity.org

Equipping Urban Christians



West Midlands Education for Discipleship Group

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced, depth

HOW: small group, church-based, course-based

The Vision of the West Midlands Education for Discipleship Group is to promote a culture of lifelong learning in God's church by working together to resource Christians for discipleship, service and mission and to provide learning opportunities that will enable Christians in the West Midlands to:-

- become more confident in faith, discipleship and understanding in relation to God, the church, and engagement as Christians in the world.
- have a clearer sense of their own and other people's God-given gifts and how to use them effectively.
- work for a fairer and more loving world.
- participate in learning for discipleship that is rooted in an understanding of the Christian tradition and the Bible, whilst maintaining respect for people of other faiths, cultures and traditions.
- learn how to disciple, support and encourage others and to speak confidently about the journey of faith.

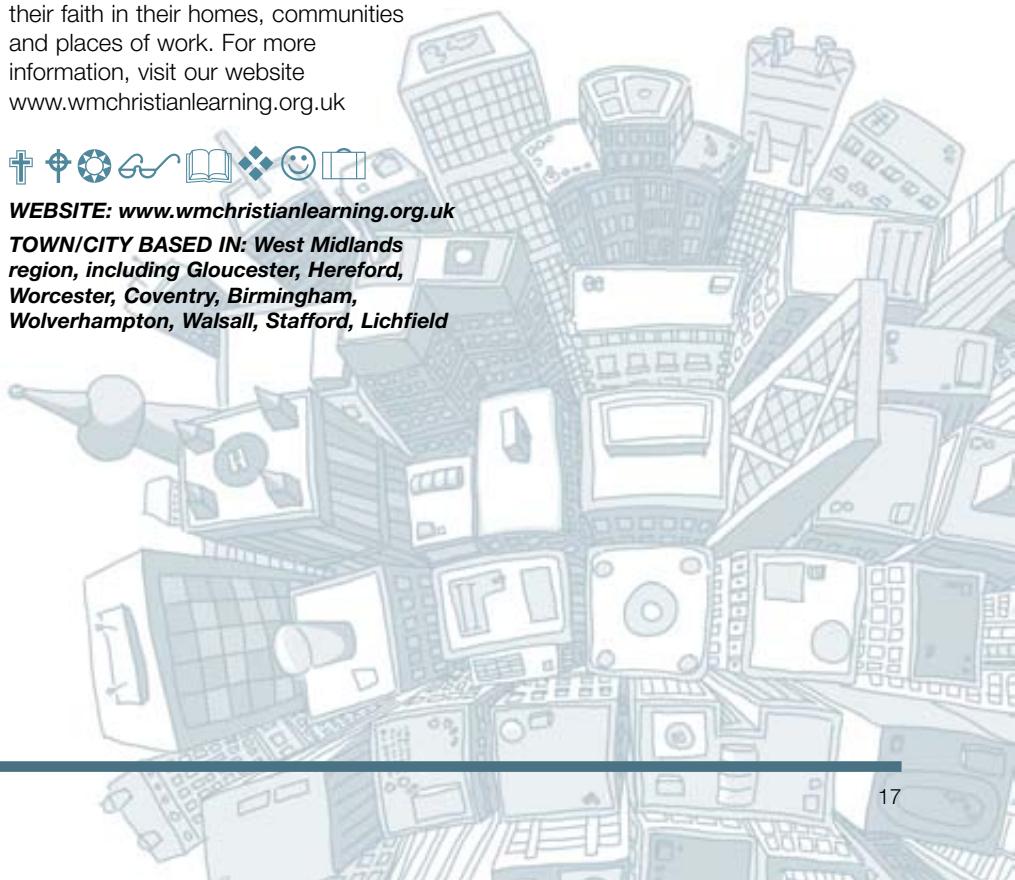
The WM Education for Discipleship Group is a partnership of Methodist,

United Reformed and Anglican Churches in the West Midlands region. We offer a wide range of different courses throughout the West Midlands region. These are predominantly for those who wish to learn how to practice their faith in their homes, communities and places of work. For more information, visit our website www.wmchristianlearning.org.uk



WEBSITE: www.wmchristianlearning.org.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: West Midlands region, including Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, Coventry, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Stafford, Lichfield



Equipping Urban Christians

Action for Transformational Development

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: small group, church based, course based, mixed learning

Anointed for the Marketplace is a two-day course for Christians working in the marketplace whether in commerce, services or trade, with a desire to explore their call to business and anointing for the marketplace. Combining teaching, prayer, fellowship, Bible study, group exercises and individual work, the course emphasis is on offering the tools and the space for

participants to hear God's voice for them personally and to respond in thought, prayer, word and deed.



TELEPHONE: +4479 0697 9262

EMAIL: bishopwaihenya@yahoo.co.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: Oxford

Catalyst Trust

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: All delivery methods

Urban Mission Toolkit – one evening per week, 21 weeks, plus residential weekend to train, equip and mobilise Christians into transforming their local communities.
www.catalysttrust.org/umtvideo

C.O.A.C.H. – (Creating Opportunities and Casting Hope) Community Mentoring Programme

- to recruit, train, equip, mobilise and support volunteers to coach families/young people at risk towards their life goals
www.catalysttrust.org/coachvideo



EMAIL: mark@catalysttrust.org

WEBSITE: www.catalysttrust.org

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: London & Oxford

Church Action on Poverty

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced

HOW: Home-based, small group

Just Church is a free programme to help churches and groups explore the gospel concern for poverty and injustice, and to commit to action for justice in their communities.



TELEPHONE: 0161 236 9321

EMAIL: liamp@church-poverty.org.uk

WEBSITE: www.justchurch.org.uk



Cliff College

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: Home-based, course-based, mixed learning

Cliff College offers a MA in Mission (validated by the University of Manchester) with a number of distinct streams that are applicable for urban mission including Mission and Religious Pluralism, Mission in the World of Work, Mission and Children/Young People, and Mission and Emerging Church.

Individual units can be taken on an 'interest only' basis without university involvement.



TELEPHONE: 01246 584 216

EMAIL: postgrad@cliffcollege.ac.uk

WEBSITE: www.cliffcollege.ac.uk

Equipping Urban Christians



Crucible Course

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced

HOW: Home-based, course-based, mixed learning

Offers three training weekends at the International Mission Centre in Selly Oak. Two streams are available each weekend on subjects relating to church planting, urban ministry and equipping Christians to follow Jesus on the margins (with optional placements and open learning resources).



TELEPHONE: 0117 330 7826

EMAIL: crucible@urbanexpression.org.uk

WEBSITE: www.urbanexpression.org.uk/crucible



Development and Missions Network

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: Course-based



We offer a two-day course entitled *Development Issues in Contemporary Missions* which gives an introduction to international development issues in our world, to help inform the way we view and do missions. Day One of the course is delivered by Christian Aid (West Midlands Unit).



TELEPHONE: 0121 241 2431

EMAIL: dmn@2day.ws

WEBSITE: www.dmn.2day.ws



Livability

FOR: Church members, employed staff, beginners, experienced, depth, qualification

HOW: Small group, church-based, course-based

Livability is one of the largest Christian charities providing local churches with the resources, advice and confidence to bring life to their community. Our **Just People?** six-week course for churches focuses on issues of poverty and justice and what Christians can do in response. The team also hosts regular training days designed to equip the church and the website is full of useful resources.



TELEPHONE: 020 7452 2018

EMAIL: jclark@livelability.org.uk

WEBSITE:

www.communitymission.org.uk

TOWN/CITY BASED IN: London and Yorkshire







This is an excellent initiative in which every Christian can participate to bring our global mandate to our urban settings. I urge every church leader to signpost these learning resources to their congregation and encourage active participation in Christian mission.

Bishop Dr. Eric A. Brown FRSA
Administrative Bishop
New Testament Church of God
England & Wales



The urban landscape is often characterised as ‘god less’, stressful and hard. And yet it more exactly foretells the hope of Heaven that John describes in Revelation 7:9, where ‘every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages’ gather around the throne, than do some more ‘comfortable and affluent’ communities. In this prospectus, you will discover organisations for whom urban areas matter, who find in them the heart of ‘God with us’ and ‘God for us’ and who want to respond with hope and energy to the possibility and challenges.

Revd Dr Mark Wakelin -
Secretary for Internal Relationships,
The Methodist Church



One of the most important aspects of Christian commitment and practice is surely in relation to urban areas. It is here where life-giving and life-denying forces are intricately and intensely negotiated. To be a positive force Christians have to prepare well and reflect honestly and imaginatively. It is indeed good news that expertise from so many quarters has been brought together in this way to help with this task.

Ann Morisy - Community Theologian

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www.urbanmission.org.uk

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