



BIBLE STUDIES FOR SMALL GROUPS ACROSS THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

NOTE FOR FACILITATORS

Welcome

These Bible Study materials have been prepared as part of Phase 3 of the Lambeth Conference and the Lambeth Calls. Each Bible Study will follow a theme of one of the Lambeth Calls. You can find out more information on the Lambeth Conference website.

‘Call and response’ – the bible study format

Each of the Lambeth Calls are offered to the Anglican Communion – inviting response. The Bible Study is based on a format of ‘Call and Response’, based on three steps:

1 - Hear the Call

What does the Lambeth Call explore and what does it mean? Receive help from informed voices from around the Communion (either through watching the introductory video or through reading the introductory notes).

2 - Listen to Scripture

Go to key passages which speak to the theme of this Call and listen to how they might guide your own response.

3 - Make a Response

Work out together and decide on how you are going to put into practice your response to the Call.

Preparing for your session:

- 1 Before the session share a copy of the designated Lambeth Call for everyone to read before the meeting. You can download this from the Lambeth Conference website.
- 2 When the group meets, create a welcoming environment so that participants can feel at home and listen to each other with openness and humility.
- 3 Lead with an opening prayer, inviting God's Spirit to open hearts and minds to the insights of others.
- 4 Introduce the Lambeth Call on Discipleship and invite members of the group to share any initial thoughts and questions.
- 5 Be familiar with the introductory video in advance and show it during the Bible Study – along with any introductory notes.
- 6 Read out Bible passages slowly and prayerfully.
- 7 Discussion questions printed can be used to encourage discussion – or you may create others. There are no right or wrong answers.
- 8 Invite each participant to share what they have learnt and how their outlook has been (or is being) changed.
- 9 Encourage each participant to make a practical response (small or large) to what they have learnt, to be put into practice in the week ahead.
- 10 Close in prayer.

Creating a safe and encouraging space

It's recommended that study groups are small, with around six to ten members, so that there is the opportunity for everyone to contribute.

When creating a safe space for dialogue and mutual learning, facilitators should be aware of the power dynamics in the group (such as race, gender, class, age, educational level, etc.) Participants may have different learning styles or levels of knowledge about the topic. Some may not have had many opportunities for listening to voices from other cultures.

Facilitators should provide encouragement, guidance, and patience. Leave space for individual learning, knowing that each participant learns in his or her own way and speed.

In addition to creating a safe space, it is important to pay attention to the local context and culture as this influences the participants' experience. Entering conversation with others will provide a mirror with which to look at another's context anew. Facilitators can adapt the discussion questions to the local contexts and add other questions.

Expect the Holy Spirit to lead you into new insight and understanding.

Share Your Story – A Message from Bishop Jo

At each phase of the Journey, you are invited to share what the Lambeth Call looks like for you in your context. You might choose to share a prayer, a photo, a short testimony or story, information about one of your projects.

Please share them via our website:

<https://www.lambethconference.org/phase-3/share-your-story/>

Or contact us on social media:

Facebook: /LambethConference

Instagram: /LambethConference

Twitter: @LambethConf

Or email Bishop Jo Bailey Wells: ShareYourStory@lambethconference.org

