

Why is leadership so important?

Christian Schwarz, in his book "Natural Church Development", based on a study of more than 1000 churches in 32 countries concluded that empowering leadership was the first of their eight quality characteristics for healthy churches.

"Leaders of growing churches concentrate on empowering other Christians for ministry. They do not use lay workers as helpers in attaining their own goals and fulfilling their own visions. Rather, they invert the pyramid of authority so that the leader assists Christians to attain the spiritual potential God has for them. These pastors equip, support, motivate and mentor individuals, enabling them to become all that God wants them to be."

Who is leading us?

Revd Simon Jones

Simon is Vicar at St Michael's Stoke Gifford and Area Dean for Kingswood and South Glos. Simon has led teams in a variety of contexts, big Church, small Church, Social action projects and has spoken on leadership at New Wine, Spring Harvest and Soul Survivor.

Revd Paul Hinckley

Paul is Vicar at Bradley Stoke and assistant Area Dean for Kingswood and South Glos. Paul has led "Growing leaders courses" in various contexts and comes with experience of leadership and over 20 years of ministry.

Joel Preston

Joel is the youth minister for St Michaels Church, Bristol where he leads a team of volunteers and interns.

Having been involved in youthwork for more than 12 years, he currently helps lead the Bristol youth workers forum and the South West Soulnet hub.

He specialises in delivering leadership and people management training in a ministry context and has taught for various organisations across the country, including SoulNet, Innovista, SWYM and Youthwork the Conference.

Revd Teresa Taylor

Teresa has participated in GL course and has mentored many people on the course previously. Teresa will be coordinating the Mentors for each attendee.

Guest Speakers

There will be a selection of other speakers at these sessions including Bishop Mike Hill and Bishop Lee Rayfield. All of our speakers are practitioners with lots of experience of growing leaders.

Venue:

St Michael's Centre
North Road, Stoke Gifford BS34 8PD

Tel: 0117 969 2486

email: areadean@stmichaelsbristol.org

An Introduction to the Growing Leaders course.

**A series of nine sessions in 2017 held
at St Michael's centre, Stoke Gifford.**



**An initiative for the Deanery of
Kingswood & South Glos.**

"...prepare God's people for works of service..."
Ephesians 4:11

Growing leaders, Growing Churches

“...prepare God's people for works of service...”
Ephesians 4:11

Developing leaders is a priority for all churches. Research consistently demonstrates the clear link between leadership and the health and growth of a church. And with the realities of mission and ministry in an ever changing culture, developing mission-minded leaders is a vital way of equipping the Church for the opportunities of the 21st century. We will focus on...

- ✓ Being Leaders who are led more by Jesus.
- ✓ Being Leaders who lead more like Jesus.
- ✓ Being Leaders who lead more to Jesus.

Growing Leaders 2017 (one session in 2016)

November 12th 2016 10am-12pm
Taster morning & intro to Growing Leaders course.

9 Saturday Sessions 10am-12pm

January 14th 2017
Leadership Matters.

February 11th 2017 (+Mike Hill speaks)
Establishing identity and Disciplines.

March 11th 2017
Clarifying the call

April 8th 2017 (+Lee Rayfield speaks)
Developing Character

May 13th 2017 (Revd Andy Mason speaks)
Discerning direction

June 10th 2017 (Revd Dr Emma Ineson speaks)
Developing other leaders

July 8th 2017
Leading with others: Potential & Problems

September 9th 2017
The cost of Leadership.

October 14th 2017
Staying Fresh.

And finally...
October 15th 2017 Sunday 6-30pm
Commissioning Service with +Mike Hill

Is it for me?

The Growing Leaders course focuses on developing leaders across the life of the church, and provides practical resources for running a leadership development process over a year.

Now used by hundreds of churches across Britain and the Republic of Ireland, Growing Leaders has been a part of the development of thousands of leaders.

As one participant said: *'I am now so much more confident of what it means to be a Christian leader, and so much better equipped to lead.'*

Anyone in any leadership role within the local church or workplace can come along. For example...

- ✓ Leaders of people in the workplace.
- ✓ Innovators and entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Lent courses, Cell groups, small groups, home groups.
- ✓ Children's work leaders.
- ✓ Social projects.
- ✓ Toddler group.
- ✓ Prayer ministry teams.
- ✓ Young people's work.
- ✓ Churchwardens, leadership teams
- ✓ PCC/church council/ Committee members

It is also appropriate for those who are emerging as leaders, not yet in a leadership role.

What will we do each session?

The course runs over a year with ten sessions, one a month. There is an overview of the content on the previous page.

Focused around some clear aims, each session includes:

- ✓ **Way in:** an exercise to get into the topic.
- ✓ **Bible:** exploring the Bible in a variety of ways to help us understand the topic.
- ✓ **Activity:** varied approaches to integrating learning.
- ✓ **Worship/reflection:** engaging with God in worship and opportunity for personal reflection.

Do I have to do any work?

Yes! The course is a combination of the various elements that makes Growing Leaders so effective.

There are ten sessions over a year, with an exploratory session before the course begins. Each session is two hours long.

There are also four key elements across the year.

1/ Spiritual health check

Each participant is invited to conduct a spiritual 'health check' that helps them review where they are in their relationship with God. They discuss this with their mentor.

2/ Mentors

Participants meet their mentor between each session. These meetings last between 60 and 90 minutes. The pack contains material to help identify, equip and support mentors.

3/ Projects

There are four practical projects as they go through the course. They are designed to help integrate learning with life and leadership.

4/ Prayer base

Growing Leaders is not simply a few extra skills in leadership. It is about transformation. This is God's work in people's lives, and we encourage participants to identify someone who will pray for them as they go through the course. We also encourage their home church to pray for the course as the year progresses.

What will I get during and after?

You will receive a pack of files and resources to enable you to complete the course.

At the end there will be a signed certificate by Bishop Mike Hill to celebrate your completion of the course.

There will also be an encouragement to your home Church to enable your leadership to flourish by getting you involved in some form of local leadership.

You will be commissioned for "future leadership" at the service on Sunday 15th Oct 2017, 6-30pm Stoke Gifford.