## TELFORD CHRISTIANS TOGETHER ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21



#### **Ten Weeks: One Objective**

To know and to make Jesus known





51 Churches with a common vision: getting to know Jesus better and sharing that with those around them. That was the aim of #DOYOUKNOWHIMTELFORD? which ran for ten weeks during April, May and June 2021.

This year our Annual Report is focussed around some of the aspects and outcomes of the ten weeks, but it doesn't end there does it? It was another step in the journey that we're on together to see our Borough transformed by an experience of the love of Jesus. So, throughout this Annual Report you'll find questions, suggestions and opportunities to continue this journey.

You can still find all the resources for adults and children here <u>https://www.telfordchristianstogether.co.uk/about/whats-on/details.aspx?</u> <u>positionId=291</u> and the youth materials are available at <u>https://engageschools.co.uk/10weekplan/</u>

One local church leader sums up the personal impact of #DOYOUKNOWHIMTELFORD?

"Early on in the campaign, I began to seriously ask myself that question. How well do I know him? I know quite a bit about him, but do I know him? Have I walked in his ways and the ways that he has commanded us so that I might experience the life of Jesus. In many ways, no I have not. Thanks in large part to #doyouknowhim my understanding of what discipleship means and looks like has been radically transformed."

> Is there something that you need to continue to explore?



### **In Preparation**

On Saturday February 6th around 70 people gathered on-line to explore the challenges and opportunities that Covid was creating for the church under the banner of **Church Next** 

The morning included input from Alan Hirsch as he explored Covid as an apocalyptic moment that lifted the curtain to see the reality of our situation. He highlighted the need to:

- Re-Jesus the Church, "so that it looks like, feels like, thinks like and sounds like Jesus"
- Re-Disciple the Church, "the way to get Jesus back into the Church"
- Re-Mission the Church, "recover the sent-ness of the Church"
- Re-organise or Re-Form the Church "to create scalable local forms that ordinary disciples can use and lead"

You can watch the whole talk at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=4n6FyWflCFo</u> or search YouTube for Freshstreams

Following a panel discussion Chris Densham explored how the five grace gifts in Ephesians 4 play a vital role in bringing the fulness and maturity of Christ to the Church.

You can find this on the Telford Christians Together YouTube channel at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJaB1t6AI3U&t=14s</u>



# Hadley Methodist Church: Exploring Missional Discipleship

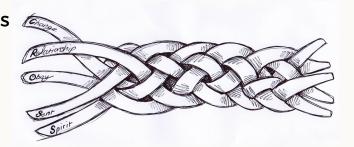
For a number of years Hadley Methodist Church have been on a journey to establish discipleship as the central activity of the church. Initially this revolved around a conversation about what is a disciple, which led to five words describing what it means to follow Jesus.

These five words are being used across all their engagements with Children, Families and Adults.

The Church is now working towards a rhythm of community activities that help to embody these values in their lives.

The five words helpfully form the acrostic CROSS

Change, becoming like Jesus Relationship with Jesus Obedient to Jesus Sent by Jesus Spirit, new life in Jesus



#DOYOUKNOWHIMTELFORD? provided an impetus to explore how the five words could be used missionally.

The decision was taken to create a short course, looking at one word each week, and invite friends to come along to it.

The course was prepared, invitations made, and three folk came as guests, really enjoyed the experience and are continuing on the journey.

Like to know more? Contact Simon Mason smason.tmc@gmail.com



## Schools Art Competition & RE Lessons

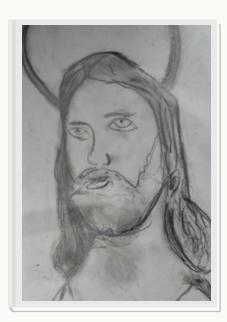
Primary and Secondary Schools were invited to submit questions about the life of Jesus for a free online RE Lesson with Lat Blaylock (National RE Adviser & Editor of "REtoday" magazine)

This was followed with the **Life of Jesus Art Competition**, run In collaboration with WelliArt. Please enjoy some of the winning artwork below



Jesus on the Cross Ophelia Moon (L)

Portrait of Jesus Bobby Fothergill (R)





Jesus the Good Shepherd Emily Middleton (L)

Life of Jesus Dothill Primary (R)





## **Young People**

The material for young people was created by young people with able assistance from John Prockter (Engage Schools). You can find all the video's at <u>https://engageschools.co.uk/10weekplan/</u>

"Creating resources for #doyouknowhim has been such a massive blessing this half term. I've enjoyed getting my teeth stuck into creating discipleship resources, as well as meeting with other youth workers around Telford. It was particularly inspiring to hear young people's voices speaking out their testimonies and sharing how God has worked in their lives. I'm proud, actually, of what we achieved in those sessions, and I hope it will be a valuable resource to those that use it". Becki Bunger

"Thank you so much for this resource, we literally started our church youth group because of it. We have four young people across the deanery." Becki Dotson





## SHARING HOPE Chris Duffett

Chris is an experienced evangelist and trainer of evangelists having established The Light College and Collective. It was wonderful to have him with us for two training sessions, the first on line and the second in person.



A reminder of what he shared in March

#### Ten Ways to Creatively Share Faith in the Storms

- 1. Prayer Walk
- 2. Build a chapel (like a bird box with prayers, stones, hand sanitiser etc inside)
- 3. Write out a blessing & give it away
- 4. Give away something you've made (eg baking; knitting)
- 5. Send a card or postcard
- 6. Leave little signs of Hope around your neighbourhood
- 7. Hold up a sign, such as Can I please tell you my story? or Please can I tell you
- about the hope that I have or I'm here to pray for you
- 8. Invite to an online Alpha
- 9. Create a little garden of hope
- 10. Offer Meditation and Mindfulness on line



How are you growing in your ability to bring hope and share the good news of Jesus?



#### CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

STREET PASTORS

HERE TO LISTEN, CARE, AND HELP.

After 10 years of making a difference on the streets of Telford, we are relaunching and urge you to consider:

#### IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE AS A STREET PASTOR OR PRAYER PASTOR?



#### Are you:

• At least 18 years old (there's no upper age limit)

REET

PASTORS

- A member in good standing of a Christian church of any denomination for at least 12 months
- Recommended by a recognized leader of the church to which you belong
- Reasonably physically fit
- Able to attend the training provided (around 40 hours mostly at weekends)
- Able to satisfy a DBS Check
- A team player able to give a Saturday night every 3 weeks between 10pm & 5am on a Sunday morning
- In possession of a full driving licence (preferable but not essential)

#### Would you like to have a chat about what's involved?

Call: 01952 291904 or Email: telford@streetpastors.org.uk Facebook: Telford Street Pastors Twitter: @TWStreetPastors

Telford Christians Together,

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