



inspire

DEVELOPING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF MISSION-SHAPED DISCIPLES



MORE LIKE JESUS

For me being in an Inspire band is really helpful. I can be honest about the good stuff and the difficult and still feel supported. It's not just a support group though; we're actually trying to challenge one another about how we do discipleship - sharing what is helping us grow more like Jesus, and what frankly isn't.

It's great that it isn't always about me, I get to listen to others as well. After the meeting we're trying to live it out every day and to pray for each other through the week. Actually in a way it's just real live Christian friendship. Can't be bad!

Rev Stephen Newell
Minister - Zion United,
United Reformed / Methodist
Church

mission spirituality

Our vision is to help ordinary, everyday Christians be so thrilled and filled by God's love that they can't help but let that love overflow wherever they are. We believe that people who are going deeper in their love for God (their spirituality) and who are deliberately finding ways to share his love (their mission), will have a huge impact on our culture today.

If the world isn't about to come to church, the church needs transformed people ready and willing to go and transform their part of the world. The Inspire Network and the resources featured in this leaflet are aimed at equipping such a people!

first national gathering

The Inspire Network had its first annual gathering in July 2010. Nearly 100 people gathered from all over the UK (and beyond!) to learn more about Inspire and to meet other members of the network.



Network Director Phil Meadows with network member Deji Okegbile

The next gathering is on July 16th 2011, and smaller regional gatherings are planned for the Spring. Details of all these events can be found on the Inspire website.

We believe that the mission of God is advanced every day by the presence and power of the Spirit at work in the hearts and lives of ordinary disciples





reflecting on the way of life

At the heart of Inspire network is Christian discipleship shaped by a 'way of life'. Inspire isn't a course, or a 'quick fix' for church growth. It is about ordinary Christians learning to love God heart, soul, mind and strength, and

learning to share that love with others in daily life. This way of life defines discipleship in four directions: seeking growth; using disciplines; sharing fellowship and engaging mission (see below, left).

DISCIPLESHIP IN FOUR DIMENSIONS



seeking growth
in knowing and receiving God's love

using disciplines
to deepen our walk with God

sharing fellowship
for mutual support and accountability

engaging mission
by sharing God's love in everyday life

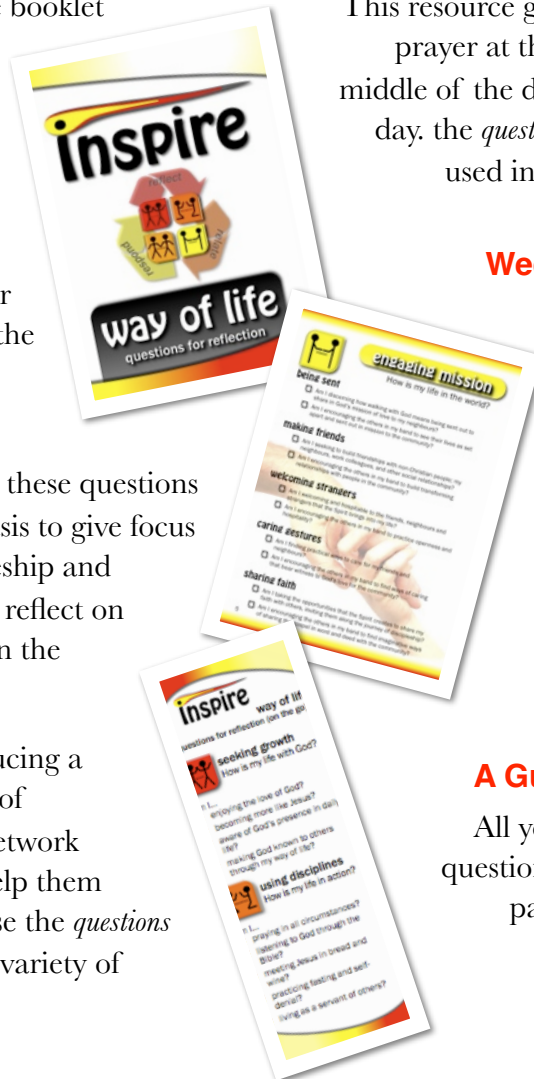
searching questions

Way of Life

The way of life booklet is Inspire's core resource. It contains a selection of *questions for reflection* under each of the four dimensions of the way of life.

Members of thenetwork use these questions on a regular basis to give focus to their discipleship and enable them to reflect on their progress in the way of life.

Inspire is producing a growing range of resources for network members, to help them learn how to use the *questions for reflection* in a variety of different ways.



reflect resources

Daily Prayer Encounter

This resource gives an outline for prayer at the start of the day, middle of the day and end of the day. the *questions for reflection* are used in each prayer time.

Weekly reflections with Scripture

This resource provides readings from the Old and New Testaments to use scripture as the focus for personal reflection on the way of life.

A Guide for Retreat

All you need to use the questions for reflection as part of one or more retreat days.



relating in the fellowship band

Gathering in small groups for mutual support, spiritual direction and accountability is central to the Inspire vision. These groups (called 'fellowship bands') consist of three or four people, who meet at least monthly to give an

account of how they are doing with the four dimensions of the way of life. As each person shares, the others listen and then together seek the guidance of the Spirit for one another's growth in the love of God and neighbour.

fellowship bands

When fellowship bands form they register with the network on the Inspire website. Each member of the band is then sent a resource pack containing all of the 'reflect' resources listed on the opposite page, and a set of resources to help the band get underway. These 'relate' resources are listed opposite.



relate resources

Meeting as a Band

This is the basic guide to get the band going. It contains information about how to keep the band focused, how to lead the first meeting and core commitments made by band members.

Mutual Accountability

A guide to the importance and practice of accountability in the fellowship band.

Group Spiritual Direction

The band is a rich place of diverse wisdom gifts and experience. This guide looks at how to use this diversity to help one another grow,

Using Spiritual Gifts

The Holy Spirit is present and active when the band meets. This guide explores the gifts he brings

inspire4kids

Inspire4Kids was launched at our first annual gathering. To find out more, or to request the resources that are available, contact sam@inspire-network.org.uk



MEETING IN BAND



centring on God

God is present, so meetings begin in prayer and praise!

sharing life

each person gives an account of how they have been doing with the way of life

mutual support

sharing in prayer, scripture, spiritual wisdom and gifts, band members help one another discern what God is saying

going with God

each person resolves to respond to what God has been saying to them, and leaves to put it into practice.

meeting on the web

The Inspire website is an important gathering point for participants in the network. On the website you can explore the Inspire vision, news and events, and download resources. You can also engage with others in online discussion.

registering with the network

The website is the place where you register as part of the network. You might first register as an **explorer**, while you begin to practice the way of life and seek to form a

fellowship band with two or three friends. Once your band is formed, you will be registered as **wayfarers** on the website, and receive the printed resources listed in this brochure. We are here to support you throughout.

school of mission spirituality

As part of the network you can also access online training and tutorials, focused on supporting the way of life, and equipping you to get the most from your bands as you grow in mission-spirituality.

To find out more about Inspire, you could

- use the details below to send for some of our introductory literature
- request a copy of our introductory DVD to show in your church
- visit the website
- e-mail a member of the Inspire team.



enquiries@inspire-network.org.uk

www.inspire-network.org.uk

DEVELOPING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF MISSION-SHAPED DISCIPLES

the INSPIRE TEAM

Network Director
Rev Dr. Phil Meadows oversees the development of the network and is also Lecturer in Missiology and Wesleyan Studies at Cliff College.



Rev Dale Sherriff develops the mission impact of fellowship bands, leadership mentoring, and networking missionaries.



David Lawrence is responsible for establishing, developing and training fellowship bands in the network.



Andrea Rogers (pictured) is just one of a team of Inspire Missioners who are available to help initiate new bands in their local contexts.



If you would like a team member to contact or visit you to introduce Inspire to your church or region, e-mail enquiry@inspire-network.org.uk

The Inspire Network is pleased to be in partnership with:

met cliff
The Methodist Church