



Creative Worship

When using this activity make sure you explain to the participants what is to happen. People get very worried about their creativity, or lack of it! Ensure that everyone knows and understands that the responses they make are personal to them, that the end result does not need to look like anything, nor does any creative writing need to be particularly coherent or laid out in any particular way. This is between them and God. At the end, if they wish, there will be time to share what they have written/made, but only if they want to.

This activity will help participants to reflect and consider that;

- i. God uses seemingly insignificant people and places to continue his work in the world and he wants to use us to share his Good News.
- ii. As individuals, churches and Parishes God's Good News is reflected in what we say and do and how we live.
- iii. We have a story to tell.
- iv. Making the Great Commission a priority as individuals, churches and parishes may mean change.

Using Art.

You will need:

1. A meeting room with tables and movable seating.
2. Bibles or printed copies of the verses to be discussed.
3. Digital projector, laptop and screen or printed copies of pictures.
4. Paper, pens, pastels, crayons, paint, clay etc.
5. CD and player or similar.
6. Flip chart and pens.
7. A copy of 'Reflection' for each participant.

Reflection

The great commission was given to the first disciples from Jesus, it was their core task. It is also for those who continue to call themselves Christians, us! Bishop Stephen Cottrell points out, Jesus didn't tell us to go and make church-goers, or converts, he told us to go and make disciples. As we see from the reading in John, Jesus called ordinary unremarkable people to follow him and to become his disciples. These unremarkable people were the ones he commissioned and empowered through his Holy Spirit.

Questions to reflect on:

- a) What is a disciple?
- b) How do I respond to Jesus call to follow him?
- c) What does the call of The Great Commission mean for me personally?



d) What might responding to The Great Commission as a first priority mean for my church?

Before you meet together:

- (a) Consider room and its layout. You will need easy clean tables and a good number of chairs. Initially there is a time of study and discussion, followed by time for creative responses through the media provided and at the end there will be a plenary/worship. Place some chairs into a semi-circle, as well as around the tables.
- (b) Prepare 2 people to read the following:
 - John 1:35-51
 - Matthew 28:19-20
- (c) The picture The Great Commission by John Larsen read to project or display in another way.
- (d) Some quiet music for playing in the background while the participants are being creative.

Introduction:

- Hand out the 'Reflection sheet'
- Listen to the reading from John.
- Display the picture.
- Listen to the reading from Matthew
- Give some time for people to consider the questions on the Reflection sheets and perhaps note down their responses.

Getting creative:

1. Ask the participants to choose a medium through which to respond to the reading from Matthew using their responses to the Reflection as a guide. Give 30-45 mins for this.
2. Brainstorm using flip chart and pens answers (and dreams) in response to this question. 'In the future how might the Parish share God's Good News?'

Answers could be used to help the development of a Parish plan.