

# Marks of Mission (1): 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2022



## 1: Tell the Good News

*“Everyone who calls, ‘Help, God!’ gets help.” But how can people call for help if they don’t know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven’t heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it? (Romans 10)*

Talk together about any of these 5 questions from week 1.

Choose someone in the group to make notes of any points of interest.

1. *What is the mustard seed, the yeast, in your life, that contributes to the life of the church?*
2. *What **actions** are we already taking, **to sow seeds of love**, to bring the Kingdom of God to the folk of our community?*
3. *Are there things in our personal lives and in the life of our churches which are **not** bearing fruit? **What is God asking us to leave behind** in order to have energy and time for new initiatives?*
4. ***Who** in our circle of friends, who in our community, **has questions that they would like to explore**? How do we find out and how do we help them in that exploration?*
5. *What actions of the church, myself, might be **keeping folk from experiencing God’s love** for themselves?*

## 2: Teach and nurture

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup> Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup> Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6)*

Talk together about any of these 6 questions from week 2.

Choose someone in the group to make notes of any points of interest.

1. *How do **you learn best**, and how can we **encourage that learning process** in ourselves?*
2. *How do you **share your learning** with others through your thinking and your actions?*
3. *Have you found **study groups** helpful in deepening your faith?*
4. *How can we help individuals to **meet with the living Lord Jesus** and experience His loving forgiveness?*
5. *How can we **help families** in our congregations to learn about God’s love in and through family life.*
6. *How can we meet others where they are, allow them to tell their story, and show Christ’s love and life in the ordinary things of life and living?*

### 3: Questions from the General Assembly via Presbytery



Talk together about **all** of these 3 questions.

Choose someone in the group to make notes of any points of interest.

1. Congregations are encouraged to be **outward looking**, engaging with their communities and the wider ecumenical church. *Please offer **new ideas** on how this might be achieved in your parish or record how you are already promoting successful and sustained local mission and ecumenical work.*
2. For the church to find its place in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century it may have to create **alternative worship and service opportunities** differentiated to meet the needs of niche groups. *How might your church accommodate the needs of those whose sense of belonging is primarily through informal gatherings, social networks and the virtual world?*
3. As ministry teams and laity involvement grow, *how might the deployment of volunteer and paid ministry be used **to enhance Mission and Service?***

*Everyone is invited to discuss the next 3 Marks of Mission questions in another congregational zoom conference, from **10am – 11.30am** on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February**.*

*Zoom log-in:*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85492033873?pwd=clRWTDdETVI3Z2p0NzkyOWE5cnRPdz09>

Meeting ID: 854 9203 3873

Passcode: 117250