

# Missional Leadership

Jane Ross

Gill Reynolds

# Missional Leadership

creates “*the conditions for people on the ground to thrive and experience themselves as disciples or apostles*”

Stephanie Speller

# Missional Leadership

Cultivates *“an environment within which God’s people discern God’s directions and activities in them and for the communities in which they find themselves”*.

Roxburgh and Romanuk

# Missional Leadership

## Missional Leader

- Not a control freak
- Not chief spokesperson
- Grows leadership capacity of others
- Helps the group discern its vision
- Encourages group to move into action.

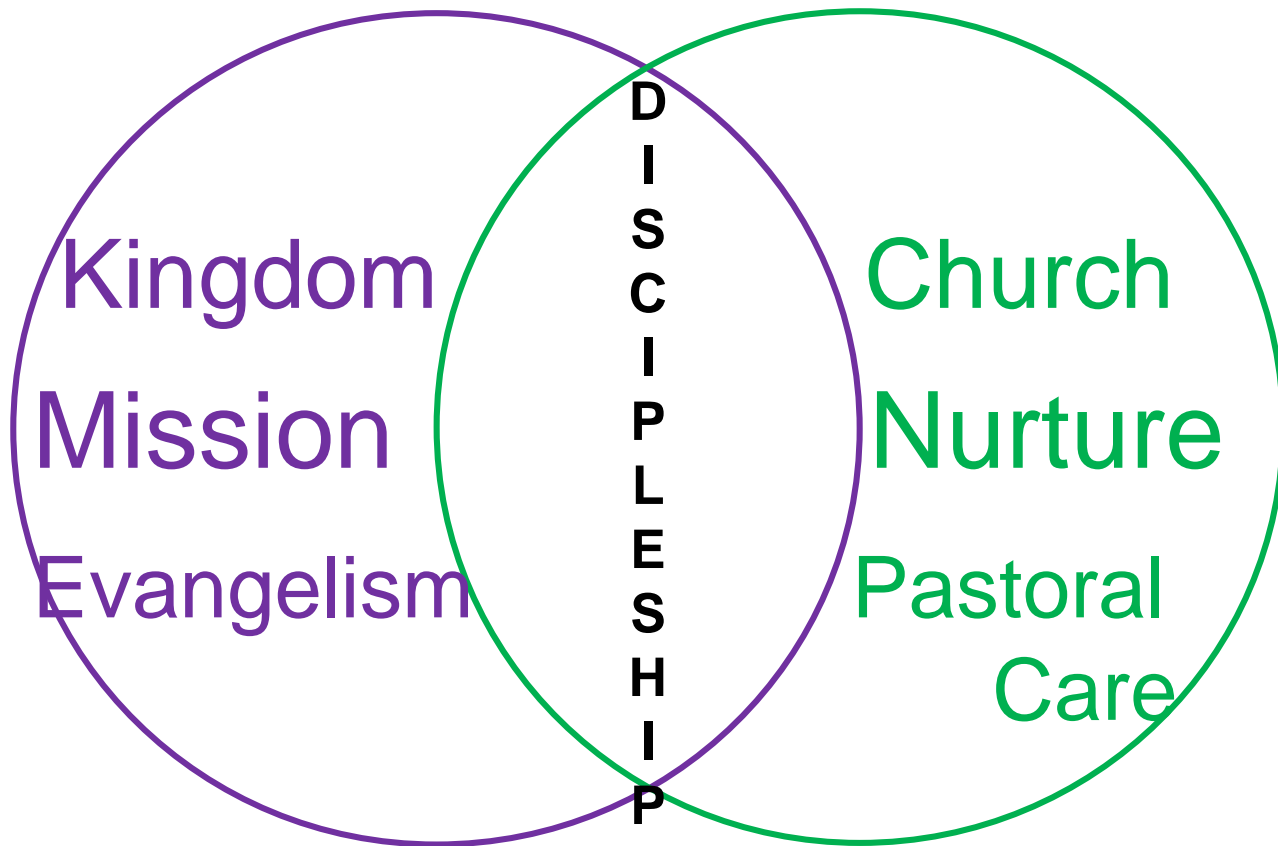
# Missional Leadership

- So what is mission? Means 'sending'
- Missio Dei
  - According to David J. Bosch, "*mission is not primarily an activity of the church, but an attribute of God. God is a missionary God.*"
  - Jurgen Moltmann says, "*It is not the church that has a mission of salvation to fulfill in the world; it is the mission of the Son and the Spirit through the Father that includes the church.*"
  - God's purposes to heal and restore creation
- Seeing what God is already doing and joining in!
- It's not just evangelism!

# 5 Marks of Mission

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

# The Church and Mission



# Missional Leadership

## Eight Characteristics of Healthy Growing Congregations

- **Empowering Leadership\***
- **Gift-oriented Lay Ministry\***
- Passionate Spirituality
- Functional Structures
- Inspiring Worship Services
- Holistic Small Groups
- **Need-oriented Evangelism\***
- Loving Relationships

Christian A. Schwartz

- *“A congregation must become a place where members learn to function like cross-cultural missionaries rather than be a gathering place where people come to receive religious goods and services”.*

(Roxburgh & Romanuk p13)

- *“leadership that cultivates the practice of indwelling Scripture and discovering places for experiment and risk as people discover that the Spirit of God’s life-giving future in Jesus is among them”*

(Roxburgh & Romanuk p27)

# Missional Leadership

- That means you!
- Every member ministry – *Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*

1 Cor 12.27

- Journey of the Baptised report endorsed by General Synod in 2003!
  - not only the clergy are called to ministry but everyone who is baptised is called by Jesus to exercise their ministries and gifts in the church and in the world.

# As 'the Message' has it

You are Christ's body – that's who you are. You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your 'part' mean anything.

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# Missional Leadership

- **1 Tim 4.14**

Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

- **1 Peter 4.10**

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

- **Matthew 22.21**

So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.

Applied to us?

# Missional Leaders

- love God's people
- value the traditions and witness of those who have brought us thus far on the way
- are passionate about keeping God's people moving ...

*“They bring the fruits of tradition as they follow Jesus forming missional Christian communities that can move as boldly as the God whose reign we anticipate.”*

Speller

# Pause for thought

- How do you feel about cultivating an environment that innovates and releases the missional imagination present among a community of God's people?
- Do you believe that God gives us all gifts to be used? How do you know what yours are as individuals and as a church? How do you encourage and bring opportunities?

# Our long term priority

developing **everyone's** sense of being  
not simply members but disciples

▪

.....called to share the good news of Christ with others in daily life: becoming congregations in which all members see themselves **as co-responsible with Rector** and vestry for the missional life of the charge;

# There is no discipleship without mission

- This is about ordinary worshipping Christians – with all their doubts and struggles
- Worship and mission are inseparable
- They form the ordinary rhythm of church life
- Authentic worship leads to mission
- Authentic mission wins worshippers

» Graham Cray

# Why disciples?

- working on the skill of sharing one's faith;
- thinking about how to build spiritual resilience into personal and congregational life;

discipleship?

**So how do we learn to be disciples?**

# What is discipleship?

- Mark 3:14-15 And he appointed twelve, whom he also named apostles, to be with him, and to be sent out to proclaim the message and to have authority to cast out demons.
  - The heart of discipleship is being with Jesus, in order to be like him.
  - Matthew 10.25: it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher.
  - ‘If I am to be Jesus’ disciple that means *I am with him to learn from him how to be like him*’  
Dallas Willard
- Graham Cray

# This is essential, now and later

Because:

- you are in vacancy,
- in any case, no one person has all the necessary skills, and
- together we are **all** stronger and more able to withstand all the slings and arrows

# a Vestry is just a committee

- All organisations need people with abilities
- The more people who take some of the responsibility, the likelier they all are to cope
- So: look around you –
- What needs doing?
- Is it regular or occasional?
- .....Go and do it

# And what about the Rector? -- when you have one

- s/he is unlikely to be able to do everything
- And certainly not all the time
- Let them work to their strengths
- Encourage them
- And find a way to fill in behind

and Rectors....try and get this  
through at the interview!

- Accept and develop these gifts from the disciples around you
- Don't try to be brave.... or proud.....  
or independent
- or even prickly

# and Rectors will be grateful....

- Be grateful for people who have different abilities,
- And be prepared to use them fully and without fear
- Try and build teams

# Because .....

You are Christ's body – that's who you are. You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your 'part' mean anything.

Let us know if you would like us to  
help

Contact