

# Team Talk 2016



## Session 3

### What Could the Team Do?

What Could the Team Do?	1
Welcome	2
Getting to know one another	2
Worship	2
Mission Enabler	3
Growing in discipleship	4
Growing in number of disciples	4
Growing in Service	4
Looking ahead	4
Group Time	4
The Police & Local Authorities...	5
The Diocese...	5
Local Businesses...	6
Schools...	6
Community Groups...	6
Our Neighbours...	7
Plenary Responses	7
The Diocese	7
Community	7
Businesses	7
Schools	8
Police & Local Authorities	8
Neighbours	8



## Welcome

Tim Phillips and Mary Gregory welcomed the 90 or so people to Holy Trinity and asked them to get into groups with people they didn't know.

## Getting to know one another

There were seven groups around the church building.

There were two tasks for this group time:

- Please introduce yourselves
- Share your experiences of Team Talk so far.

There was no plenary feedback from these group times. The people then gathered in the pews for worship.

## Worship

Tim Phillips asked the congregation to stand and join in saying the team talk prayer.

God-in-relationship,  
we pray for one another as we reshape our Team  
and move to inhabit the plans you have for us.  
Keep us attentive to one another and to you.  
Clothe us with love.  
Give us imagination and courage  
to look beyond what has been to what might be.  
Set before us, as our pattern,  
your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who, through costly sacrifice, won us life.  
Your kingdom come  
All Your will be done.

## Amen

Ian Harris and the Holy Trinity Worship Group lead us in singing 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord), by Mat Redman.

*Bless the Lord oh my soul  
Oh my soul  
Worship His Holy name  
Sing like never before  
Oh my soul  
I'll worship Your Holy name*

The sun comes up  
It's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass  
And whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
When the evening comes

### Chorus

You're rich in love  
And You're slow to anger  
Your name is great  
And Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons  
For my heart to find

### Chorus

And on that day  
When my strength is failing  
The end draws near  
And my time has come  
Still my soul will  
Sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years  
And then forevermore  
Forevermore

### Chorus x2

I'll worship Your Holy name  
Jesus I will worship Your Holy name

Sing like never before  
Oh my soul  
I'll worship your holy name

Our Bible reading was John 10:1-21

Tim spoke from the reading:

We come from different sheep pens, but we have one Lord.

We are called to be his followers and so we should lay down our lives for one another. We need to repent of saying these words glibly and to put the needs of others before ourselves. This is both within our church, for those in other churches and beyond.

## Mission Enabler

At 8:00 p.m., as planned, Barry Hill, Mission Enabler from the School of Mission and Ministry at Leicester Diocese joined us.

These are some notes from his address:

If you want to teach people to build boats, don't start with carpentry. Instead, instil a love of the wide boundless ocean.

In American politics the key election advisors of both George W Bush and Barack Obama only agree on only one thing. They each won because they stuck with their imperfect strategy and their opponents kept changing theirs in search of a better one.

In mission it is better to keep going with an imperfect strategy than to not start while we search for a perfect approach.

We don't need to all do the same work. We have overlapping circles (Venn diagrams) of interest:

we can have shared work as well as our own activities.

There is an often told story about dignitaries visiting NASA. The man who swept the floor was asked by one of them, 'What do you do here?'. He answered 'I put a man on the moon'.

We each have a part to play. We can all own the vision.

Like a stick of rock, the same vision can run all the way through us.

The diocesan strategy is called Shaped by God. This has broadly been the same vision for eleven years. Currently this is expressed using the parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13)

- Deeper discipleship: pictured as the roots
- Growth in numbers of disciples: as the branches
- Service of the others: The birds in the branches

Sometimes in the church these three have seemed to be in competition with each other. Actually, they catalyse one another.

If a mustard tree suddenly appeared in a farmers field, it would not be good news. The perfect launch pad for birds to attack the crops. What it means to be a team, to be on a mission, is painful.

The community we have known needs to reform to welcome new people. God might change us by the people he sends to us.

This is already happening here (Barry keenly follows what happens in our team)

- Messy church is hard work.
- A debt help centre brings hard work.

Barry then divided the congregation into three and ask each section to discuss in pairs what is already going under the three areas

- Depth of discipleship
- Seeking more disciples
- Better serve communities

## Responses

### GROWING IN DISCIPLESHIP

- Home groups
- Pastorate
- Soul Cafe
- Messy church
- Carols at Costa
- Souper Saturday. Monthly in Worthington
- Alpha

### GROWING IN NUMBER OF DISCIPLES

- Alpha and Emmaus
- Afternoon tea for the elderly. St Helen's
- Flower festival
- Little Fishes
- Street Pastors

### GROWING IN SERVICE

- AYFC. Host of Events throughout the week and in Glenfield Parva
- Christians Against Poverty. People become debt free and coming to Christ.

Barry notes that there is always overlap between these three areas

### LOOKING AHEAD

So much already here. How can we go from gas mark four to gas mark five in each of these kinds of activities?

## Group Time

Mary Gregory introduced the Group time looking at the question:

What do we want others to say of our Team in Ten Years time?

We were asked to respond under six headings

- The Police and Local Authorities...
- The Diocese...
- Local Businesses...
- Schools...
- Community Groups...
- Our Neighbours...

We then returned to the seven groups formed at the beginning of the evening and wrote our answers on the sheets.

[I could only find six sheets at the end of the evening. If you have the other one, please forward it to me at 1 Trinity Close or [tim@trinityclose.net](mailto:tim@trinityclose.net) and I will include it in next weeks notes]

A miniature version of these feedback sheets is below.



## THE POLICE & LOCAL AUTHORITIES...

- ▶ Church makes a difference in the community e.g. Street Pastors
- ▶ Part of the civic life
- ▶ Running events
- ▶ A community you want to live with,
- ▶ Mutual respect
- ▶ Representation back and forth
- ▶ Increased partnership - already a good working relationship through Street Pastors
- ▶ Input with young people to reduce street problems

- ▶ Positively change the town
- ▶ Street pastors work well with Police
- ▶ We really value their support
- ▶ I wonder what motivates them
- ▶ The foodbanks are really helping give families a break giving us a chance to help with long term issues
- ▶ Thankful for impact of the services provided
  - ▶ foodbank
  - ▶ Street Pastors
  - ▶ CAP etc.
- ▶ An integral part of what they do
- ▶ Street pastors: The police continue to think highly of the team.
  - ▶ reduce crime
  - ▶ as a result of the team influence
  - ▶ even if its just one or two

## THE DIOCESE...

- ▶ They are a great team engaging with schools, community neighbour
- ▶ Thank you for such a large parish contribution!
- ▶ This team meets people where they are, walks alongside them and are approachable.
- ▶ That team creates growth and mission
- ▶ Lets use this team as an example & support its growth
- ▶ Generous with parish contributions because of the size of our congregations!
- ▶ Growing congregations



- ▶ "A lively lot in Ashby"
- ▶ "Keep us on our toes"

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- ▶ Ashby and Breedon Team have really achieved more deepening of discipleship, more disciples and working towards the kingdom.

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- ▶ Seen as a place where good to train new ministers (very positive place)

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- ▶ Share resources (be known for within the team)

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- ▶ Example to the rest of the Diocese

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- ▶ Isn't it great what God has done in the Ashby and Breedon Team!

## LOCAL BUSINESSES...

- ▶ Willing to support the church
- ▶ Grateful for the prayers of the church

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- ▶ Working / Supporting churches
- ▶ Encouraging people to used businesses
- ▶ Support of people in need e.g. work actives within church/business

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- ▶ Providing people to help keep 'services / reliable'
- ▶ Real demand for fair trade

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- ▶ Job clubs have become more proactive networking with us

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- ▶ Interested in the people who run them.
- ▶ Offer a chaplaincy

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- ▶ They support us
- ▶ We support them

## SCHOOLS...

- ▶ Thank you for getting involved with us.

- ▶ The church is passing on faith to young people - Christian growth and values

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- ▶ Changing behaviours
- ▶ "We know we are here"
- ▶ Strong relationship
- ▶ There is a thriving Sunday School.

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- ▶ These guys make a difference in the kids lives
- ▶ Relevant resources for kids
- ▶ Trustworthy

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- ▶ Wow! a block of toilets!
- ▶ What inspirational assemblies
- ▶ They are really supportive of our families through
  - ▶ foodbanks
  - ▶ governors
  - ▶ supporting family values
  - ▶ through messy church
  - ▶ supporting family relationships

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- ▶ AYFC - Starting point, sowing seeds
- ▶ Open the book ministries

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- ▶ Positive influence
- ▶ Sense of belonging
- ▶ Influence has grown -> more going to 'Messy Church'

## COMMUNITY GROUPS...

- ▶ It's hard to imagine what we would do without them.
- ▶ The Team supports the community,
- ▶ Give the community something that nobody else can.
- ▶ Thank goodness they have reopened "The Hub"

- There is a relationship
  - Town wide events
  - Church gives space
- 
- They are good at working together to make a difference to the town
  - "We're everywhere"
  - We are caring and not afraid to get our hands dirty
  - Not judgemental!
- 
- [no response from this group]
- 
- Offering facilities for outreach by providing meeting places and groups for *all*.
  - Getting alongside
  - All Groups
    - "Thankful for the transformed lives"
    - "People we can trust"
    - "Can't manager without them"
- 
- What would we do without them?
  - We can trust them
  - Aware of what goes on in church and team and tap into resources

## OUR NEIGHBOURS...

- A team that works together to support communities
  - Glad that the church is here
  - Church building is a valuable community venue
  - Good the church is open every day
- 
- Respectful
  - Caring

- look after the area
  - Exclusive
  - Invites (personal)
- 
- Someone to go to when your in trouble
  - People to build a health community
  - Not "Sunday-only" Christians
  - Not seen as "Religious"/"Holier than thou"
  - "What are these churches doing to attract so many long people?"
  - See Christ in our congregations
  - Know where to go for help and support.
  - These Christians, see how they love one another.
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- How good it is when people live together in harmony
  - We are not separate from their lives

## Plenary Responses

John Dawson invited one response under each heading.

### THE DIOCESE

- Isn't it great when God has done in the Ashby and Breedon Team
- What a lovely lot of money they are giving us

### COMMUNITY

- It is hard to imagine what we would do with the churches

### BUSINESSES

- Could use the church if they needed support in counselling and moral support.

## SCHOOLS

- ▶ The team or church network really cares about the children. Through Open the book and Carol concerts etc.

## POLICE & LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- ▶ The street Pastors really support us.
- ▶ The foodbanks help to keep people going while we sort out the long term problems.

## NEIGHBOURS

- ▶ Think our team is respectful caring and inclusive and invite people to their services.



The Church Buildings of the Ashby and Breedon Team  
with additional labels where needed

## Closing Worship

We finished with the Team Talk Closing prayer and Ian Harris and the worship group sung a benediction over us.

*Team Talk 2016 Session 4:*

***How will the team work?***

*Tuesday 1 March,*

*Viscount Beaumont School, Coleorton.*

*During this session we will ask you to gather in groups that might work together, Wardens, treasurers, those who lead worship or children groups, etc.*

*Please be ready to ask Questions during Session 5.*