

Reset: Work and Vocation



As good news people in our place, the church has been called and empowered to create, care for and bring flourishing into the places we inhabit. This is the cultural mandate.

Following the support for keyworkers and essential services during the pandemic, these questions will help you to consider how vocation is connected to the various strands of church life. They will also help you to identify new opportunities to consider work as worship as you reset in a post-COVID world.

These questions are informed by data collected from our Changing Church surveys. More information on the surveys is available [here](#).

Gathering

➔ In what ways do you intentionally explore work, vocation and the biblical idea of 'calling' in your main gathering, through teaching, prayer and stories?

➔ Who is given space to publicly share in your gathering? How could you ensure that a breadth of vocational experiences is given a platform?

Small groups

➔ Have you used any small group materials that focus on vocation, career and spheres of influence? How was this received? What was the impact?

➔ How might space be created within small groups for people to receive support through prayer and discipleship with regards to their vocation?

Programme

➔ As you consider restarting your post-COVID programme, how could you create a better balance between a busy weekly schedule and releasing people to bring kingdom values through their everyday work?

➔ In what ways could your revised programme be informed by the expertise of those in your church who are working in education, health, social care, business, the arts and other relevant fields?

Leadership

We often unhelpfully elevate the role of Christian ministry above other vocations.

➔ As you consider the language and structures around ministry and leadership, how can you address this within your church?

➔ Is your church leadership team aware of the vocations of your church? Can you identify those who lead in their workplaces? Once identified, how could these people feed into your church strategy?

Scattered

We can often value the skillsets of those who are sent out in global mission but perhaps overlook the daily work of those in our immediate church. ➔ To what extent do you celebrate and value the daily work of your church people in their scattered places?

➔ In what ways do you support your scattered church to connect their Christian faith with the substance of the work they do during the week, through discipleship, teaching and mentoring?

Culture

➔ What are some of the cultural values and pressures that impact your church community in the area of work and career? Can you discern how these values are present within your people? For example, which vocations are valued, status, income.

Consider the areas where your people work: education, health, social care, business, the arts, for instance.

➔ What key issues might they face that clash with kingdom values? How could you equip them to live counter-culturally within these spaces?

Civic life

➔ Are you aware of Christians working in your local council and government? How might your church community connect with, pray for and support them as they seek to influence policy and civic life through the lens of the kingdom?



Local churches

➔ In what ways could local churches come together to support and resource Christians in their various areas of work? For example, prayer, training, pastoral care, mentoring.

➔ How could the collective church body in your area facilitate inter-denominational support groups for Christians in the same industries and vocations?

Local community

➔ Following the support and appreciation for key workers and essential services, how might your church lead the way in continuing to support, thank and celebrate the daily work that often goes unnoticed?

➔ What resources do you have as a church that might be of use to key leaders in your wider community? For example, using a leadership course as a means of outreach or offering your building to external groups.

As you have reflected on the good news people in your place graphic, identify three key action points as you reset the place of work and vocation within your church:

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