

Reimagining Church

Session 3: The School of Jesus

1. Kingdom and calling

- Mark 1, Jesus' announcement of the Kingdom is followed by the calling of the four fishermen: why?
- "Repent" = change your mind; "Believe" = change your allegiance
- "Repent and believe": two halves of the same thing: a complete 180° U-turn
- Archbishop John Sentamu baptising in York, Easter 2007
- The promises of baptism echo Jesus' two-fold command

2. What is a Christian?

- The most common word for a Christian in the New Testament is "disciple"!
- Luke 9:11-17 Jesus trains his apprentices
- How do we learn in the school of Jesus?
 1. Community
 2. Worship and prayer, especially Communion/Eucharist/Mass/the Lord's Supper
 3. Scripture: "faithful improvisation" of our part in the story
 4. Responsive choices (Luke 6:46)
 5. The Holy Spirit
- The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)

3. What is evangelism?

"Evangelism is co-operating with the *Holy Spirit* to *help* people take *steps* towards being *apprentices of Jesus.*"

Some of the ways we can help:

- ✓ *Be a welcoming community*
- ✓ *Talk about our own experience as disciples*
- ✓ *Offer Christianity 101 –type courses*
- ✓ *Lend a book, recommend a website*
- ✓ *Pray for people, pray with people*

The Mixed Economy (again): Some will be helped to discipleship by inherited churches, others by fresh expressions of church.

