Everyday Faith parish toolkit

1. Personal Discipleship Plans, starting small group/fire pit, creation care exercise etc

Oxford have a great page that introduces these ideas: [Catechesis discipleship (anglican.org)](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/mission-ministry/our-common-vision/catechesis-discipleship/). This has an introduction to personal discipleship plans (PDPs), resources for launching small groups, firepits and a couple of simple exercises. Small groups can for general Bible study, prayer and fellowship, or for a particular group/interest, eg God at Work, those with a passion for creation care, social justice, community outreach etc.

1. This time Tomorrow

An idea from LICC – talked about here: [This Time Tomorrow | LICC](https://licc.org.uk/resources/this-time-tomorrow/) where people are interviewed and asked about what they will be doing this time tomorrow. Questions and examples on the website. Simple, not much planning and gets people talking about work and faith.

1. Fruitfulness on the Frontline

A full course from LICC that talks about God in the workplace, and how churches can support us in this. It has a sermon series, small group materials, a website etc. Start here: [Fruitfulness on the Frontline | LICC](https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/fruitfulness/)

1. Big Church Read

information found here: [New homepage - The Big Church Read](https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/)

1. Shape Course

Many churches have run this course – but you can also do a quiz online too: [s.h.a.p.e. Test – Helping You Discover God's Purpose in Life (freeshapetest.com)](https://www.freeshapetest.com/).

1. Include Everyday Faith in Worship

Discuss how the church includes faith from everyday work situations in services and small groups. How do you pray for people in their lives outside church? When was the last time you prayed for a worker who was in the construction industry or worked in a shop? How do you preach in a way that is directly applicable to work and the environments that your congregation find themselves in Mon-Sat?  
[the-eight-shifts-complete-set-final-.pdf (d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net)](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/613f4f2fb49ba/content/pages/documents/the-eight-shifts-complete-set-final-.pdf)

1. Include local workplaces

Have you included the local businesses in your services? Why not have a service dedicated to local trade? Just like sometimes we invite schools to take part, why not the shops on the local high street? Get the hairdresser or cook from the takeaway to come along and then offer to pray with them? Just be careful it isn’t just a long advert for the corner shop…

1. Vocation is for Everyone

Run a gifts course. Encourage people that it isn’t about filling the Sunday school rota, but about helping people to find out what they are called to be and to do – God’s world needs plumbers and road menders as well as nurses and teachers… How do we do these things in a way that honours God?

1. Live link…

Why not link in live to someone’s place of work? A bit of careful thought and asking permission might lead to a great interactive service, coming live from the local garage in parts.

1. Asking the big questions  
   Creating a culture in which people ask themselves and others some big questions around everyday faith, such as:

* Where have I/we seen God in the everyday over this past week/month/year?
* How has God been at work in me and through me?
* How am I serving God in my everyday contexts?
* As a result of Covid, where has church been pushed out into the everyday?

1. Seven Steps for the Sent Church  
   Introduce these seven steps to the congregation as ways of being effective missionaries in their everyday contexts. There could be a focus on one of the steps each week, teaching on why important, encouragement to make it a habit etc. Discussion around the importance of Christian worldview, hospitality, testimony, prayer, sharing scripture, gathered and sent church etc.
2. **Top and tail prayers**- beginning and end of day, daily commute or journeys, around meetings, appointments, conversations, activities. Bringing God in to every aspect of our frontlines and giving thanks for his presence and his work in us and through us.
3. **Standing Firm on the word** - to have one scripture verse that you take to the frontline with you. Something in your head to refer to, remind yourself of a key truth, be a guiding light in words and actions. Examples: Phil 4:13, Romans 12:1-2, Colossians 3:17 etc
4. **Know your news**- these are the things the people around you will be talking about, most concerned about. What are the headlines of the day? What’s the Christian response in these issues? How can we engage in Godly conversations with others about what's going on in the world? Premier Christianity, ABC Twitter, CofE twitter etc are good places to look for a Christian perspective.
5. **Story up your sleeve**- what’s your Christian story? What difference does knowing Jesus make in your life? How did you come to faith? Have a simple story up your sleeve to share with others should the opportunity arise.
6. **Offer a prayer**- 67% of non-Christian adults and over 50% of young people know a practising Christian. A simple step of offering to pray for an issue in someone’s life or telling them you will be praying for them can mean a lot, shows you care and opens up meaningful conversations. People often notice how “coincidences” start to happen when we pray!
7. **Cuppa and conversation** - most great Christian conversations (and conversions!) in the Bible happen over the sharing of food/drink. Take time to get to know someone over a coffee, arrange to meet and eat lunch together, offer hospitality at home. Make time to spend time with others to build relationships on the frontline.
8. **Top up at the filling station-** we spend 95% of our weeks away from our gathered Christian communities. The 5% time is vital for our growth, encouragement and direction. Make time with the gathered church a priority in your week!
9. The ACORN process  
   Explained in this link and video: <https://creonline.co.uk/fired-up-keep-church-on-mission/>. It’s a simple and yet an incredibly effective way of encouraging people to see God already at work in their contexts and to engage in meaningful conversations with friends, family and colleagues whilst getting prayerful support and encouragement from other Christians.
10. RHYTHM

<https://staugustinesipswich.org.uk/rhythm/>

A great resource to adapt for those churches wanting to deepen discipleship.

1. PREACHING SERIES ON THE WORKPLACE

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| Genesis 1-2: Work: Blessing or Curse? |
| Ecclesiastes 2:17-26: Meaninglessness or Satisfaction? |
| Colossians 3:22-4:1: In authority, under authority |
| Proverbs 1:1-7: The Prudent Student. |
| Luke 10:17-20; John 6:60-69: Success & Failure. |
| Luke 7:1-10: Integrity in the workplace. |
| Mark 10:35-45; 1 Tim.3:1f: Is ambition a sin? |
| Luke 5:1-11, 27-32: Evangelism in the Workplace. |
| Matthew 11:25-30: Coping with the Pressure. |
| Luke 2:25-38: Retirement: Waiting for God? |
| Exodus 20:8-11: How to rest when the work is never done |
| Ephesians 2:1-10: God’s workmanship |