**Greenhouse 3rd Gathering Journey**

**Planning Aid for Facilitators**

We have tried to create this programme to be as flexible as possible to allow you to shape it to fit your Greenhouse/ context but with enough of a framework so that you do not have to start from scratch! You will need to decide whether your gathering will be online or onsite. There are pros and cons of each approach, which will depend on your context. For general ideas on pros and cons to help with your thinking see additional resources section for gathering one. The first programme below is designed for an online event, with the second designed for an onsite in person event - choose whichever is appropriate to you.

As you begin to plan it is important for you to remember that the Greenhouse is the whole community of all the members of the teams, which happens to gather together 2-3 times a year. So, the gathering needs to serve the relationship-building needs of the community and enable great conversations among team members that lead to wiser actions.

We think about the journey of each gathering as having 5 ‘Es’:

* Entice
* Enter
* Engage
* Exit
* Extend

Each of these stages is important for motivating and inspiring people through each gathering of the Greenhouse Community.

In your planning, remember what you’ve learned about the Ethos of Greenhouse – if you need a reminder, rewatch the relevant video in the facilitation training.

**ENTICE**

This begins before the event – it will probably take the form of a pre-gathering email giving practical details and asking the questions below. It could also include social media posts, brief video content of you saying how excited you are to be welcoming them all soon (handheld recording with your smartphone is fine). For online gatherings, If you decide to use the worship idea given towards the end of this document, invite each team to bring a candle (& means of lighting it) to the gathering.

Ask your teams to come to the gathering having thought through the following questions (they will get a couple of minutes to share their answers) and having worked through their relevant Godsend section:

1. Is there anything you’ve tried but didn’t work? *‘What do you need to compost’*
2. What new thing(s) have happened/have you done? *‘What new seeds have you sown?’*
3. What do you want to celebrate?  *‘What fresh shoots or even fruit has there been?’*
4. Where on the Missional Journey are you?

**For an online event**

| Timing | Activity |  | Facilitator Notes | | Who is facilitating | Who is overseeing tech | | Objective |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Pre-event* | ***Sort out Zoom/technology*** |  | *Make sure all facilitators are co-hosts, have whoever is overseeing the breakout rooms as host, ensure screen sharing is set as needed, finalise who will be letting people in from waiting room*  *Set up your Greenhouse Resource table/ virtual table* | |  |  | | *To ensure smooth running of Zoom event* |
| 18.45 | **Setting those attending at ease- informal welcome time** |  | How will you do this in practice?  Let people know you will be starting promptly at 19.00 | |  |  | | *ENTER*  *Setting at ease*  *(welcome and tech)* |
| 19.00 | **Introduction to gathering** |  | Enthusiastic welcome & thank people for their time  Introduce your facilitation team if needed.  Remind people of any ground rules you had agreed upon eg. being present and attentive, being open to others, being honest, respecting confidentiality. | |  |  | | *Put people at ease, make them feel safe & welcome*  *Embedding ground rules linked to ethos.*  *Set the scene.* |
| 19.05 | **Worship** |  | Scroll down this document for a breakdown of this session which is adapted from the Godsend book. After leading teams through this time of worship you may like to suggest that this is a simple approach to worship and prayer which they could use together as a team when they gather (& tell them they can find other examples on p. 47-50 of the Godsend book). | |  |  | | *Importance of starting and focusing on God whilst also modelling ways teams may do this in their own contexts* |
| 19:20 | **Godsend input** |  | There are 18 topics on the Godsend website, each of which correlate with a chapter in the Godsend book, leading people through the Missional Journey (MJ). We recommend that you choose one topic/chapter to introduce to your Greenhouse at each gathering.  Our suggestion for Gathering 3 is either [Starting](https://godsend.cloud/content/listen/starting/) or [Am I Called](https://godsend.cloud/content/listen/called/) (or choose whichever of the topics seem most relevant to your Greenhouse).  Once you have chosen your topic/chapter, it would be great if the facilitators read the relevant book chapter & watch the correlating 90 second animation video and a couple of the stories on the web page.  Having done that, decide how you would like to introduce that topic in the time available in a way which builds people’s confidence and helps them understand this is ‘just in time’ learning, meaning that they as teams can dip into whichever bit is most relevant to them whenever they want. For instance you may choose to show the 90 second animation and one of the stories and/or write a few questions inspired by your reading of the relevant chapter of the book. | |  |  | | *Keep encouraging the teams to use Godsend, helping familiarise them with it and seeing its relevance & usefulness so that they’re encouraged to dip into it themselves.* |
| 19.30 | **‘What is’ Report out** |  | Time given depends on how many teams.  2-3 mins per team to report out on the pre-work questions.  One of the facilitation team could complete and show the MJ template slide showing where each team is on the journey, after everyone has reported out. | |  |  | | *To hear where each team is and give each team a chance to speak into whole group.*  *Someone will need to record where people are on the MJ for the Greenhouse reporting*  *To see the spread of where people are on the missional journey.* |
| 19.55 | **What Could Be- Team Exercise** |  | Facilitator to lead imaginative/body exercise to explore what it would look/feel/sound/be like to be in the next stage of the MJ.  Reference back to the Godsend section they looked at as pre-work.  Scroll down this document to find two options to use here. 5 mins explanation, 5 mins exercise on own, 10 mins in team breakout rooms | |  |  | | *To help teams to imagine and become brave enough to move on to the next stage of the MJ, inviting them to use all their senses and embody the next stage rather than just think about it.* |
| 20.15 | **Report out** |  | 1-2 minute per team to share | |  |  | | *Accountability & connection between teams* |
| 20.30 | **Cross Pollination exercise** |  | Go talk to other teams about something that interested you/stood out/felt similar to your journey you’d like to chat further about.  Scroll down this document for more information on this exercise and a couple of options.  *\*If your gathering is hybrid you will need to work out how you will do this session. You could find a way to buddy teams together or you may want to find another exercise that meets the needs of your teams at this point.* | |  |  | | *For people to have opportunity to meet others from other teams – to grow connection and to inspire, challenge & sharpen their ideas for their own context* |
| 21:00 | ***What will be- Team Time*** |  | Time in groups (in breakout rooms) to explore, from all that you’ve discussed and reflected on:  What next steps do you plan to take?  Who is doing what?  When will you do it?  Encourage teams to get their diaries out and make this really practical.  Remind them they will also need time together to explore the Godsend topic/chapter relevant to where they are on the MJ  The teams will also need to prepare to share their plans with the other teams.  Slide template available | |  |  | | *For teams to come up with their next steps - very practical balance between big picture & small baby steps needed to get there.* |
| 21:20 | **Report out** |  | Invite one person from each team to type what their next step is in the chat and when they are meeting to take it further. Encourage everyone to read over the actions being committed to and pray for each other as they read through them.  *This could be done as a full report if you have additional time in your programme.* | |  |  | | *For all the teams to hear each other’s vision and next steps, to build accountability & commitment to doing the actions planned, and for each team to be prayed for.* |
| 21:25 | **Closing reflections and prayer** |  | You could use the Greenhouse Prayer to close (scroll to end of document)  Thank them for their time and their hard work - encourage them in what they’ve done this evening and bless them on their way with energy and enthusiasm!  If you are using Facebook or Whatsapp, explain how social media will work, remind dates for next sessions etc  You may like to do a simple evaluation exercise as they leave where you invite people to answer two questions ‘what worked really well?’ and ‘what would have made it better?’ - they could either answer these on 2 sides of a piece of paper or have post its with two flipcharts as they leave - one for each question. | |  |  | | *EXIT*  *For each team to leave encouraged, envisioned & ready for action* |
| 21:30 | **Close** |  |  | |  |  | |  |

**EXTEND**

Scroll down to below onsite programme for actions needed after the gathering.

**For an onsite gathering**

| Timing | Activity |  | Facilitator Notes | | Who is facilitating | Who is overseeing tech | | Objective |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Pre-event* | ***Sort out meeting space*** |  | *Make sure all facilitators are ready to go, that the layout of the room works for your planned activities (i.e space for your teams to work together), that technology you will use works (text videos etc).*  *Set up your Greenhouse Resource table* | |  |  | | *To ensure smooth running of event* |
| 18.45 | **Setting those attending at ease- informal welcome time** |  | How will you do this in practice?  Let people know you will be starting promptly at 19.00 | |  |  | | *ENTER*  *Setting at ease* |
| 19.00 | **Introduction to gathering** |  | Enthusiastic welcome & thank people for their time  Introduce your facilitation team if needed.  Remind people of any ground rules you had agreed upon eg. being present and attentive, being open to others, being honest, respecting confidentiality. | |  |  | | *Put people at ease, make them feel safe & welcome*  *Embedding ground rules linked to ethos.*  *Set the scene.* |
| 19.05 | **Worship** |  | Scroll down this document for a breakdown of this session which is adapted from the Godsend book. After leading teams through this time of worship you may like to suggest that this is a simple approach to worship and prayer which they could use together as a team when they gather (& tell them they can find other examples on p. 47-50 of the Godsend book). | |  |  | | *Importance of starting and focusing on God whilst also modelling ways teams may do this in their own contexts* |
| 19.20 | **Godsend Input** |  | There are 18 topics on the Godsend website, each of which correlate with a chapter in the Godsend book, leading people through the Missional Journey (MJ). We recommend that you choose one topic/chapter to introduce to your Greenhouse at each gathering.  Our suggestion for Gathering 3 is either [Starting](https://godsend.cloud/content/listen/starting/) or [Am I Called](https://godsend.cloud/content/listen/called/) (or choose whichever of the topics seem most relevant to your Greenhouse).  Once you have chosen your topic/chapter, it would be great if the facilitators read the relevant book chapter & watch the correlating 90 second animation video and a couple of the stories on the web page.  Having done that, decide how you would like to introduce that topic in the time available in a way which builds people’s confidence and helps them understand this is ‘just in time’ learning, meaning that they as teams can dip into whichever bit is most relevant to them whenever they want. For instance you may choose to show the 90 second animation and one of the stories and/or write a few questions inspired by your reading of the relevant chapter of the book. | |  |  | | *Keep encouraging the teams to use Godsend, helping familiarise them with it and seeing its relevance & usefulness so that they’re encouraged to dip into it themselves.* |
| 19:30 | **‘What is’ Report out** |  | Time given depends on how many teams.  2-3 mins per team to report out on the pre-work questions.  One of the facilitation team could complete and show the MJ template slide showing where each team is on the journey, after everyone has reported out. | |  |  | | *To hear where each team is and give each team a chance to speak into whole group.*  *Someone will need to record where people are on the MJ for the Greenhouse reporting*  *To see the spread of where people are on the missional journey.* |
| 19.55 | **What Could Be- Team Exercise** |  | Facilitator to lead imaginative/body exercise to explore what it would look/feel/sound/be like to be in the next stage of the MJ.  Reference back to the Godsend section they looked at as pre-work.  Scroll down this document to find two options to use here. 5 mins explanation, 5 mins exercise on own, 10 mins in teams. | |  |  | | *To help teams to imagine and become brave enough to move on to the next stage of the MJ, inviting them to use all their senses and embody the next stage rather than just think about it.* |
| 20.15 | **Report out** |  | 1-2 minute per team to share | |  |  | |  |
| 20.30 | **Cross Pollination exercise** |  | Go talk to other teams about something that interested you/stood out/felt similar to your journey you’d like to chat further about.  Scroll down this document for more information on this exercise and a couple of options. | |  |  | | *For people to have opportunity to meet others from other teams – to grow connection and to inspire, challenge & sharpen their ideas for their own context* |
| 20.55 | ***What will be*** |  | Time in groups to explore, from all that you’ve discussed and reflected on:  What next steps do you plan to take?  Who is doing what?  When will you do it?  Encourage teams to get their diaries out and make this really practical.  Remind them they will also need time together to explore the Godsend topic/chapter relevant to where they are on the MJ  The teams will also need to prepare to share their plans with the other teams.  Slide template available | |  |  | | *For teams to come up with their next steps - very practical balance between big picture & small baby steps needed to get there.* |
| 21:15 | **Report out** |  | Time given depends on how many teams.  Get one person from each team to share what their next step is and when they are meeting to take it further.  Finish the report out by praying collectively for the plans/next steps.  This could be done as a full report out if you have additional time in your programme. | |  |  | | *For all the teams to hear each other’s vision and next steps, to build accountability & commitment to doing the actions planned, and for each team to be prayed for.* |
| 21:25 | **Closing reflections and prayer** |  | You could use the Greenhouse Prayer to close (scroll to end of document)  Thank them for their time and their hard work - encourage them in what they’ve done this evening and bless them on their way with energy and enthusiasm!  If you are using Facebook or Whatsapp, explain how social media will work, remind dates for next sessions etc  You may like to do a simple evaluation exercise as they leave where you invite people to answer two questions ‘what worked really well?’ and ‘what would have made it better?’ - they could either answer these on 2 sides of a piece of paper or have post its with two flipcharts as they leave - one for each question. | |  |  | | *EXIT*  *For each team to leave encouraged, envisioned & ready for action* |
| 21:30 | **Close** |  |  | |  |  | |  |

**EXTEND**

Post gathering

* Follow up with an email, text or Whatsapp message to everyone, thanking them for coming and encouraging them with their next steps. Remind them to use the Facebook page/What’s App etc, and do point them to another suggested Godsend chapter/topic according to what came up in your session.
* Diarise a date 4-6 weeks after your gathering to get in touch with everyone asking how they are getting on with their plan? Are they having any difficulties? Have they had any good discussions? Have they watched/read through any more Godsend videos? (You could include a very short selfie video, with the same message.) If you are using Facebook or Whatsapp, you could invite them to post in the group what they are learning, where they would like help or share any inspiration they have found from Godsend.
* Remember to action your plan of how you will keep connecting with your teams until the next gathering, supporting them with prayer and encouragement.

**ALSO DON'T FORGET TO COMPLETE YOU SURVEY** [**https://forms.office.com/e/Y8uBieAezR**](https://forms.office.com/e/Y8uBieAezR)

**Worship idea for gathering: online**

**Instructions**

• Ask teams to bring half loaf of bread on each table.

• Make a slide of Mark 1. 14-20.

• Using their own words, one of the facilitators leads teams through the following worship. Allow 15-20 minutes.

• The following is just a suggestion. Feel free to adapt it and use different timings.

**Drawing into God’s presence (3 minutes)**

• Suggest people silently welcome the presence of Christ, or become conscious of God’s presence. (Allow 30 seconds).

• Encourage people silently to consider the piece of bread. As they think of people they know, who needs to be fed and in what ways? Tell them that they will be invited to share their thoughts afterwards. (Allow 1 minute.)

• Then invite people to share their thoughts with the person next to them if hybrid or in chat if on separate screens (1 1/2 minutes).

**Bible study (10 minutes)**

• Facilitator slowly reads Mark 1. 14-20 - Jesus calls the first disciples (1 minute). [In the context of John’s imprisonment, following Jesus required courage.]

• Ask people to re-read the passage silently and imagine what that story would be like if it happened today (1 minute).

• Put groups into a breakout room to share their thoughts with others if on separate screens or ask to share in their teams if hybrid (5 minutes).

• Then ask them to think silently what the story is saying to them. “What does it mean to me? What am I getting out of it?” (1 minute)

• Invite them to share their thoughts with others via chat (2 minutes)

**Reflection (2-7 minutes)**

• In a plenary session, ask how people found that experience, get people to put their thoughts in chat (2 minutes).

• (If time, explain that this is one of the *Godsend* suggestions for how you might introduce people from outside the church to Christ. You could look at some stories Jesus told or stories about him, and discuss it using these questions. Ask if people think this would be a helpful approach for those who are new to Scripture (5 minutes).)

**Worship idea for gathering: onsite**

**Instructions**

• Before teams arrive, put a half loaf of bread on each table.

• Print off copies of Mark 1. 14-20.

• Using their own words, one of the facilitators leads teams through the following worship. Allow 15-20 minutes.

• The following is just a suggestion. Feel free to adapt it and use different timings.

**Drawing into God’s presence (3 minutes)**

• Suggest people silently welcome the presence of Christ, or become conscious of God’s presence. (Allow 30 seconds).

• Encourage people silently to consider the piece of bread. As they think of people they know, who needs to be fed and in what ways? Tell them that they will be invited to share their thoughts afterwards. (Allow 1 minute.)

• Then invite people to share their thoughts with others on the table (1 1/2 minutes).

**Bible study (10 minutes)**

• Facilitator slowly reads Mark 1. 14-20 - Jesus calls the first disciples (1 minute). [In the context of John’s imprisonment, following Jesus required courage.]

• Ask people to re-read the passage silently and imagine what that story would be like if it happened today (1 minute).

• Invite them to share their thoughts with others on the table (4 minutes).

• Then ask them to think silently what the story is saying to them. “What does it mean to me? What am I getting out of it?” (1 minute)

• Invite them to share their thoughts with others on the table (3 minutes)

**Reflection (2-7 minutes)**

• In a plenary session, ask how people found that experience (2 minutes).

• (If time, explain that this is one of the *Godsend* suggestions for how you might introduce people from outside the church to Christ. You could look at some stories Jesus told or stories about him, and discuss it using these questions. Ask if people think this would be a helpful approach for those who are new to Scripture (5 minutes).)

***‘What could be’* Team Reflection ideas for Greenhouse Gathering 3**

“What would it look/feel/sound/be like to be in the next stage of the Missional Journey?” [20 mins Imaginative exercise in teams + 1-2 min/team report out]

***Purpose:*** *To help teams to imagine and become brave enough to move on to the next stage of the MJ, inviting them to use all their senses and embody the next stage rather than just think about it.*

5 min intro & 5 min exercise:

Remind them that as pre-work, teams had been asked to work through the Godsend section relevant to the part of the MJ that will be their next step. Acknowledge the tension:

a) they need to go at the right speed for their context (no pressure to move on too soon)

b) moving onto the next stage of the journey is important if they’re going to reach their goal, and can feel scary (easier to stay where they are – like the disciples at the transfiguration – stick with what’s comfortable & what we know!)

And so this is a chance to feel their way into the next step of the journey – to get excited about what that will open up. What will it be/feel like to have moved into that next stage? Finding ways to do this which takes them out of their heads and into their bodies! You can do this however you like – you know your teams – keep it clear and simple. Here are a couple of ideas:

Remind them of the MJ (slide?) – remind them to locate where they currently are and so where their next stage is – that’s what they’re going to focus on now and do an exercise to imagine they’ve moved to that next stage.

**Option 1 – Led imaginative exercise:** Invite them to imagine that they have moved onto the next stage of the MJ – they’re 3 months into the new stage, say. Invite them to picture that in their mind’s eye. Eg. what does it look like, who is there, what are you doing, what does it feel like, what has shifted, what feels exciting, how do you feel about having made the move, what key things shifted for you to be able to make that move? It would work best to write a simple script in your own words – this could be a meditation where you invite them to imagine Jesus in the scenario, or just a simple imaginative exercise.

**Option 2 - Body movement exercise:** Invite them to take part in a physical exercise where they first stand up and stretch (if you’re on Zoom, they can do this with their cameras turned off in the space they’re in), then invite them to picture where they are as a team at the moment – how is it feeling, is it cramped/spacious, is it hopeful/challenging, is it familiar/strange – once they’ve reflected on that for a bit, invite them to find a posture or body position which reflects how that’s feeling (urge them not to overthink it – let their body find a position which fits for them). Whilst they hold that position, ask them to imagine they’ve stepped into the next stage of the MJ – they’ve got beyond the change, and are well embedded there – what are the feelings of this stage – cramped/spacious, exciting/risky, hopeful/adventurous (you choose feelings you want to offer them) …something completely different! Now, invite them to let their body move into a posture/position which reflects those feelings. Give them a moment to move, encourage them for going with it, and invite them as they stand there to notice what they can about the shape they’ve taken – notice what it tells them about the next stage and how they feel about it, what might be needed to unlock it etc… As with option 1, it may be easiest to write a simple script for yourself which you read through with plenty of pauses.

**All options: Team time:** Thank them for having a go at that, and tell them they’ve now got 10-15 mins in their teams to discuss what they noticed in that exercise & what they want to feedback. You may want to tailor this feedback specifically to whichever exercise they did eg. what 2 things did they most notice & what does that tell them about taking the next step? Return to the main group ready to give a 1-2 min report out.

**Cross Pollination Exercise (20 mins):**

“Go talk to other teams about something that interested you/stood out/felt similar to your journey you’d like to chat further about. Reference back to the Godsend section they looked at as pre-work.”

*Purpose: For people to have opportunity to meet others from other teams – to grow connection and to inspire, challenge & sharpen their ideas for their own context*

Again, you can set this up in whatever way works best for your teams (& depending whether you’re online/in person/hybrid). Being clear about what you know your teams most need at this point will help you decide between options. Here are a couple of ideas:

**Option 1:** Open random breakout rooms and people can just flit in and out of them, chatting to others about what’s inspired them from what they’ve heard/questions arising – set this up in such a way that people are mixed up so they’re with people from other teams.

**Option 2:** On a first come first served basis, invite one person from each team to write into the chat the help they would need to step into the next stage of the MJ – are there sticking points/challenges they need to overcome? Once they’ve done that open breakout rooms with each of the people who volunteered a challenge as the host of that breakout room, and invite everyone else to dip in and out of the existing rooms to listen, offer ideas & exchange tips.

With either of these options, begin by outlining ‘the law of two feet’ which is that if you find yourself in a situation where you are not contributing or learning, move somewhere where you can – this encourages passion & responsibility and reminds us not to feel guilty for dipping out of a conversation and into another! Once that is established it’s easier for people to feel they can leave without causing offence, because everyone is operating according to the same principle.

And there are 4 possible roles in these exercises:

1. host – the person who brought a question/challenge/sticking point to overcome

2. participant – participates in the conversation

3. bumble bee – moves between conversations, cross-pollinating (eg. ‘that’s interesting because I was listening to Sarah in the other room just now and she was saying….’)

4. butterfly – takes time out to reflect (ie using the law of two feet – as long as she/he is learning/contributing there’s no obligation to be in a conversation if self-reflection is more useful).

***Greenhouse Prayer***

God of love, you have called us to sow your good news afresh to each generation, to all people and all cultures.

We are your people; your church and we hear your call.

Help us to begin this journey with humility, knowing that it is you alone who guides our way and lights our path.

May our journey be one bursting with joy and full of the creativity and playfulness of your spirit.

Open our ears to hear your will, our eyes to see what is happening in our communities and our hearts to the lives of our neighbours.

May we be so deeply rooted in your love that we are able to love others as you love us and serve with real joy and grace.

Remind us to drink deep from your word, and in the difficult seasons turn our faces to you and be content to rest in prayer.

Teach us to be humble enough to accept the support and the wisdom of others and open to others who wish to join the journey.

Grow us together as one people, at all times practising peace and justice and nourishing one another.

May all that we are and do bear fruit, where we get things wrong may we learn and find new strength and where things go well help us to give the glory to you.

Inspire us and teach us to live your love with hope and joy, imagination and courage, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus,

Amen