



# imagine

## *how we can reach the UK*

### **How to use the DVD in churches and small groups**

The Gospel is not just a way 'in', the Gospel is a way 'on' and we need to create church communities that make disciples, equipped both to live and to reach out in today's society. That's what we're working on at LICC in one of our major projects which we call *Imagine*. How can we create church communities that make whole-life disciples for today's world? It's not about programmes or about particular resources – though we've produced some. Fundamentally if we want to really change our communities, we have to change our values:

1. Are we a whole-life community – committed to addressing all of life?
2. Are we a disciple-making community – an apprentice community committed to developing the kinds of relationships where we are genuinely helping one another to live, grow and flourish in Christ – through all the seasons of life?

This DVD resource sets out the vision and helps churches begin the journey. We'd like to imagine that you'd be able to use this DVD in lots of different ways. So this is a quick tour of what's here and some suggestions of how you might use them.

#### **1. Film: Imagine how we can reach the UK**

There is, of course, the main film – *Imagine how we can reach the UK*. In the film we describe something of what it's like to be a Christian in the UK today, and the challenge of following Christ in such a radically changed and rapidly changing culture. And we describe the kind of church we believe we need to be in order to help each other be missionary followers of Jesus, growing up into fullness in Christ.

You can show the full film in a whole church meeting and then break up into smaller groups to discuss some of the questions in the discussion guide. Or watch it together in a small group. It often takes a while for people to grasp the significance of whole-life discipleship for mission today, and the culture shift that is needed in our churches. So do use the film with different groups of people and get them talking.

There are quite a lot of ideas in the film so in the 'Extra Resources' part of the DVD we've presented the film in two parts. This gives a church or a small group the opportunity to watch half the film and then take time to discuss what they've seen, and then tackle the second half in a second session.

The Discussion Guide can be printed from the DVD by inserting the disk into a computer. Alternatively it's available on the LICC website – [www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources](http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources)

You'll see that the Discussion Guide also provides ideas for things to do in-between sessions, and a third session for groups or churches that want to think through the implications of the film in more detail.

## 2. Extra Resources

The 'Extra Resources' Menu on the DVD provides access to a number of options:

### ***Film Scenes with Discussion Guide***

In this section of the DVD you can watch the film in two parts. The discussion guide that goes with it can be found in the DVD-ROM resources section of the DVD or on the LICC website – [www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources](http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine/resources)

### ***Preaching & Teaching Excerpts***

A series of short extracts from the main film that illustrate key themes and stories. They could be used to focus teaching, promote discussion or illustrate sermons.

#### **Imagine how we can reach the UK – synopsis (3:37)**

A short introduction to the film focusing on the need for Christians to be briefed, trained, resourced and supported for mission in the world. This synopsis highlights the sense of bewilderment that many Christians feel, living in today's world. It clarifies the task: how to help Christians grow in faith and in life and mission in order to make a difference for Christ where they are.

#### **Bond – briefed, trained, resourced and supported for mission in the world (2:29)**

Focusing on the analogy with James Bond and highlighting the need to prepare Christians for mission and for life in today's world.

#### **Bewilderment – living in the UK today (2:15)**

Short stories that illustrate the sense of bewilderment that many Christians feel living in the UK today.

#### **The state of the nation (3:25)**

A sociological analysis of the state of the nation.

#### **Graham Cray on discipleship (2:07)**

Graham Cray, Bishop of Maidstone, highlights the call to whole-life discipleship in today's consumer culture. Whatever else they do, churches must learn to become disciple-making communities.

#### **Sacred Secular Divide (2:58)**

A short resume of the sacred secular divide – what's really important to God? The SSD has had a devastating impact on two key areas of our lives – our mission and our living.

#### **Supporting the teacher (0:50)**

An interview with a teacher that illustrates the sacred secular divide.

#### **Dots & FTCWs (3:37)**

Two visual illustrations of the opportunity we have. 7.5% of the population go to church once a week or more. They gather together as the people of God and they are also scattered in the world, leaving traces of grace all around. Every Christian is an FTCW – a full-time Christian worker – but most of us don't feel that way.

#### **Creating a context for human flourishing (0:56)**

Based on Genesis – God creates a context for human flourishing with Him.

### **The scope of God's interest (0:50)**

Is God really interested in the little things that we do – name a fragrance, name an elephant ...? Concludes with the affirmation that here is indeed no sacred secular divide.

### **Two key values for whole-life disciple-making communities (1:08)**

How can we make sure that what we do together in our churches can help us to live life well in the world. The answer lies in ensuring that our church communities are committed to two key values – addressing all of life, not just little bits of it; becoming a disciple-making community.

### **Brookside Community Church (3:07)**

Based on the theme of the priesthood of all believers, this is a story from a local church that describes how they started to demonstrate that they really did value all of each others' lives. It shows that you can start to change a church culture through small steps, without necessarily having to make massive changes.

### **Building with scaffolding – Locks Heath Free Church (1:22)**

A story from a local church that uses the picture of scaffolding to describe an apprentice mindset. Their structures and programmes are a means to an end – they support a change in culture, a means to change but not the end.

### **Of Agnes & Alan – Hebrews 10:24 (3:17)**

The story of Agnes, the church caretaker, and Alan, the elder and managing director. It illustrates the opportunity for Christians to 'provoke' or 'incite' or 'encourage' one another to love and good deeds wherever they are and whatever they do.

## ***Church Leader Interviews***

There are three five-minute interviews with church leaders featured in the film who talk more about how they've approached disciple-making in their context and some of the issues we face in the UK today. These interviews are with Graham Cray - Bishop of Maidstone, Mark & Cathy Madavan - Locks Heath Free Church and Steve Prince - Brookside Community Church. They would also provide good discussion material for a small group.

## ***Partner Perspectives***

You may also be interested to hear how different parts of the UK church are looking at mission and discipleship. So there are five interviews with people representing different organisations or streams of the church, who give their perspective on reaching the UK today, and how *Imagine* fits with what's they're doing.

The interviews are with:

Juliet Kilpin	– Baptist Union of Great Britain
Paul Bayes	– Church of England's National Missions & Evangelism Adviser
Chris Stoddard	– Reaching the Unchurched Network (RUN)
John Smith	– The Evangelical Alliance
Jan McCuin	– The Navigators UK

## ***Introducing LICC and the Imagine Project***

If you'd like to know more about LICC and about the Imagine Project this five minute film will introduce you to them both. For more information about LICC you can also visit our website [www.licc.org.uk](http://www.licc.org.uk)

## ***DVD-ROM resources***

The disk can also be inserted in a computer drive and used to print off a number of resources.

### **Film discussion guide**

For use with either the full film or the film shown in two parts.

### **Questionnaire – Issues you’re facing in today’s world**

This is based on the questionnaire that we used in the 2003 Imagine survey. You could do this questionnaire in your church or group and compare it with the results of our survey (available on the Imagine area of the LICC website – [www.licc.org.uk/imagine/research](http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine/research)). It can help identify some of the needs to be addressed within your group or church.

### **Questionnaire - How whole-life is your church?**

Answer these questions individually or as a group and see how whole-life your church is. This might help identify some concrete ways forward for various aspects of your church or personal life.

### **20 small steps towards whole-life apprenticeship**

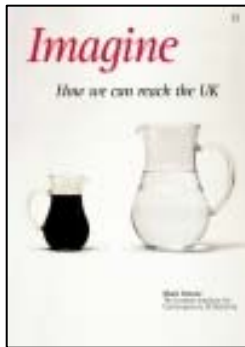
It’s often helpful to think of some relatively easy things to do that get you moving in a certain direction. We’ve provided some starter ideas in ‘20 small steps towards whole-life apprenticeship’. They’re ideas for reflection, action, experimentation, prayer, and discovery and are suitable for individuals or groups.

### **‘Imagine how we can reach the UK’ PowerPoint presentation**

Where a DVD is impractical this PowerPoint presentation provides an alternative method of presentation. An example of a script to go with the slides is shown in the ‘notes’ layout. The script can be personalised as appropriate. You could even print out some slides for an overhead projector if necessary.

### 3. Other 'Imagine' resources available from LICC

Some people find it helpful to have something to read or even to listen to. In different ways the range of 'Imagine' resources currently available might reinforce or unpack some of the key points from the DVD. Others start to take the ideas on further.



**Magazine: £3**

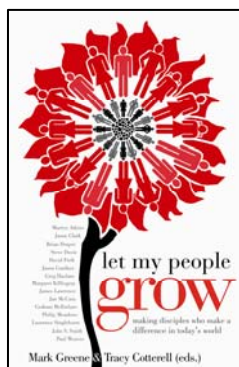
'Imagine' was launched in 2003 with this publication, *Imagine how we can reach the UK*. In a country where people don't even know why Easter is a public holiday a radical strategy is desperately needed. Intended as a catalyst for debate about reaching the UK in today's new culture, *Imagine how we can reach the UK* develops a diagnosis of the state of the nation and of the church. Its conclusion is simple:

"The UK will never be reached until we begin to create open, authentic, learning and praying communities that are focused on making whole-life disciples who live and share the Gospel wherever they relate to people in their daily lives."



**Magazine: £3**

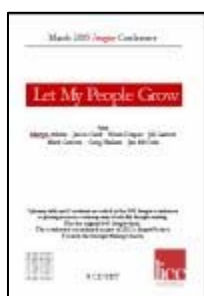
From this and further research, LICC developed a second magazine, *Let My People Grow*. Published in September 2005 in partnership with the Evangelical Alliance, this magazine starts to unpack some answers to the question: how might we create church communities of growing, whole-life apprentices who will together reach out to our hurting, needy nation? Focusing in particular on two values that underpin a whole-life disciple-making culture, and with case studies, a questionnaire and plenty of suggestions *Let My People Grow* is a catalyst for change and for setting a new direction in our churches.



**Book: £7.99**

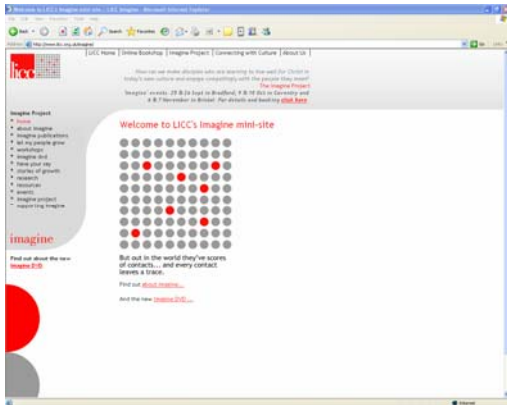
Fifteen multi-disciplinary experts and practitioners representing a breadth of churchmanship reflect deeply on this issue of whole-life disciple-making. The collection brings insights from the Old and New Testaments, from the experience of the early church, Wesley and a number of contemporary pioneering experiments in disciple-making from a variety of church streams. It looks at the implications of such a radical shift in church culture for leadership teams and explores how a deeper consideration of what it means to be human is so vital in developing our picture of Christian discipleship. *Contributing authors: Martyn Atkins, Jason Clark, Brian Draper, Steve Davie, David Firth, Jason Gardner, Greg Haslam, Margaret Killingray, James*

*Lawrence, Jan McCuin, Graham McFarlane, Philip Meadows, Laurence Singlehurst, John Smith, Paul Weaver.*



**Audio CD Collection: £17**

And for those who like to audio resources, perhaps for use on the move, there's a collection of 8 audio CD's that contain the main talks from the March 2005 Imagine conference on disciple-making, which also catalysed the book of essay collections above. Details of what's on the CDs can be found on the website – [www.licc.org.uk/bookshop](http://www.licc.org.uk/bookshop) – where the collection can also be purchased.



[www.licc.org.uk/imagine](http://www.licc.org.uk/imagine)

The 'Imagine' area of LICC's website is where you'll find up-to-date information on 'Imagine' resources and events. In 2007 we start a three-year pilot experimentation project with a small number of local churches to learn together how we might become whole-life disciple-making communities in reality, not just in theory. We'll be sharing our learning as we go along via the website and workshops around the country.

## Obtaining 'Imagine' resources

You can get hold of all our 'Imagine' materials either on-line – [www.licc.org.uk/bookshop](http://www.licc.org.uk/bookshop) - or by calling us at LICC on 0207 399 9555.



And lastly, keep in touch with us. We'll provide all these resources on the website and we'll keep updating it as we develop new ones. We'll also try to point you to other resources that we know about that might help you in your journey towards becoming a whole-life disciple-making church.

Let us know how you get on. What you try. What works and what doesn't. Stories of growth. Issues you come across. Resources that you think would help but can't find. Write or email us or post comments on the Imagine website under 'Have Your Say'.

There is no one model for creating the whole-life apprentice church. And right now there isn't the perfect set of resources. But there is a small, yet growing number of people who are determined to work out how to live day-by-day as whole life disciples of Christ and who are also determined to find ways to help others do the same.

May God give you wisdom and grace and joy as you work together to be his apprentices and as you learn together how to live Christ and share Christ in the power of the Spirit with the people you meet day by day.