

THE QUEEN'S FOUNDATION FOR ECUMENICAL  
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION,  
THE METHODIST CHURCH AND  
THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

# 'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP' 2009 - 2010

## A Growing Partnership

The Queen's Foundation, the Methodist Church and the Anglican diocese of Birmingham working together in partnership are delighted to be able to offer an accessible programme of serious study in an attractive and flexible format. *'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP'* has grown out of and builds on the popular Introduction to Theology programme and offers many of the same opportunities, plus some exciting new ones.

Our venue for all modules this year is the Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education. This enables us to offer a wide range of courses to stretch people and enable development over a period of time as different topics are followed.

## Attendance

You can take just a single module if you wish, or you can choose something each term to build up your own programme of study and you choose if you wish to do the assessed work.

## Sampling Academic Study

Those who wish to complete a module, including the assessed work (which usually involves one essay totalling 3000 words) can pay a small extra charge and have their work assessed by their tutor.

## University Credit

If you attend more than 70% of the module and complete the assessed work to an acceptable standard, you will be eligible for University credit at Level One, pending University approval. **At the moment, the way we register people for credit is under review.** You will be informed of any changes in good time.

In addition, successful completion of your first three modules for credit makes up the '**LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP**' award. The Bishop of Birmingham, alongside leaders from other churches, will present an Award to successful students at this stage.

## When?

- For most modules there are 10 weekly classes of up to 2½ hours starting in September, January or April. Some classes are in the evenings and some in the daytime.
- In addition, the new modules focussing on Children's Ministry take place over two long Saturdays. (See modules 8, 17 & 21).
- Working with Adults returns this year, in a slightly different format. It now comes in two parts: Working with Adults 1 (module 9) takes place over a Friday/Saturday residential and can be a stand-alone module. Working with Adults 2 (module 18) consists of 2 Friday/Saturday residentials. It is necessary to do Working with Adults 1 first.

## Who is it for?

The '*LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP*' programme is for anyone who wishes to try a more formal study course. (You might already have done the Anglican 3D Course or be a participant in the Methodist programme EDEV, or something similar). It is also helpful for Methodist Local Preachers and Anglican Readers and other lay leaders who are looking for development or refreshment. For anyone, here is a chance to discover new gifts and interests, to explore new directions, to increase your education and perhaps prepare for further studies.

This is a challenging programme, but you do not need any special previous knowledge to join, at the level of a first year

university course. The tutors are specialists in their own subjects, who are also experienced in helping adult students to learn. The only requirement when you start a module is that you should be serious about following it through to the end of the term.

A new student on this programme said recently: 'It has been inspiring and wonderfully enabling. I have really enjoyed all my modules. The approach of the tutors was so affirming and there has been so much encouragement to do my best. I've seen myself grow in my knowledge of scripture, and the ability to express myself in discussion and the essays'.

### **What does it cost?**

For each 10-week module the fee is £80 which is payable at least 2 weeks before the course starts. If you wish to take the assessed work, this will be an extra £15 per module. As students enrolled at the Queen's Foundation, you will have the opportunity to use the extensive library at Queen's after attendance at a Library Induction Session. You may need to buy one or two books each term, and for some of the modules, there will also be a small library of books for borrowing.

# 'LEARNING FOR DISCIPLESHIP'

## 2009 - 2010

### AUTUMN 2009

**1: INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY**  
(Limited Availability)

Tuesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm

Starting 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009

Tutor: Peter Kevern

This module consists of an introductory approach to Christian Theology through the questions contemporary people ask about Christian faith. It will include an outline of the resources and tools employed by theologians and will explore different kinds of contemporary theology.

**2: \*INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY**  
(Limited Availability)

*\* This course is held for the entire Autumn term and an additional 3 weeks in the Spring term*

13 Tuesday evenings: 8.15pm - 9.30pm

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009 - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Peter Kevern

This module consists of an introductory approach to Christian Theology through the questions contemporary

people ask about Christian faith. It will include an outline of the resources and tools employed by theologians and will explore different kinds of contemporary theology.

*(Modules 1 and 2 are exactly the same module, offered twice. There is limited space, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course. This course could be particularly appropriate for those who have not done much theological study before, or who feel a bit rusty).*

**3: \*BIBLE AND LIBERATION (Evening module)**

*\*The module will run for the last three weeks of the Autumn Term & first three weeks of the Spring Term*

6 Tuesday evenings: 6.45pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 17<sup>th</sup> November 2009 to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Mukti Barton

The module consists of a basic introduction to hermeneutical principles for reading the Bible from the perspective of oppressed peoples in history and society. There will be an examination of the possible impact of the issues of class, colour, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability on translation, interpretation and understanding of the Bible. This module will offer liberationist perspectives on some themes and biblical passages from both the Old and New Testaments.

*(This module is level 2/3. Diocesan students are **very welcome** to enrol, however it will not be possible to do assessed work for this module).*

**4: BASIC GREEK**

10 Wednesday mornings: 9.15am - 12.15pm with coffee break

Starting 23 September 2009

Tutor: David Allen

A course for complete beginners, to introduce you to the very basics of New Testament Greek. Using your knowledge of a lot of English words, it will show you how to begin to make sense of the original language of the New Testament with the help of a Greek-English inter-linear version of the Bible (which has English words under each Greek word).

**5: BASIC HEBREW**

10 Wednesday mornings: 9.15am - 12.15pm with coffee break

Starting 23 September 2009

Tutor: Knut Heim

Enjoy a dip into the language that lies behind the Old Testament. A course designed for complete beginners.

**6: BIBLE AND LIBERATION (Daytime module)**

7 Wednesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009

Tutor: Mukti Barton

The module consists of a basic introduction to hermeneutical principles for reading the Bible from the perspective of oppressed peoples in history and society. There will be an examination of the possible impact of the

issues of class, colour, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability on translation, interpretation and understanding of the Bible. This module will offer liberationist perspectives on some themes and biblical passages from both the Old and New Testaments.

*(This module is level 2/3. Diocesan students are **very welcome** to enrol, however it will not be possible to do assessed work for this module).*

*(Modules 3 & 6 are exactly the same module, offered twice.)*

**7: ORTHODOXY AND HERESY:  
THE BIRTHPANGS OF CHRISTIANITY  
(Limited Availability)**

10 Wednesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009

Tutor: Rowena Pailing

Sometimes it is assumed that the Bible contains a fully developed Christian systematic theology, but in fact the teachings of the Church today were formulated over centuries of debate and sometimes bloody conflict. This course aims to trace the development of Christian thought from the earliest recorded teachings through figures such as Origen, Arius, the Cappadocian Fathers and Augustine. Through this, an understanding will be built up of how Biblical and other sources have become the building blocks of Christian faith today on issues such as the nature of the Trinity, the identity of Jesus Christ, sin, sex and salvation. The Early Church was a place for impassioned debate, and the sessions will aim to recreate something of that by drawing out opposing views. Each week there will a mixture of input from the tutor and opportunities for all

participants to look critically at some of the writings (in English translation) of the most famous authors of the Early Church.

*(Places are limited on this module, so please book early.)*

## **8: GOOD PRACTICE IN WORKING WITH CHILDREN**

2 long Saturdays 10am - 7pm

7<sup>th</sup> November 2009 & 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Tutor: Anne Roche

The course will cover the general area of legislation and good practice within the area of children's work. It will aim at giving church members and leaders a basic awareness of what children's work in churches should look like. Areas covered will include child protection, good practice guidelines, risk assessments, child development theory, disability awareness, and the concept of 'every child matters'.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **9: WORKING WITH ADULTS 1**

1 Residential

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Tutors include: Liz Howlett and Geoff Bond

This introductory course is designed specifically for those working to enable adults to learn and develop in a range of church-based contexts. Whether ordained or lay, the course aims to develop both an understanding of how adults learn and skills in facilitating learning. The course offers the opportunity to explore what it means to be a Christian educator, and to develop understanding in working with groups in a learning context. The course is a

good introduction for those interested in joining a training team, as part of their church's ongoing development and mission. There is a follow on module, Working with Adults 2, which can only be taken on completion of this module.

*(For further information, including booking form and price, contact: Liz Howlett phone 0121 426 0400 or email [liz.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org](mailto:liz.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org))*

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **SPRING 2010**

### **10: FIVE MODERN THEOLOGIANs:**

10 Monday evenings: 7.30pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Brian Russell

This module studies five influential theologians of the modern era and assesses their contribution to contemporary theological discourse. The five chosen theologians, in diverse ways, were a significant influence on the development of Christian action in the world and Christian spiritual practice in the post war era in Britain, 1960 - 2000. There will be a focus on the implications of each theologian for how to envisage Christian discipleship in terms of how to be and to act. In doing so, it aims to develop the theological skills of participating students. The learning aims include, therefore, developing skills in theological thinking by taking part in theological workshops in which there is an examination of how theology has been applied and drawn out in specific modern circumstances. The five theologians - Bonhoeffer, Tillich, Moltmann, Weil

and Hick - reflect a variety of settings and circumstances, including European, North American and specifically British contexts.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **11. CROSS AND SALVATION**

**(Limited Availability)**

7 Tuesday evenings: 6.50pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Adam Hood

The idea of salvation is one of the most prominent themes of Christian thought and practice. In this module we look at some of the key issues that theologians have struggled with in constructing a theology of salvation and some of the ways in which salvation has been envisaged. The course focuses, in particular, on four questions: what it is that human beings need to be saved from; how Christ is thought to be saviour; what difference Christ's saving work makes; and who/what is saved by Christ? The course aims to exemplify the diversity of soteriological views that are found amongst Christian theologians; encourage the development of a systematic theological approach to the issue; and assist students in strengthening their academic skills.

## **12. CROSS AND SALVATION**

**(Limited Availability)**

10 Wednesday mornings: 9.15am - 12.15pm with coffee break

Starting 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Adam Hood

The idea of salvation is one of the most prominent themes of Christian thought and practice. In this module we look at some of the key issues that theologians have struggled with in constructing a theology of salvation and some of the ways in which salvation has been envisaged. The course focuses, in particular, on four questions: what it is that human beings need to be saved from; how Christ is thought to be saviour; what difference Christ's saving work makes; and who/what is saved by Christ? The course aims to exemplify the diversity of soteriological views that are found amongst Christian theologians; encourage the development of a systematic theological approach to the issue; and assist students in strengthening their academic skills.

*(Modules 11 and 12 are exactly the same module, offered twice. There is limited space, so please book early if you wish to enrol on this course.)*

### **13: BLACK AND ASIAN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY**

10 Wednesday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break

Starting 13 January 2010

Tutor: Mukti Barton

This course offers a chance for all people (not only Black and Asian) to see how race, gender and class affect our knowledge and interpretation of the Bible. We shall see how the theological contexts and experiences of different groups of people contribute to the Theology of Liberation. Insights from the wider world are brought into the course to inform and challenge the way theology is seen in Britain.

**14: SEEDS OF THE MODERN CHURCH: RELIGIOUS THOUGHT AND PRACTICE IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

10 Wednesday evenings: 7.30pm - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Crispin Pailing

Many aspects of church life which we now take for granted began to find expression or were hotly disputed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This course will include study of the Kingdom theology of F.D. Maurice, the growth of liberal theology in the work of Benjamin Jowett, Charles Gore and others and also the influence of faith on social action, contrasting the development of evangelical and catholic views.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

**15: STUDIES IN A GOSPEL: LUKE**

10 Wednesday evenings: 7.30 - 9.30 with coffee break

Starting 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Tutor: Liz Howlett

This course is an introduction to the Gospel of Luke, the gospel followed in the Revised Common Lectionary for this year. Luke's gospel is a product of the first century Mediterranean world and we will begin to examine it in this context. This gospel contains many treasures, including its infancy narratives, and a number of unique parables. The relationship between Luke's gospel, and the other gospels, and the Acts of the Apostles will be examined, as will some of its significant themes, such as the importance of the Holy Spirit, the place of woman in the gospel, food, and Luke's intriguing portrayal of the Jewish Temple. Luke's

attitude towards the poor will be explored, as will his distinctive portrayal of Jesus and the Passion narrative.  
*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **16: GREEK TEXTS**

10 Thursday afternoons: 2pm - 5pm with coffee break  
Starting 14 January 2010  
Tutor: David Allen

This course focuses upon a range of Greek texts from the New Testament, exploring the ways in which a knowledge of the original language can deepen our understanding. A basic level of understanding of Greek is a prerequisite for this course. (You must have attended the Basic Greek module in the Autumn term, or have other appropriate knowledge of the language.)

## **17: PREPARING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES IN CHURCH**

2 long Saturdays 10am - 7pm  
9<sup>th</sup> January & 13<sup>th</sup> March 2010  
Tutor: Anne Roche

The course will cover some of the main issues arising from working in a church that is seeking to be child friendly. How to work with families, all age worship, Sunday schools, holiday clubs and camps will all be considered, and the place of the children's ministry within the life of the whole church will be discussed.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **18: WORKING WITH ADULTS 2**

2 Residentials

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> & Sat 20<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> & Sat 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Tutors include: Liz Howlett & Geoff Bond

This module builds on the introductory module, Working with Adults 1, which is a required first step. This follow-on module has a strong focus on developing good practice, with the opportunity to design, plan, deliver and evaluate learning events. It also explores the role of worship and prayer in adult learning groups and gives opportunities for theological reflection. This course is ideal for those interested in developing their skills as a trainer and educator, as part of their church's ongoing development and mission.

*(For further information, including booking form and price, contact: Liz Howlett phone 0121 426 0400 or email [liz.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org](mailto:liz.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org))*

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

# SUMMER 2010

## **19: THE THEOLOGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

10 Monday evenings: 7.30 - 9.30pm with coffee break

Starting 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Tutor: Edmund Newey

Anglican thought is famous for its diversity - evangelical, liberal and catholic - but can this diversity be held together and, if so, how? This module explores how the different streams of theology in the Church of England have interacted since the Reformation.

Beginning with the thought of Thomas Cranmer, William Tyndale and John Jewel, we will then focus on the synthesis proposed by Richard Hooker at the close of the Sixteenth Century, uncovering the origins of the Anglican emphasis on the 'threefold cord' of scripture, reason and tradition.

Tracing the emergence of different traditions in the Church of England, we will hear from contemporary representatives of evangelical, liberal and catholic Anglican thought. Finally we will look to the future prospects for Anglican theology in the light of the proposed global Anglican covenant.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **20: WOMEN'S READINGS OF THE BIBLE**

10 Thursday mornings: 10.30am - 12.30pm

Starting 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010

Tutor: Caroline Wickens

This course is designed to resource those who have some outline knowledge of the Bible and who wish to take it further. It seeks to offer opportunities to explore ways in which women have read the Bible, beginning with the mothers of the church in the patristic period and moving on to explore mediaeval and modern readings from a range of cultures. The second half of the course will focus on women's readings from contemporary non-Western settings. Participants will be encouraged to apply their learning to develop their own readings of significant Biblical texts in light of their own context.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## **21: ISSUES IN CHURCH BASED CHILDREN'S WORK**

2 long Saturdays 10am - 7pm

19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Tutors: Steve & Kay Morgan Gurr

The course will cover some of the main issues arising from working in a church that is seeking to be child friendly.

Topics in this module include ... How to work with i/ small groups and individuals within a small church setting, ii/ individuals with disabilities, iii/ working within bullying and discipline policies, iv/ working with schools, assemblies and RE lessons, and v/ the issues arising peculiar to residential children's work situations such as weekends away, and sleepovers.

*(Awaiting University approval to award credit for this module).*

## HOW TO ENROL FOR THESE COURSES

When you have decided which courses you wish to take, please fill in the Enrolment Form. There are a number of courses to choose from each term. Please put a tick by the course(s) you wish to take. If you are willing to take another option if your first choice is full, please indicate with a '2', or '3'. These courses have proved very popular, and early booking is advised. As soon as we are able, we will confirm your place.

### FEES:

- For each course the fee is £80.
- You may pay for one term at a time. Please enclose the fee for the Autumn Term with your enrolment form
- Payment is due at least two weeks before the course begins. An account will be sent.

Please send your enrolment form and course fee (cheques payable to BDBF) to:

**Andrea Stevens, Ministries Forum, Diocesan Office  
175 Harborne Park Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 0BH**

If you have any further questions  
please phone this office on ☎ **0121 426 0400**

or contact us by e-mail

**[l.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org](mailto:l.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org)**

## ACCREDITATION

To complete a course by having written work assessed by your tutor costs an extra £15 per course **payable directly to The Queen's Foundation**. You will be informed at the start of the term when this payment is due.

Please do not send this money with your enrolment form.

## HOW TO GET THERE

**The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education** is in Somerset Road, Edgbaston.

Queen's is located near to the Nuffield Hospital which is quite well signposted once you get close to Edgbaston.

It can be reached by rail via the University station or local bus (no. 21) or by car.

We will send you a map and travel directions when we confirm your booking.

July 2009