



# COMMON GOOD JOURNEY

Supporting you and your church to refresh mission and build relationships within your local community



# COMMON GOOD JOURNEY

Four phases:

1  
**EXPLORING**

2  
**BEGINNING**

3  
**BUILDING**

4  
**LIVING**

“The Journey helped us connect within our local community and set the groundwork to build the common good with our neighbours. It reminded us that our actions can positively impact the world around us.

*Louie, participant from St Mary Moorfields*



## Why this journey?

- ✚ Contribute to the spiritual and social renewal of your locality
- ✚ Become a better connected, more relational church
- ✚ Build up community in your neighbourhood
- ✚ Empower a group of lay people to journey together
- ✚ Grow in the Spirit and be inspired by Scripture
- ✚ Learn from real examples of Christian living

# Phase 1

## EXPLORING

This journey helps your church engage more deeply in your local community. Before you start, we help you:

- Identify an approach to suit your context (how, where, when)
- Build a group who will journey together (who)
- Discern your church's unique mission goals (what)
- Ensure this journey fits with what you're already doing



### How is God calling us to act in our neighbourhood?

"We are living through a time of profound change, and a deep spiritual and social malaise. Our troubles have been exposed and accelerated by Covid 19, but they weren't caused by it.

A radical individualism, hostile to human beings, has been at work over many decades and has damaged our way of life. The family, community and our sense of place have all been undermined.

The common good journey can enable people in churches to counter these dehumanising forces, and help to renew their unique sense of vocation for the common good in their neighbourhood."

*Jenny Sinclair, T4CG founder director*



# What is the Common Good?

The Common Good is the shared life of a society in which everyone can flourish - as we act together in different ways that all contribute towards that goal, enabled by social conditions that mean every single person can participate.

We create these conditions and pursue that goal by working together across our differences, each of us taking responsibility, according to our calling and ability.



## BEGINNING

You'll begin by hosting six 60-minute sessions that explore the Word and the Common Good.

Together you will:

- Discover what the Bible says about the Common Good
- Explore how Scripture guides us to strengthen community
- Build rapport in your group
- Find sessions easy to lead, whether online or in person



Phase 2

# Phase 3

## BUILDING

A one day face to face workshop, the heart of the journey. With the help of a facilitator, your group will:

- Think about your area and get motivated to build relationships
- Explore the Common Good in practice and discern where you are called to respond locally
- Grow the confidence of your church to engage in your neighbourhood



*Photo © Colin Thomas*

## Our inspiration

A generation ago, Liverpool's Free Church, Anglican and Catholic leaders worked together for the good of the city. Bishop David Sheppard and Archbishop Derek Worlock in particular forged a celebrated twenty-year partnership.

In a time of division and political instability, they put local people first, and were trusted as community leaders.

Setting aside their own differences, they supported the efforts of local communities and made a key contribution to the renewal of the city.

In our own uncertain times, their story of unity and civic vocation is still an inspiration - not just for church leaders but for everyone.

T4CG was founded by Jenny Sinclair, Bishop Sheppard's daughter.



*Bishop Adrian  
Newman*

"If you strip the Gospel back to essentials it is about Love and calls us into new relationships with God and our neighbour. The Common Good gives us a framework to express this in Church and Society, and I welcome this new programme as a catalyst for faithful disciples and flourishing communities."

"Together for the Common Good is exploring some of the most important themes in our society today: how do we build a more resilient sense of shared endeavour? What will bring about a common effort across our society? These challenges are so important as we face deep-seated changes in our way of life."



*Cardinal  
Vincent Nichols*

## LIVING

Six 45 minute easy-to-lead sessions continue the momentum and help you begin living out your Common Good journey. Together, you will:

- Cultivate a prayerful, trusted group that lives out the Common Good, walking together, online or face to face
- Ask "How are we called to be church in relationship with this place?" and discern your vocation step by step
- Develop skills that deepen your ability to build the Common Good in your area and help revitalise your church's mission.



Phase 4

# The T4CG Vision

Our vision is to see Christians transforming the world in the light of the Gospel by building the Common Good. We see this as:

- ✦ Helping churches, organisations and their people become better rooted in their community, releasing their gifts to be Christ's hands and feet where they live and work
- ✦ Developing a relational culture of love and friendship that puts people and communities first
- ✦ Adopting a listening posture that is constantly attentive to where the Holy Spirit is at work
- ✦ Giving people the resources to build the Common Good in all aspects of their lives
- ✦ Reweaving a sense of family and belonging to resist individualism and to heal division
- ✦ Building durable local relationships between people and organisations for mutual wellbeing
- ✦ Fostering social solidarity to ensure that nobody and no community is left behind



Get Involved

About

Common Good Journey helps you and your church refresh your sense of mission and build relationships within your local community.

It is the opposite of a one-size-fits-all programme: while the content is constant, each iteration is unique, depending on the location and the dynamic between the people in the room.

The four-part Journey is flexible. It has been successfully implemented as a diocese-wide programme, a deanery initiative, a 'churches together' joint activity and as part of the development process of a single parish.

The programme comes with an easy to use, comprehensive set of material. Ideal group size is between 12 and 20. It is designed for Christians of all traditions.

T4CG offers a range of support packages for churches wishing to get involved. Call us to discuss how the Common Good Journey could work best in your situation.

Please phone Sean Ryan on 07938 653768 or email [sean@togetherforthecommongood.co.uk](mailto:sean@togetherforthecommongood.co.uk)

Together for the Common Good is dedicated to the spiritual and civic renewal of our country at a time of profound and rapid change. We offer common good training for churches and schools, generate resources, build partnerships and hold public conversations.

Find out more here: [togetherforthecommongood.co.uk](http://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk)

Twitter : [@T4CG](https://twitter.com/T4CG)

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