



RURAL MINISTRY COURSE

Overview of Content

Context: Place

Looks at definitions of 'rural' and some of the issues faced by rural communities, including housing, poverty and transport. The aim is to help participants begin to understand their specific context.

Context: People

Draws on work by Bishop David Walker and DEFRA to consider the different, increasingly diverse groups of people who make up rural communities. This is a more sociological view which also looks at different types of social capital and the church's place in rural communities.

Exploring Rural Mission

For effective mission, context is key: what works in one community won't necessarily work in another. We explore what mission means in the rural context and create space for delegates to share stories from their own communities.

Mission in Practice

A workshop which explores some ways of working on mission with local congregations. This session enables delegates to identify what connections those in their congregations already have with the wider community and draw on these as a starting point for thinking about mission.

Agriculture

In this session a representative of the agricultural community shares insights into the rhythm of the farming year, some of the current opportunities and challenges facing farmers, and ways to make contact and build relationships with local farmers.

Rural Evangelism

Evangelism is sharing the good news and context must influence the way we share it. The rural context has its own specific opportunities and challenges which are explored here.

Children and Young People

Children and young people are present in rural communities but – as in many suburban and urban communities – not always in churches. This module looks at some of the challenges and opportunities of working with rural children and young people.