# A close up of a logo Description automatically generatedEast Midland Baptist Association

**MAP Going Deeper Resources**

Phase one of the MAP journey encourages a ruthless honesty about the health of a church. The focus in this phase is for the church to see itself as clearly as possible so that any planning is based on a honest, realistic assessment. The *EMBA Fruitfulness Indicators tool* is a great way of doing this. During this and subsequent phases of the journey it might be that development and/or further research needs are identified. There are a huge number of good resources available, but the following selection are recommended for use to supplement MAP.

**SOME SELECTED RESOURCES**

**Fruitfulness Indicators self-assessment tool**

This is the foundational “health-check” tool for the EMBA Mission Action Planning journey.

**re:imagine**

re:imagine is the flagship Missional Learning Community of the EMBA. Aimed at leadership teams, re:imagine consists of 4 learning Hubs spaced 6 months apart and covering 4 crucial subjects – culture, leadership, discipleship and mission. High quality input is provided, but it is far more than a taught course. Leadership teams learn from each other as they put their learning into practice and reflect on this experience. The purpose of all this – to change thinking and change our practice of being church. Details, including dates, can be found on the EMBA website.

**Know your church, know your community**

This course, facilitated by Transforming Notts Together - <https://transformingnottstogether.org.uk/> - provides a structured approach to developing deeper insight into our community setting and the ways in which your church might serve.

There’s an overview here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=99cxFizDhTc&ab_channel=ChurchUrbanFund>

**LICC Frontline materials**

The London Institute of Contemporary Christianity (LICC) offers a much needed, biblical vision of whole-life discipleship. The focus is on discipleship where we live life – in our places of work, our communities, our families etc. LICC’s flagship “frontline” resources are excellent, offering “Sunday centric” churches a more biblical vision of discipleship and church members a way of integrating their faith with their everyday lives. See the LICC website for further details. <https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/>

**Video Resources on MAP**

Derby Diocese has invested in its own version of a MAP process in which parish churches are invited to develop a MAP which embody the threefold diocesan aims of ‘Transformed Lives’, 'Growing Church' and 'Building Community'.

There are a series of 5 minute teaching videos that might prove useful - <https://derby.anglican.org/en/our-mission/mission-action-plans-map.html>

**Creating a church vision statement**

Options:

* There is a lot of guidance available on the web. You could try the following:\_
  + <https://anthonyhilder.com/church-vision-statements/>
  + <https://www.dailychristianhelp.com/church-vision-statements/>
* There’s a helpful chapter titled “Vision Building Skills” in “Skills for Collaborative Ministry” Sally Nash, Jo Pimlott and Paul Nash SPCK
* Ask your Mission Accompanier to facilitate a visioning process

**The Prayer Course – Pete Greig**

24-7 prayer has produced some excellent short courses about prayer which both educate and motivate. A good starting point is “The Prayer Course” details of which can be found on its website. <https://www.24-7prayer.com/resource_cat/courses/>

The scope of the course is wider than prayer for mission but provides a good foundation for this crucial aspect of prayer.

**Faith sharing courses**

Numerous courses are available to help church members grow in confidence in sharing their faith. The following can all be commended; pick the one that best suits the needs and style of your church:-

* ***Just Walk Across the Room*** (Bill Hybels) Book and study guide.

# ***Evangelism in a Skeptical World: How to Make the Unbelievable News about Jesus More Believable*** (Sam Chan, Zondervan 2018)

* “Talking Jesus” ([www.talkingJesus.org](http://www.talkingJesus.org/)) - a six session video training course from the Evangelical Alliance, Church of England and Hope Together that trains Christians to share their faith.
* “Jesus 360” (<http://www.jesus360.org.uk/5_week_course.html>) – a five session, downloadable (free) resource produced by Jim Curran of the Church Army based on his book ‘Sharing Faith the Jesus Way’ published in 2011 by BRF.
* ***Before You Share Your Faith: Five Ways to be Evangelism******Ready*** (M. Smethurst, The Good Book Company, 2022) – helpful book that explores five ways you can become ‘evangelism ready’. Not simply about ‘how’ to evangelise, but about how to be primed when the moment arrives. As the author says, ‘if you aren’t ready to share your faith…you probably won’t!’
* ***The Natural Evangelism Course***(J. John, Philo Trust, 2014) – a practical guide to help Christians practice evangelism in ordinary, everyday conversations. This book would lend itself to being used in a group setting.
* ***Natural Evangelism: The Practice of Praying, Caring and Sharing*** (J. John, Philo Trust, 2016) – a book that helps you discover how to communicate your faith clearly and creatively. This book would lend itself for personal study, but would also lend itself to being read by a leadership team or group, and then to provide opportunity for joint discussion and reflection.
* ***Story Bearer: How to Share your Faith with your******Friends***(P. Knox, IVP, 2020) – the book inspires every believer to share their story of faith and to be a story bearer, based around God’s story, our story, the story of friends, and the story of our culture. This book would lend itself for personal study, but would also lend itself to being read by a leadership team or group, and then to provide opportunity for joint discussion and reflection.

**Supporting Church Communication**

Resources are available on the Baptist Together website <https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/220672/Supporting_Church_Communication.aspx>

**HOW THE RESOURCES CONNECT WITH THE FRUITFULNESS INDICATORS**

**Statistics**

**Presence**

* Frontlines, Know your community, know your church

**Proclamation**

* re:imagine

**Prayer**

* The Prayer Course

**Unity**

* Creating a church vision statement

**Equipping**

* re:imagine, faith sharing courses

**Communication**

* Supporting Church Communication