

***Information sheet: Finding a different approach to Bible Study***

There are many ways to explore and engage with the Bible. Perhaps you are looking for something that is new for you, your church or group. The resources here are example of a number of very different approaches to engaging with Scripture.

**Exploring the Gospels side by side:** there four Gospels, all about the life, teaching, mission, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus. They offer us four different accounts but might we gain new insights into Jesus by exploring them together, in parallel? These studies give an introduction to exploring the first three Gospels in this way and then take us into 6 studies from Jesus' life.

**Lectio Divina** - is a contemplative way of reading the Bible dating back to the early centuries of the Christian Church and was established as a monastic practice by Benedict in the 6th century. It is a way of praying the scriptures that leads us deeper into God's word. We slow down. We read a short passage more than once. We chew it over slowly and carefully. We savour it.

**Gospel-Based Discipleship** - So, what is Gospel Based Discipleship (GBD)? First, let me tell you what it is not. It is not a Bible study and it is not meant to replace the Daily Office. It is not a theological debate. GBD is not the only way to engage the Gospel. Now, let me tell you what it is. GBD is a way of life and it leads us in our daily walk with Jesus. When you think about it, it is the same technique that Jesus used with his disciples. Intrigued? See more in the [Information Sheet](#).

**Reading with imagination** – This is an approach to Bible Study in the Ignatian tradition and this exercise in engagement with Scripture offers an example based on exploring the Book of Ruth.

**A meditation** first published in Finding Sanctuary: Monastic steps for Everyday Life by Christopher Jamison former Abbot of Worth Abbey in Sussex, England.

**Contextual Bible Study** – the BILC project has shown that Anglicans read the Bible in many ways. One particular and distinctive method, known as Contextual Bible Study, is widely practised across the Communion. This paper sets out the characteristic features of the method,

