

BISHOP'S FOUNDATION COURSE

a series of talks on themes in Christianity
SPRING/SUMMER 2018



Further your Discipleship

Many of us have completed a discipleship course in our local parish, perhaps Alpha, Emmaus or Christianity Explored. Often we then ask 'What next?'

The Bishop's Foundation course in theology is a second stage discipleship course and is designed to be the next step in your exploration of the meaning of your Christian faith.

If you would enjoy thinking and learning with a group of people from across the diocese, and listening and responding to talks and presentations delivered by a variety of clergy and lay people, this may be the best next step for you.

At a Glance:

- informative and enjoyable
- just turn up and enjoy
- no preparatory reading
- no taking notes
- no assignments
- small, tutor-led, two and a half hour talks
- informal discussion time over coffee each session
- designed to develop your Christian thinking and reflection
- find out more and ask difficult questions

<h2>The Course</h2> <p>The Bishop's Foundation course comprises 17 sessions.</p> <p>The sessions will vary from week to week but will all seek to develop your Christian thinking and reflection.</p> <p>The course starts in Spring 2018 and runs for 9 weeks with a half-term break.</p> <p>It will resume in Summer 2018 for a further 8 weeks and a half term break.</p>	<h2>Visiting Speakers</h2> <p>Each week, a visiting speaker will deliver a presentation on a particular aspect of Christian faith.</p> <p>The speakers will work through matters of faith, what scripture says and what it means.</p> <p>The Bishop's Foundation course will also explore what it meant to be a Christian in the past, and what it might mean today.</p>
<h2>Course Dates and Venue</h2> <p>All sessions are held at St Luke's and St Peter's Church, Greetham Street, Southsea PO5 4LH</p> <p>Spring Term 2018</p> <p>7pm-9.30pm Wednesday 17 January to Wednesday 7 February (4 weeks)</p> <p>7pm-9.30pm Wednesday 21 February to Wednesday 21 March (5 weeks)</p> <p>Summer Term 2018</p> <p>7pm-9.30pm Wednesday 18 April to Wednesday 16 May (5 weeks)</p> <p>7pm-9.30pm Wednesday 6 June to Wednesday 20 June (3 weeks)</p>	<h2>Getting Started</h2> <p>Simply complete the form at the back of this leaflet.</p> <p>Return the completed form with your £30 course remittance to:</p> <p>Patricia Gray Portsmouth Diocesan Board of Finance First Floor, Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth PO2 8HB.</p> <p>Cheques should be made payable to Portsmouth Diocesan Board of Finance.</p> <p>If you would like to know more, please contact us. Call Patricia Gray on 023 9289 9656 or email MDM@portsmouth.anglican.org</p>

More about the Bishop's Foundation Course

The Bishop's Foundation course is a tent session course that explores a variety of themes in Christianity through a 'talking heads' style of format. Each presentation takes place in the evening and includes two hours of presentation together with time for informal conversation.

Here is a taste of what you can expect from the course:

The Bible

The Bishop's Foundation course covers a range of scriptural topics from the Old and New Testaments. From the Old Testament, we look at the Law, History and Prophets. From the New Testament, we look at the Gospels and what they tell us about Christ. We also consider the theology of the letters of St Paul and others.

Doctrine and Prayer

We will consider what the Church believes about God and the identity of Jesus in the context of the life of prayer and worship offered by Christians.

We will ask how are the experiences of the worshipping community translated into the beliefs that are handed down to us in the creeds.

Church History and Mission

The Bishop's Foundation course will also consider the way in which our encounter with Christianity is shaped by our history.

We will examine the history of the church from the beginning through the middle ages, Reformation and Enlightenment, to the challenges of post-modernity.

We will ask what the church can do in order to meet the challenges of bringing the Christian message to people today.



Application Form - Bishop's Foundation Course

The Bishop's Foundation course costs £30. You should pay the course fee at the beginning of the first term.

Please complete the form below and return with a cheque for £30 made payable to Portsmouth Diocesan Board of Finance (PDBF) to

Mrs Patricia Gray, Portsmouth Diocesan Board of Finance, First Floor,
Peninsular House, Wharf Road, Portsmouth PO2 8HB

Name

Address.....

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Tel No.....

Email (please print).....

Your Parish/Church

Name of Minister

Data Protection Act 1998 this information will be retained on computer and paper solely for the purpose of this course and informing you of other courses. I agree to this information being held for the above purposes.

I wish to be informed by the Diocese about other courses (please circle)

Yes No

Signed Date.....