

# Welcome & Introduction

*“To aspire to leadership is an honourable ambition.” – 1 Timothy 3:1 (NEB)*

This is a crucial moment at St Mary’s. We are a growing church with huge opportunities for evangelism, church planting and discipleship. This is a time when we need to raise up and equip leaders who are servant-hearted and love-filled and Christ-centred.

As go the leaders; so goes the church. Leadership is about influence,. Not just position. It is about character as well as competence. There are leaders right across our church family in all kinds of ministries and also in the workplace. A leader is someone who doesn’t just see things as they are, but as they could be.

- Are you a leader in some way in church, community or at work?
- Are you interested in becoming a leader?
- Would you like to grow in confidence in leadership?
- Would you like to be more equipped as a leader?

Leading Together is a five-week course written specifically for St Mary’s leaders and potential leaders. It is open to anyone in the church family interested in getting more equipped as a leader. We want all our leaders to be supported and to be even more fruitful.

We are asking and expecting everyone who leads in any capacity at St Mary’s to participate in Leading Together in 2019 or 2020.

For example, this includes Life Group leaders, ignite group leaders, welcome leaders, Living Hope leaders, PCC etc. Anyone in the church leading in a large or small way. If you are involved in leading in any way, in any ministry, this is for you.

It is also open to anyone who would like to come to explore being a leader. Young people are welcome as well as seniors. It is open to all.

## **Topics covered will include:**

- Biblical teaching on leadership looking at issues such as self-awareness, spiritual hunger, commitment, vulnerability, character, forgiveness, servant heart, training, vision, courage, , revival, love and mission.
- We will look at characters from the Bible who led, such as Timothy, Paul, Elijah, Joseph and Gideon – as well as Jesus!
- We will reflect on skills such as handling difficult conversations, leadership styles, developing resilience, giving encouragement and challenge and also emotional health.

A typical session will look like:

7:30pm	Arrival and light refreshments
7:45pm	Worship
7:50pm	Welcome & notices
7:55pm	Leadership Reflection
8:05pm	Bible teaching on leadership
8:35pm	Group Discussion
8:50pm	Leadership Skills teaching
9:25pm	Group discussion and prayer ministry
9:45pm	Finish

I believe this course is a vital part in seeing God move much more and in us being more fruitful than ever as a church.

## **Learning Outcome**

As part of the course, everyone will complete a short Learning Outcome, which will be an A4 length reflection which can be a picture, graphic, written text, bullet points or scribbles that outline what you have learned through the course. It is not an assessment, but a reflection on what you feel you have learned and will take away with you into your leadership.

We would also like to offer mentoring or coaching on a voluntary basis to those who would really value that as a follow up to the course. This will be worked out as we do this pilot first course.

If you are unable to make a session, we will ask you to make sure you can do it in the following course please. This means we will have a good ownership,

alignment of expectations and can really move together towards multiplying churches, leaders and disciples.

### **What happens after Leading Together**

We would love to have a conversation with you after this course about where and how you serve; whether you continue with what you are doing or change it in some way.

If you have any questions, please contact Malcolm Macdonald  
[malcolm@stmarysloughton.com](mailto:malcolm@stmarysloughton.com) 07821011435

Carl Lee and Kate Matthews will also be involved in teaching Leading Together.