

The '5 threads' weave together to give an overall picture of mission. We can use them to think about mission in our own lives, our churches and Synod:



Pray. Give thanks that you have been invited to join in God's mission in the world. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your thoughts and discussions as you seek ways to grow in mission.



1. Think about what your church does. Try to make a list of the different activities you run, or spend your time on. You could also think about what you spend your time and money on.



2. Review your list. Can you identify which things fit one (or more) of the five threads. It is good to see that we are already doing 'missional' things. It is also good to be honest in our reflections. *For example, we might think our Sunday worship is a time when people are invited to 'meet with God'. But how many non-Christians actually attend, and how easy is it for them to understand or to join in?*



3. Look again at your list. Are there things that don't fit any of the threads, but they could do, with a bit of adaptation or change? *For example, you might be running a Messy Church, while another church is also running one down the road. Is there any scope in partnering with each other (perhaps sharing resources, co-ordinating dates, or publicising each other's events), to provide more opportunities?*



4. Finally, look at the five mission threads themselves, and ask honestly, if there are any you might not be very strong in? Ask God what things you might do to develop in those areas. The synod team can help you with this, with ideas, or mentoring or coaching support.

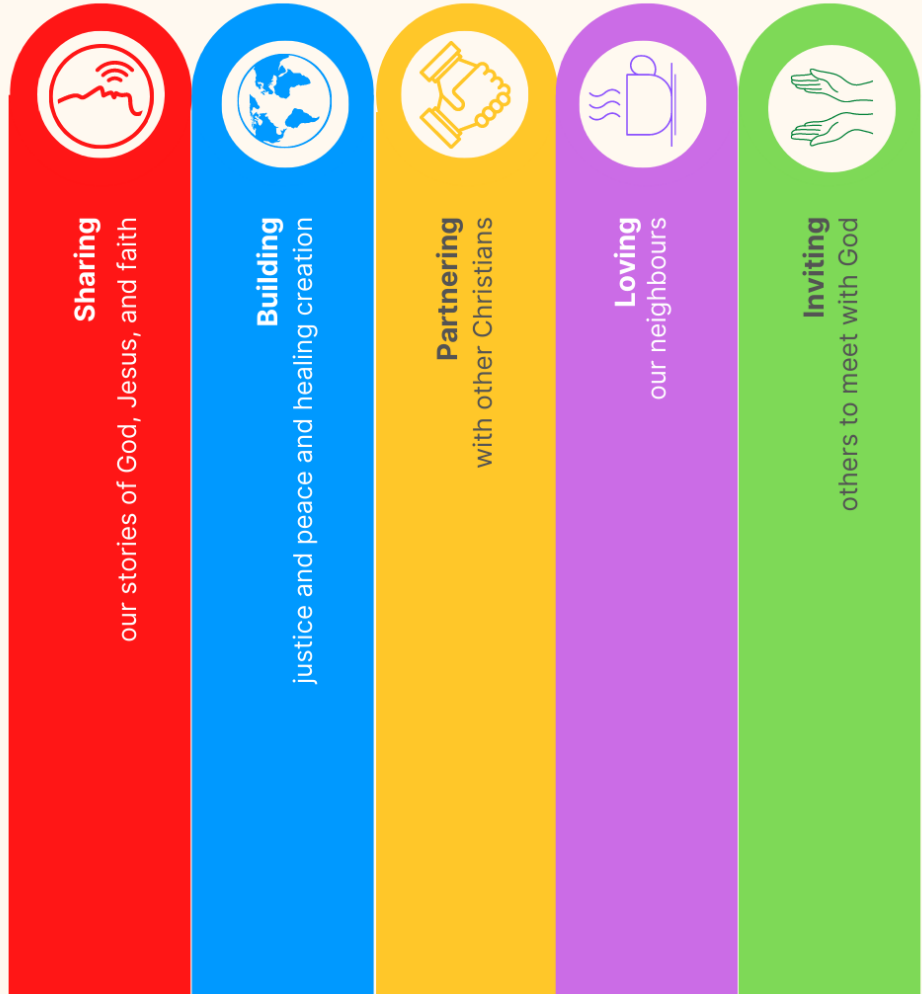


Take time to pray again. Thank God for what you might have noticed. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to see where you might develop.



Joining in God's mission

witnesses to
Jesus in word
and action



In Yorkshire Synod, we see our mission as 5 threads that weave together. These 5 threads describe the things we do to join in God's mission in the world, as witnesses to Jesus in our words and in our actions.

Building

justice and peace, and healing
creation

Do we speak out about how the weakest and most vulnerable are treated in our world? What do we do to protect and steward creation?

Luke 4: 18,19
Isaiah 1:17

Partnering with other Christians

Do we show that we follow Jesus by our love for other Christians, working together as partners in our witness? Are we able to show love in action by not judging other followers of Jesus?

John 13: 34,35
John 17: 20,21

Loving

our neighbours, whoever they are

How far do we go to meet the needs of our neighbours in real and practical ways? How much do we know about how our neighbours are really doing?

Luke 10: 25-37
Matthew 25: 31-46

Sharing

our stories of God,
Jesus, and faith

In our conversations, in our church activities, how often do we take the opportunity to share our own experience and stories of faith? We all have a story to share.

Acts 1:8
Romans 10:14

Inviting

others to 'try God'

In our activities, in our worship, in our groups, what opportunities do we provide for people to try praying, to read the Bible or to talk about faith for themselves?

John 4:29
Psalm 34:8

