

Follow-up to discussion evening 2: suggested questions for groups

Say this prayer together:

Heavenly Father, you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ to continue his work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world. Forgive us the sins which tear us apart; give us the courage to overcome our fears and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Look back at Lena's clarification questions.

What further questions might you want to ask?

Look back at Dan's clarification questions.

What further questions might you want to ask?

Think about Julie & Alice's story (the lesbian couple).

What stood out to you from this story?

Be curious – what would you like to ask them?

Look back at Lena's presentation on unity.

What new connections or understandings did you discover?

What questions would you want to ask?

Think about Jeanette's story (the same-sex attracted woman who is now celibate).

What stood out to you from his story?

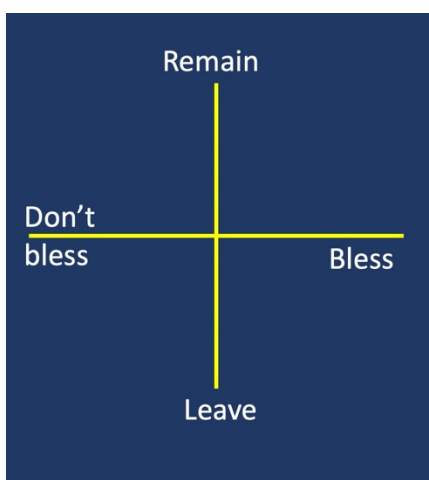
Be curious – what would you like to ask him?

Look back at Dan's presentation on unity.

What new connections or understandings did you discover?

What questions would you want to ask?

Where would you plot yourself on this chart?



What would it look like for you to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit with those you disagree with at the moment?

Look back at Dan's closing pastoral words.

What warnings or encouragement would you want to add to people in the different quadrants?

Spend time praying:

- For LGBTQ+ people in the church, many of whom have been badly hurt by churches (including ours) in the past (and recently)
- For humility to go on learning and listening through these discussions, and for humility to submit our views and experiences to God's word.
- For alertness to the way the devil (a prowling lion) would like to use these discussions to bring disunity and division in our church and the Church of England
- For God's Spirit to convict us of any wrong attitudes or beliefs in this area
- For our church, that we would learn how to 'love each other deeply' despite our disagreements
- For God's Spirit to help us reimagine how he wants us (St James' by the Park and the Church of England) to be church for people who identify as LGBTQ+
- For Simon Clift and others on General Synod, who will have further debates on the proposed prayers of blessing (and pastoral guidance documents) in July and November