

everybody welcome 3

the course where everybody helps grow their church

a welcoming God

and his welcoming people

WELCOME

WORSHIP

Course prayer

Heavenly Father, you have welcomed us into your kingdom
And your heart's desire is to draw every human being to yourself.
Grant us clear eyes to see people as you see them,
Sensitive feet to stand in their shoes,
And warm smiles to welcome them in your name.
Give us such generous hearts,
That our church becomes a foretaste of heaven
Where every soul you send finds their loving home
In the community of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

WORD

Introduction

DVD Introduction - A friendly church?

Read *James 2.1-10*

- 1 How do you welcome a guest who comes to your home for a meal?
- 2 What sort of welcome do you like to receive when you visit a new church?
- 3 How do we actually welcome a guest on a Sunday morning?
 - What does the car parking say?
 - What is the message of the porch and the door?
 - How do our sides people greet a guest?
 - How would you relate to a guest who sat near you?
- 4 In our church how could we improve our welcome?

DVD – Mystery worshippers

Our mystery worshippers

DVD - How do they do that?

Checklist 1 Initial welcome

- 5 Please will every member fill in the checklist
- 6 Compare notes and fill in the group summary
- 7 Did you score the various questions in roughly the same way as each other?
- 8 Please give a copy of the group summary to Mike and Ali Saunders

Checklist 2 The worship event

- 9 Please will every member fill in the checklist
- 10 Compare notes and fill in the group summary
- 11 Did you score the various questions in roughly the same way as each other?
- 12 Please give a copy of the group summary to Mike and Ali Saunders

Checklist 3 Welcoming the children

- 13 Please will every member fill in the checklist
- 14 Compare notes and fill in a group summary
- 15 Did you score the various questions in roughly the same way as each other?
- 16 Please give a copy of the group summary to Mike and Ali Saunders

Checklist 4 Caring for people after the service

- 17 Please will every member fill in the checklist
- 18 Compare notes and fill in a group summary
- 19 Did you score the various questions in roughly the same way as each other?
- 20 Please give a copy of the group summary to Mike and Ali Saunders

True Story

Who in your group most recently joined your church
What struck them about how they were welcomed?

Conclusion – what did we learn?

Please record

- 21 What do we think is our greatest strength?
- 22 What do we think is our greatest weakness?
- 23 What differences of perception have the checklists revealed?
- 24 What are the main things we could do to attend to our weaknesses?
- 25 What are the main things we could do to build on our strengths?
- 26 Please give a copy of the answers to these questions to Mike and Ali Saunders

DVD – Authors conclusion

WITNESS

Pray for

- Our church programme and special Services
- Our church premises and publicity
- Our personal contacts and one another