

## WHO IS THE 3D COURSE FOR?

### WHAT IS THE 3D COURSE ?

The 3D course is the Birmingham Diocesan course for Developing Disciples. It is a Bible-based study course for established Christians who want to develop their understanding and discipleship. By the end of the 3D course we hope people will have:

- a clearer overview of the Bible, both Old Testament and New Testament
- knowledge of the key themes of the Bible
- more confidence to express their faith and to live it out in daily life
- a wider understanding of other Christians who come from different traditions and viewpoints
- a more developed sense of gifts and calling
- more awareness of sharing in the life of the Church, gathered in prayer and sent out in service.



### WHERE DOES THE 3D COURSE LEAD?

- After completing the 3D course you will get regular invitations to events in the *Growing Gifts* programme: these are one-day events for further study and training in the Bible, Prayer or Practical Skills, to equip you for continuing discipleship and Christian service.
- For anyone who is thinking about Reader ministry or accredited Pastoral and Community ministry in this diocese, the 3D course (or equivalent) is the required foundation before you can be selected for more specific training.

### HOW MUCH DOES THE 3D COURSE COST?

There will be a charge of £10.00 for each course member, to cover the cost of materials for the whole course. This can be paid by your church. Please do not send any money now - a request for payment will be sent once the course is under way.

The 3D course could be just right for you if you are :



- already confirmed in the Church of England (recently or some time ago)
- established in your faith and church membership
- wanting to understand the Christian faith more deeply
- open to explore how to live out your faith more confidently
- open to working in a group with other Christians from various different parishes
- willing to commit yourself to a challenging year of study

Established members of other Christian churches are also welcome to enrol, with the agreement of their priest or minister.

**The 3D course is NOT suitable if you are looking for :**

- an advanced 'academic' course
- a Christian basics course for beginners
- a nurture group for new Christians
- an adult confirmation class
- a group to help you cope with particular personal problems

Please talk to your vicar if you are looking for any of the above. Your local church may be able to offer these or suggest where you can find them. Perhaps the 3D course will be something you can do at a later stage.

**WHEN AND WHERE? (please see enrolment form for full details)**

THERE ARE 30 SESSIONS IN THE 3D COURSE.

**Most groups start in September and meet weekly till June** (with breaks at Christmas and Easter). You can choose from a list of local groups throughout the diocese, meeting in the daytime or evenings.

**One group this year is specifically for students and other young people (18-30ish) - but young people are also welcome in any group.**

THE COURSE BEGINS AND ENDS WITH A SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL.

## WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME IF I ENROL ON THE 3D COURSE?

If you enrol on the 3D course you will be committing yourself to :

- **regular attendance for weekly meetings of an hour and a half.**

- **some preparation for each session.** There is no formal written 'homework', but you will be given some Bible reading and material to think about in advance each week.

- **working with others in a small group led by a tutor.** The study group will be a place for give and take with other Christians, a place both to talk and to listen. Sharing with others in this way will help you to appreciate the variety of backgrounds and experiences in the church. It will also help you to relate the course materials to your experience of Christian living and praying.

- **being willing to learn and grow.** The 3D course is a place where you will be looking at some difficult questions and there may be no ready-made answers. The experience will often be challenging but you will have the support of other Christians as you work alongside each other.

**COURSE OUTLINE :** There are 30 Sessions in the complete 3D course. You will find a lot in the course about the Bible and the Church, but the course begins and ends with a chance to explore your own faith and discipleship, and in every session you will be invited to relate your own experience to the course materials.

## HOW DO I JOIN THE 3D COURSE?

- 1: **First talk to your Parish Priest or Minister.** Brochures and enrolment forms are sent out to parishes in June each year.
- 2: **Choose your group.** The form gives a list of times and places for this year's groups. We hope you will find some that are convenient for you. Please give more than one choice if possible.

Morning sessions begin at 10.30am, afternoon sessions at 2pm and evening sessions at 7.30pm, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED ON THE ENROLMENT FORM.

- 3: **Fill in an enrolment form. PLEASE APPLY EARLY.** If a local group is under-subscribed we may have to cancel it. Where it is over-subscribed we shall try to arrange a duplicate, or offer people their second choice.

- 4: **Before sending in your form, please have it signed** by your Parish Priest or Minister. If your church has no clergy at the moment, please ask one of the Churchwardens to sign the form.

**We cannot accept enrolments without this signature.**

Clergy (or Wardens) are asked to support your application if they think you are :

- established in your faith and church membership (for Anglicans this will usually mean that you have been confirmed)
- able to work in a group with others
- willing to learn and grow

- 5: **Please send your enrolment form to the Diocesan Office by Friday 14 July.** Later applications can only be accepted if vacancies remain. We will acknowledge your application when we receive it, and arrangements will be confirmed during the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> August 2006.

- 6: **You will be invited to the Opening Service** at the Cathedral on Wednesday 13 September at 7.30pm. Study sessions normally begin in the following week AND NO MORE APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DATE OF THE OPENING SERVICE.

## WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?



If you would like more information about the 3D course or more copies of this brochure please contact :-

*Mrs Jelena Cammack at the Diocesan Office (address on the back cover of this brochure)*

**Parish Clergy** who would like to know more about the course are welcome to contact *The Revd Liz Howlett, Bishop's Adviser for Lay Adult Education and Training (see overleaf for contact details)*. We hope you will regard this diocesan training course as a helpful support for lay development in your parish.

If you would like to see a 3D group located at your church next year, please talk to us. We are always glad to bring the course to a comfortable venue where there is likely to be a demand for it.

*3D in Short Blocks* - we now have a Short Blocks version of 3D available for parish use. (5 Blocks, each consisting of 6 week's worth of material.)

The timing of the blocks can be planned to suit the group.

**Prospective tutors** (ordained or lay) are invited to contact Jelena Cammack or The Revd Liz Howlett. Tutors need to have suitable experience/qualifications in biblical studies and in encouraging adult learning in small groups. We shall be happy to send you full details and an application form if you are interested.

# 3D course

**Birmingham Diocesan course for Developing Disciples**  
A Bible-based study course  
for established Christians  
who want to develop their understanding  
and discipleship.

## Some comments from recent members of the 3D course :

*The 30 weeks seemed quite daunting at first, but all you really need is to want to learn more. It's been great!*

*It was great to be able to discuss in groups our beliefs and doubts throughout the whole course*

*The course has given me more confidence to speak about my faith*

*The whole course was absolutely superb. I was thrilled. It has revolutionized my thinking theologically. I gained new confidence and made new friendships*

**For more information about the course and for more copies of this brochure, please contact :**

**The Revd Liz Howlett**  
**Bishop's Adviser for Lay Adult Education & Training**  
Email : [l.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org](mailto:l.howlett@birmingham.anglican.org)  
(Address below)

Tel : 0121 426 0400

OR

**Mrs Jelena Cammack**  
**Ministries Forum**  
Email : [j.cammack@birmingham.anglican.org](mailto:j.cammack@birmingham.anglican.org)  
(Address below)

Tel : 0121 426 0435

**Diocesan Office, 175 Harborne Park Road. Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0BH**