

Growing Good films discussion guide:

Christchurch Three Mills



Film context

Christchurch Three Mills is a new church in and for an estate in East London. For them, church isn't about building walls, but building real community where everyone is welcome to participate. Their creative presence and 'church without walls' approach is growing community, confidence and faith.

Themes and Contexts

Urban; Estate; No church building; Presence; Participation; Adaptability.

Film URL

[Click here to watch the film](#)

Discussion intro

Christchurch Three Mills was planted without a church building. The film describes some of the ways in which the church has grown as a 'church without walls', with and in the community. With limited resources, this has involved great adaptability and creativity alongside a commitment to participation and developing local leaders. Their commitment to growing with the local community is reflected in the assertion that: 'We don't see ourselves as the ones with all the answers but we get to see where God is at work and join in'.

In the film, Reverend Dan Scott is honest about the challenges they have encountered and the value of growing slowly and taking a long term view, allowing their neighbours to see that Jesus is present in all circumstance of life, not just the easy bits. It's through this honesty

and openness that people experience God's generosity, hospitality and love.

This outward focused, shared mission is reflected in Jesus words, often referred to as the Great Commission, as he sends his disciples out to share God's good news with the promise that he will be with them.

Scripture

Matthew 28: 16-20: The Great Commission

Suggestions for discussion

- Imagine you had to be 'church without walls' (i.e. with no building). How would you approach sharing Jesus in your community?
- Discuss how this film and scripture reading help us to honestly acknowledge some of the aspects of mission and growth that are challenging. How does it feel to hear again Jesus words: 'I am with you to the end of the age'?

