

Training Hub

Handbook 20/21



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Our Vision & Values

For us it's all about Jesus – His life, His example, His kingdom – He is the perfect theology and the perfect leader. We believe these values are His values and we encourage them in one another.

We are disciples who are passionate about Jesus; His Word, Spirit, Kingdom, mission and body. And as disciples, we want to be purposeful in spending time with Him to become more like Him, as individuals and corporately.

We are leaders seeking to reimagine the church and equip others to fulfil the dreams God has given them.

We are family, believing everybody has the potential to be a disciple maker and empowering them to build communities of grace.

Our vision for Training Hub is that you will be more transformed into the person you are meant to be in Jesus. This involves your whole life; flourishing with the gifts and skills God has given you, running alongside others to see His Kingdom come wherever you are called. We want to see you able to lead more confidently and humbly in the places, and with the people, God has for you. We want to see you realise the dreams and giftings God has for you and help release you into those. We want to do the best we can to resource and equip you this year. And we hope that at the end of the 10 months, you will be more confident in your knowledge of who you are in Christ and where you are going, as Jesus leads you.

Three key areas we pray that God will build in you are **discipleship, mission and leadership**. We want to see you growing deeper in your relationship with God and others; making disciples in your local context; and to see you leading with vision for the things God calls you to. This year should help you discover and solidify your gifts, abilities and calling.

We believe God has given us a calling for the nation we live in. We want to see the nations changed – physically, economically, psychologically, and spiritually – in a way only God can do as Jesus builds His Kingdom. And to see this, we need leaders living and leading in a new way. We need a place where people can learn, stretch and dream together for this kind of future. Training Hub is a place where we can come together and sit at the feet of Jesus, in order to learn and share His heart, in order that we can look out with purpose and begin to make a difference.

Training Hub Expectations & Introduction

Our expectations of you

Apprenticeship

With everything you learn and grow in this year, we'd love you to ask, 'Who am I passing this on to?' We are learning that it is only as we step out to teach and lead others, that we truly grow ourselves. There is a limit to our capacity to take in information without applying it and innovating it in our own context and style.

Teachability

We'd love you to be able to say...

- I'm up for whatever God wants to do in me this year, I'm up for whatever God wants to teach me, change in me, pour into me.
- I'm committed to this team; to the mutual flourishing of those around me, desiring to include and encourage all Training Hub team members to the best of my ability. I'm for the vision of Training Hub and those in my church family; to love, serve and speak well of Jesus' Church.
- I'm ready to share my journey of faith and growth with my friends, community, leaders and family as God works in me; choosing vulnerability and trust, even where it takes me out of my comfort zone. I want to be more like Jesus. I want to make an impact for God's kingdom. Come Holy Spirit!

The Details

Although we would love to meet physically with all trainees and team, we don't feel that is safe and honouring to those involved at this present time, but we do believe the format presented below allows us to deliver the course in a meaningful and desirable way still.

As we approach the new year, we hope to reassess how we gather as Training Hub, always considering the wellbeing of those involved and listening to the latest Government guidance. Our desire would be to meet more in person as restrictions allow but hope you will understand we cannot commit to this at the moment.

Conferences:

These will take place online once a month across a Friday, 9:30am – 2:30pm. These times will involve main teaching sessions on the topics, as well as time to discuss in breakout groups and time for personal reflection.

Monthly Gatherings:

Once a month, on a Wednesday evening, we will meet online for an hour and a half. Looking more at practices and disciplines that will help us at living in the way of Jesus.

Prayer Triplets:

This will be the same group of people you journey with throughout the year, and we'd encourage you to meet in these groups once a month for an hour to dig deeper into what we've been looking at in the conferences and monthly gatherings, as well as assignments.

Assignments:

There will be four assignments spread out throughout the year which will require some of your time. These will take various forms - for example, reading a book and writing a reflective essay on what you have learned, recording a podcast in your prayer triplets etc.

Dates and Plans

Conferences:

will take place online once a month on a Friday from 9:30pm – 2:30pm.

October – 1 st & 2 nd	Discipleship
November – 6 th	Emotionally Healthy Spirituality
December – 5 th	Living Free
January – 29 th	Prayer & Holy Spirit
February – 26 th	Culture
March – 26 th	Apologetics
April – 30 th	Personality Profile
May – 28 th	Breaking New Ground
June – 18 th	What's Next...

Monthly Gatherings:

will take place online on a Wednesday evening, 7:30pm – 9:00pm, looking more at practices and disciplines that will help us at living in the way of Jesus.

7 th October	Scripture 1
11 th November	Scripture 2
9 th December	Celebration
3 rd February	Sabbath
3 rd March	Disappointment
31 st March	Community
5 th May	Forgiveness
2 nd June	Authentic Living – being one person
21 st June	Money/Generosity

Prayer Triplets

Prayer triplets are a space for you to process the content you've received together, and go deeper with a few people. You'll be given space to pray with one another and we hope you will journey together during the year. We believe in the power of prayer to change things, and only the power of the Spirit to change our hearts, so let's be prioritising that during our year.

You will get the most out of your prayer triplet if you use this as a place to be honest and figure out how the content we've heard applies in your life together. The others in your group may ask questions that help you think through the input practically, and you should be prepared (always in love, obviously!) to ask questions of others too. We want to see each other wrestle with what this teaching looks like in practice in our daily lives.

This will be the same group of people you journey with throughout the year, and we would encourage you to meet in your prayer triplet once a month for an hour to dig deeper into what we've been looking at in the conferences and monthly gatherings, as well as to discuss assignments.

Assignments

Assignments must be submitted by 5pm on the date stated, to 'traininghub@scottishbaptist.org.uk'

Assignment 1: Time in Scripture and Journal [due 6th November]

Commit to a regular rhythm of engagement with Scripture, and keep a journal of your reflections. We're looking for at least 2-3 entries a week for the first month, and we hope this assignment will continue beyond that.

This assignment is initially for the first month but one we hope you will continue for the whole of your Training Hub journey (and beyond if we're honest!). We want you to commit to a regular rhythm of spending time in the Word with the help of the Spirit, and the assignment part of this is the journal we'll ask you to keep. How you choose to engage with scripture is up to you, we have a few recommendations if they're useful but we want you to find a way that makes sense for you so we won't be too prescriptive.

We believe in the transforming power of the Bible, when it is read with the Spirit. So at the start of our year, we want to be committed to knowing God through His Word. And how often do we forget all the things we take to God, or the ways He has shown Himself, or the things we have been learning about Him as we spend time with Him? So we want you to keep a regular journal throughout this first month at least, to be able to look back on all those things and more! The journal can take the form of a written document, which you can send us at the end of the month, or you could record a quick audio/visual diary throughout the month if you'd rather.

A few suggestions to get you started - Lectio 365, Bible in a year (which loads of different people have done incl. Alpha, Bible Project etc.),

Assignment 2: Emotionally Healthy Spirituality [due 4th December]

Read 'Emotionally Healthy Spirituality' by Peter and Geri Scazzero. Then write a reflective essay, 1000 - 1500 words, thinking about what was new to you, what relates to you, and how you might move forward with some of this.

Understanding ourselves is so important, and to integrate psychology with our theology in order to aid us in our emotional wellbeing can be such a help. We want to be leaders that know ourselves well, so we can lead others well and understand those we lead well too. We hope this assignment will aid us in stopping to reflect on ourselves, which is a helpful thing to do regularly, and notice how we are really doing so we can move forward in helpful, practical ways as we lead and love others around us.

Assignment 3: Beautiful Resistance [due 26th March]

Read 'Beautiful Resistance' by Jon Tyson. Then pick the chapter you were most impacted by and work through the study guide at the back as a framework for a journal style reflection.

If Jesus is Lord over all our life, He must care for it all, and we must offer up all our life to Him. This means understanding how we can go after these things properly, and not with false motives or unconvinced hearts. Our peers are crying out for authenticity and consistency in a culture which seldom offers them either, but we have all this and more in Jesus! We hope this book will reignite a desire to live life to the full, going after the example of Jesus in all areas of our lives!

Assignment 4: This Cultural Moment [due 30th April]

Listen to episodes 1&2 of Season 1 of "This Cultural Moment" ("What is Post-Christian culture" and "Lesslie Newbiggin riding a bus home from India in 1974") and in response, in your prayer triplet, record an episode of a podcast discussing your thoughts and reflections on what you listened to.

As Christians, we want to be engaging in the world around us and bringing the hope and light of Jesus to those areas. We want to be able to critique and understand the world we live in, while living under the authority and example of Jesus. This assignment pushes us not only to observe the society we live in but also push further and be able to discuss with others how Jesus relates to that.

Practices that will help you grow

Journaling – We would like you to take time to reflect and digest the teaching from conferences and monthly gatherings and journaling is an excellent way to do this. We would like you to aim to process a weekly reflection in your journal – this can be prompted by anything from Training Hub teaching, to your personal reading of scripture, a life event or something you are reading.

Personal Study – You should expect us to suggest things for you to read, watch, listen to or think about as a result of, or in preparation for each session. This won't be arduous, just enough to get the juices flowing!

Daily Devotion – We encourage each other to spend time with God each day reading His Word, whether that be for 5 minutes or hours at a time – we want to aim to make this a life priority, which is why we've set it as your first assignment!

Prayer Triplets – You'll be given space to pray with others who we hope you will journey with during the year. We encourage you to gather once a month in these groups.

Personal Challenge – We will always expect you to be applying all that you learn in a monthly gathering or conference to your everyday life. We will help articulate relevant challenge for you at the end of each time together to stretch and grow your faith and leadership.

Attendance

Good regular attendance is expected at Training Hub. Absence due to exceptional circumstances is of course allowed. But we do expect that you will plan your work schedule outside of Training Hub hours and ask that you book holidays and other social events within the holiday time scheduled as part of the year. This honours speakers who prepare to deliver material, and leaders and other participants in the programme who make significant sacrifices to be present with you.

All requests for absences (including exceptional circumstances) should be communicated to Ali or Becs with good notice.

Illness

If you are ill on a Hub day, please let Ali or Becs know via text or phonecall (details will be given at start of term).

Finance

We are aware that a commitment to Training Hub is a significant one and that it can be a large financial sacrifice for you.

You can choose to make a one off payment at the start of Training Hub for the full amount, or, pay in instalments. Please let us know how you (or your church) wish to make these payments and we will arrange for bank details to be sent out.

If you have concerns with regards to making payments, please don't hesitate to speak to Ali or Bees.

COST

Term 1 – October to December is £100

Term 2 – January to April is £100 if online and £200 if in person to cover accommodation and food

Term 3 – April to June is £100 if online and £200 if in person to cover accommodation and food

All payments are made to the Baptist Union of Scotland – contact traininghub@scottishbaptist.org.uk

Support and Encouragement

We want you to receive the best in support and encouragement this year. The training Hub team would love to think you could follow us as we seek to follow Jesus, and we humbly ask that you would allow us to encourage and challenge you as you commit to this year of training. We don't take this lightly, and our commitment to you is to call out the best in you this year, thinking and speaking well of you, celebrating you and cheering you on.

Personal Support

It may be helpful during the year to access additional support outwith the Training Hub programme. Often when God does a deep and pivotal work in us it can bring up issues from the past, or make us feel like we have blocks that are holding us back from all that is ahead of us. John 10:10 says, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Further Prayer Ministry

Taking the opportunity for some further prayer ministry may well be possible in your local church. It's possible that a season of counselling could be helpful. If you are unsure of how to access this support locally, please do speak with a member of the Training Hub team.

Prophecy

A number of local churches would be able to offer the opportunity for a Prophetic Appointment, a short time of others listening to God for you, to bring encouragement and a sense of God's heart for you as you venture with Him. Speak to the Training Hub team if you are unsure how to access one of these.