

South West Ministry Training Course

TUTOR GROUP PROGRAMME FOR 2009/10

CHRISTIAN ETHICS

The aim of these tutor groups is to help you explore a range of ethical issues in contemporary society using the methods discussed during the Year 1 weekends. In doing so you should

- become familiar with using the process of Christian moral reasoning
- grapple with some complex issues.

In turn this should help you

- facilitate discussion in the congregation in which you will minister
- provide appropriate pastoral care to the members of the congregation and people in the wider community
- grow in your own Christian maturity.

Resources

Reference books

Atkinson, D.J., Field, D.H. (eds) (1995) *New Dictionary of Ethics and Pastoral Theology*, Leicester IVP.

Singer, P. (ed) (2004) *A Companion to Ethics*, Oxford: Blackwell. This is a multi-author book, which is comprehensive yet concise

Gill, R. (2001) *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Ethics*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

General reading

Ashley, J. (2000) *Choosing Life*, London: DLT.

Hays, R.B. (1997) *The Moral Vision of the New Testament*, Edinburgh: T&T Clark.

Gill, R. (1995) *A Textbook of Christian Ethics*, Edinburgh: T&T Clark.

Bryant, J., Searle, J. (2004) *Life in our Hands*, Leicester: IVP.

Bryant, J., Baggott la Velle., L, Searle, J. (2005) *Introduction to Bioethics*, Chichester: Wiley.

Dawes, S *Why Bible-believing Methodists shouldn't eat Black Pudding*. This is available from staff resources on the Course website

Specific reading

The Grove Booklets Ethics Series covers most of the topics you will be discussing. These will all be made available by the Course. (www.grovebooks.co.uk)

- E74 The Christian Green Heritage: World as Creation. Edward Echlin.
E88 Gaia and Green Ethics: Implications for Ecological Theology. Celia Deane-Drummond.
E99 Handling Redundancy. Peter Curran.
E105 The Ethics of Business Competition: The Law of the Jungle? Richard Higginson.
E110 Usury Friendly? The Ethics of Money lending – A Biblical Interpretation. Susan L Buckley.
E113 Fair Trade as Christian Mission. Chris Sugden.
E117 Euthanasia: A Good Death Margaret Whipp.
E120 Corporate Ethical Accounting (How) Can Companies Tell the Truth? Richard Evans.
E125 Globalization: Unravelling the New Capitalism. Peter Heslam
E127 Unweaving the Web: Beginning to Think Theologically about the Internet. David Clough.
E133 Welcoming Asylum Seekers. Stephen Burns.
E131 Consumerism. Julie Kelly.
E134 The Use and Abuse of Drugs. Luke Bretherton.
E139 'Islamic Terrorism': Is there a Christian Response? Colin Chapman.

Other resources

- Dunnett, A.(1999) Euthanasia: The Heart of the Matter, London: Hodder.
Jones, J. (2003) Jesus and the Earth, London: SPCK.
Northcott, M.S. (1996) The Environment and Christian Ethics, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Pullinger, D. (2001) Information Technology and Cyberspace, London: DLT.
Coffey, J. (2006) The abolition of the slave trade: Christian conscience and political action, Cambridge: Cambridge Papers. Free download from http://www.jubilee-centre.org/online_documents

The sessions

This part of the tutor group will last for an hour. Normally two students will do the presentation. They should decide the style and format of the session but they should

- identify and analyse the key issues
- facilitate reflection by the Group which is pastorally orientated.

The first session is an opportunity to review and discuss the tools of Christian moral reasoning. This is important for the new first year students who will only

just be starting the weekend ethics module. However it is also an opportunity to revise and appraise the tools.

The subject material for the rest of the year and which students will be presenting the material will be decided by each Group in consultation with their tutor at the first session.

JS

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