

Handout and slides from James Henley & Jon Price's workshop / Creating missional communities among those not interested in religion or spirituality: perspectives from two ends of Wales

Taflen a sleidiau o weithdy James Henley a Jon Price / Creu cymunedau cenhadol ymysg y rhai heb ddiddordeb mewn crefydd nac ysbrydolrwydd: dau gipolwg o Gymru



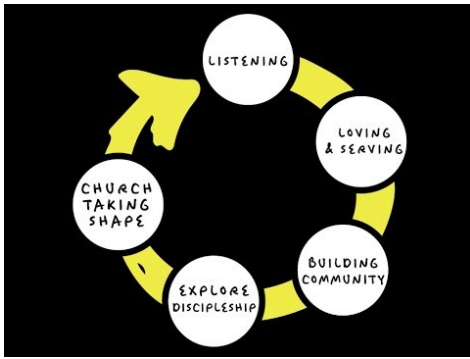
**Esgobaeth
Bangor**
The Diocese
of Bangor



**MEATH &
KILDARE**
DIOCESES



To the Light
**The 2017 Joint Clergy Conference of the
Dioceses of Bangor and Meath & Kildare**
St George's Hotel, Llandudno
20-22 November 2017
At y Goleuni
Cynhadledd Glerigol at y Cyd 2017
Esgobaethau Bangor a Míth a Chil Dara
Gwesty San Siôr, Llandudno
20-22 Tachwedd 2017



Creating missional communities among those not interested in religion or spirituality: perspectives from two ends of Wales.

WORKSHOP - PART 1 QUESTIONS

Developing Teams for Pioneer Ministry

- Do you have any friends that you do mission with?
- What is your next step as a community doing mission together?

Listening

- Listening is a key component to starting a fresh expression of church, and living missionally. Who do you need to listen to this week?
- Who needs to be heard so that Jesus Kingdom can come close?

Loving & Serving

- What needs to you see in your community?
- What are the ways that you (your church/small group) can begin meeting the needs outside the walls of the church?

What do you know?

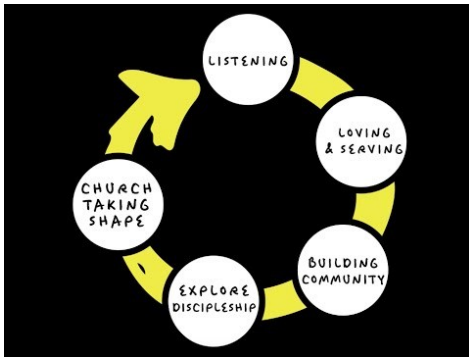
What do you have?

What are you experienced in?

What are you passionate about?

What can you absolutely not stand?

- Might these be things that God has given you to leverage for His kingdom and others around you in your community?



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WORKSHOP—PART 2 QUESTIONS

Exploring Discipleship

- Create a list with names of friends/people you know who aren't yet Christians.
- What could be natural stepping stones to bring these friends together so that you can lovingly serve them and help them to explore Jesus?
- Christians are notorious for telling and not listening. We tell people what we think they need to know, but don't always listen very well. Think about the people you listed in the last question. What is your next step in encouraging them in conversation about Jesus?
- What questions could you ask them?
- What would it look like to take the lead and initiate with them?

Becoming church

- List the ways in which your church can be identified as one, holy, catholic and apostolic. Are some of these attributes of the church more prominent than others? What more could you do to show people outside the church that these marks are what God calls the church to be?

Reproducing Church

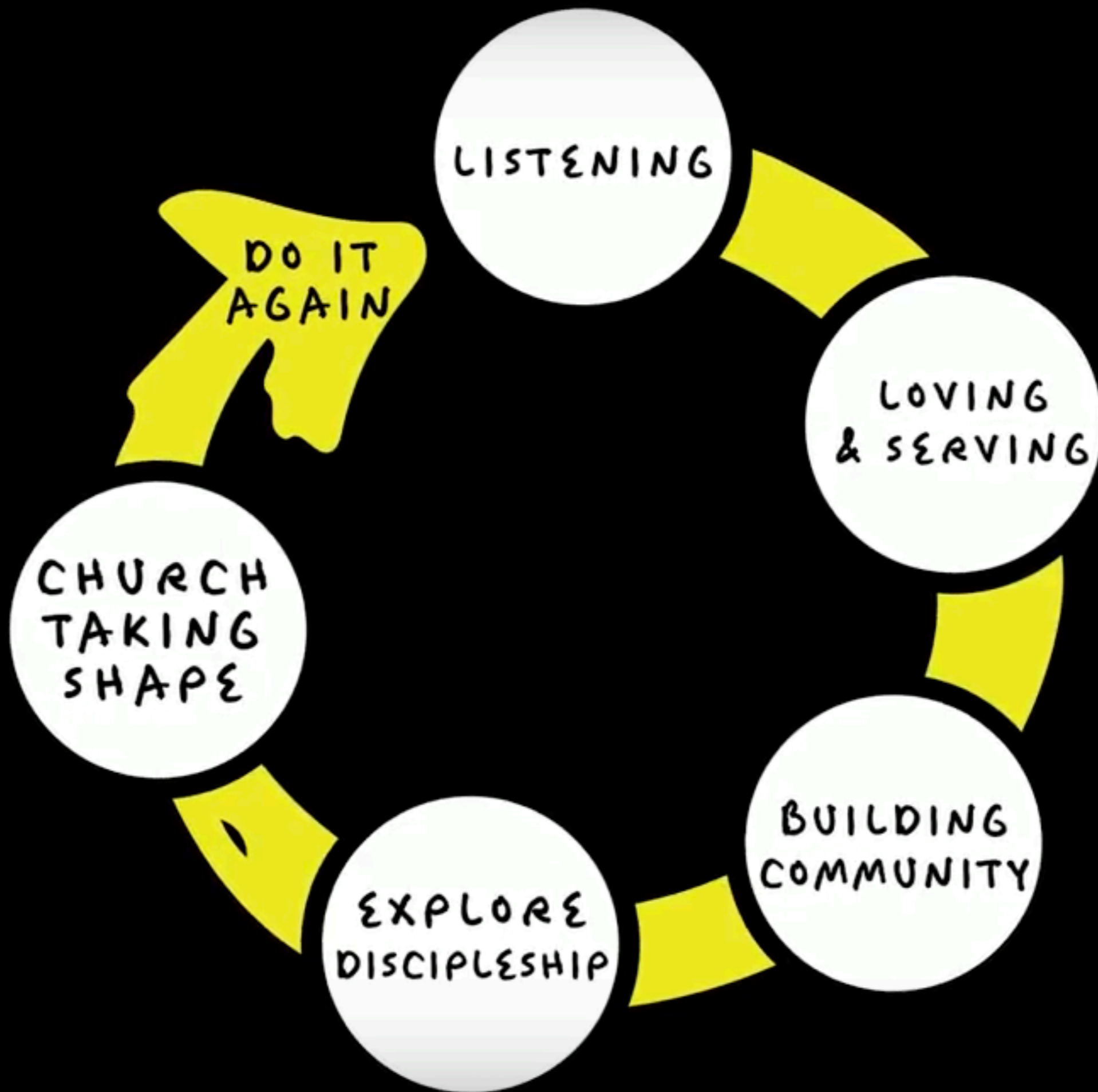
- Think for a moment about the human life cycle. What comparisons can you draw out from this and a healthy life cycle of a fresh expression of church?

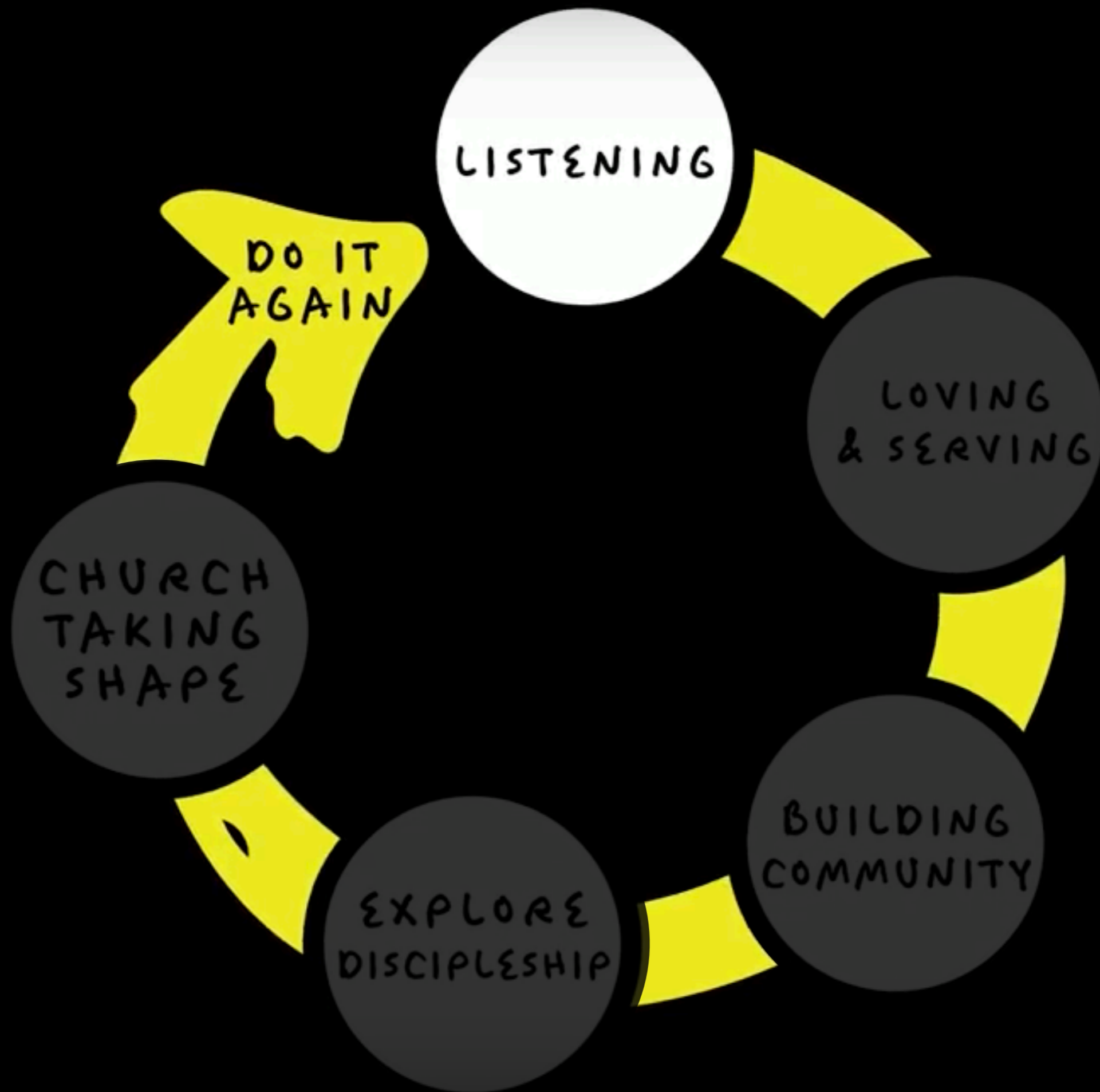
Cultivating missional
communities among
those not interested
in religion or
spirituality...

Perspectives from two ends of Wales

James Henley
& Jon Price



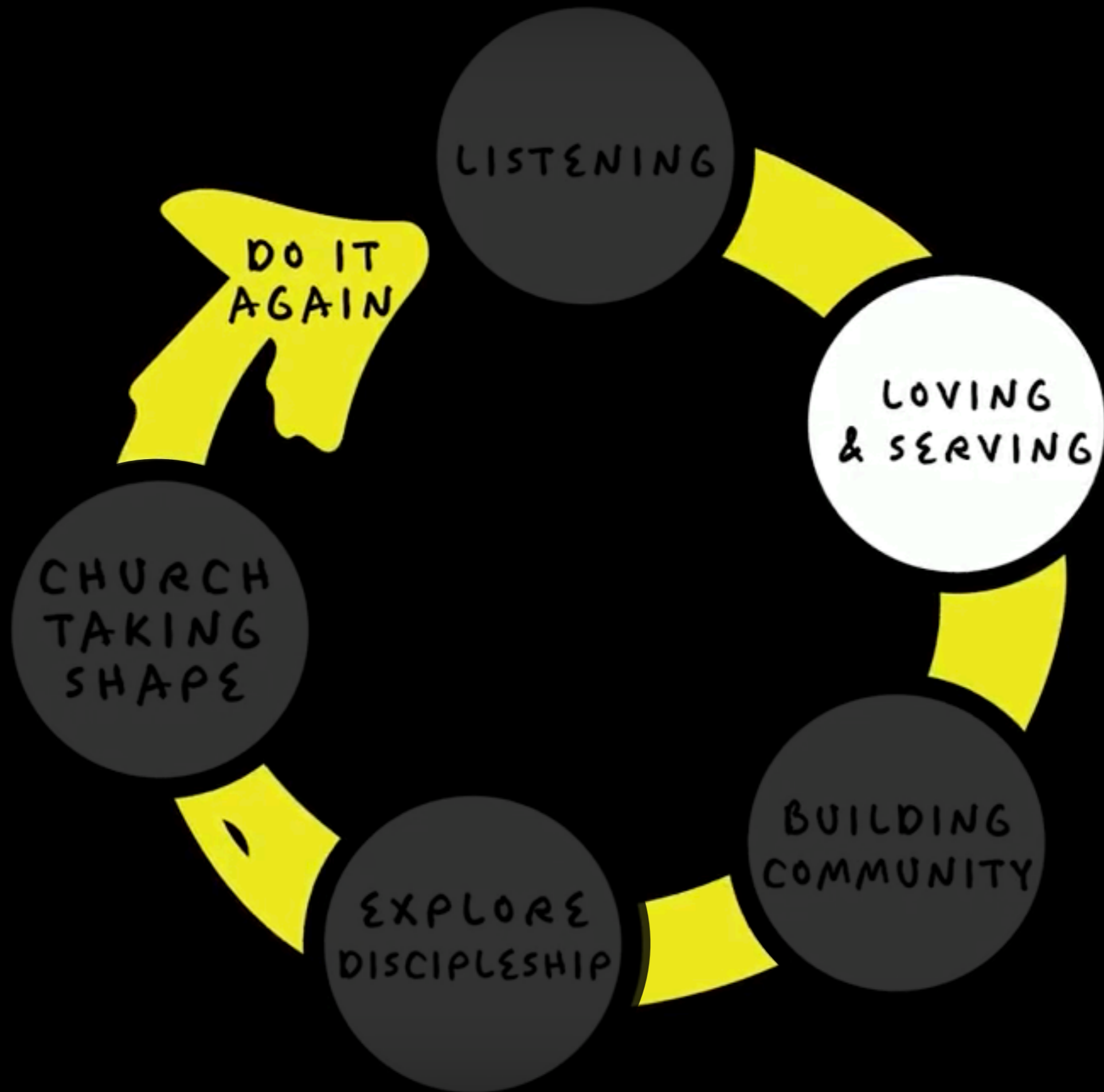




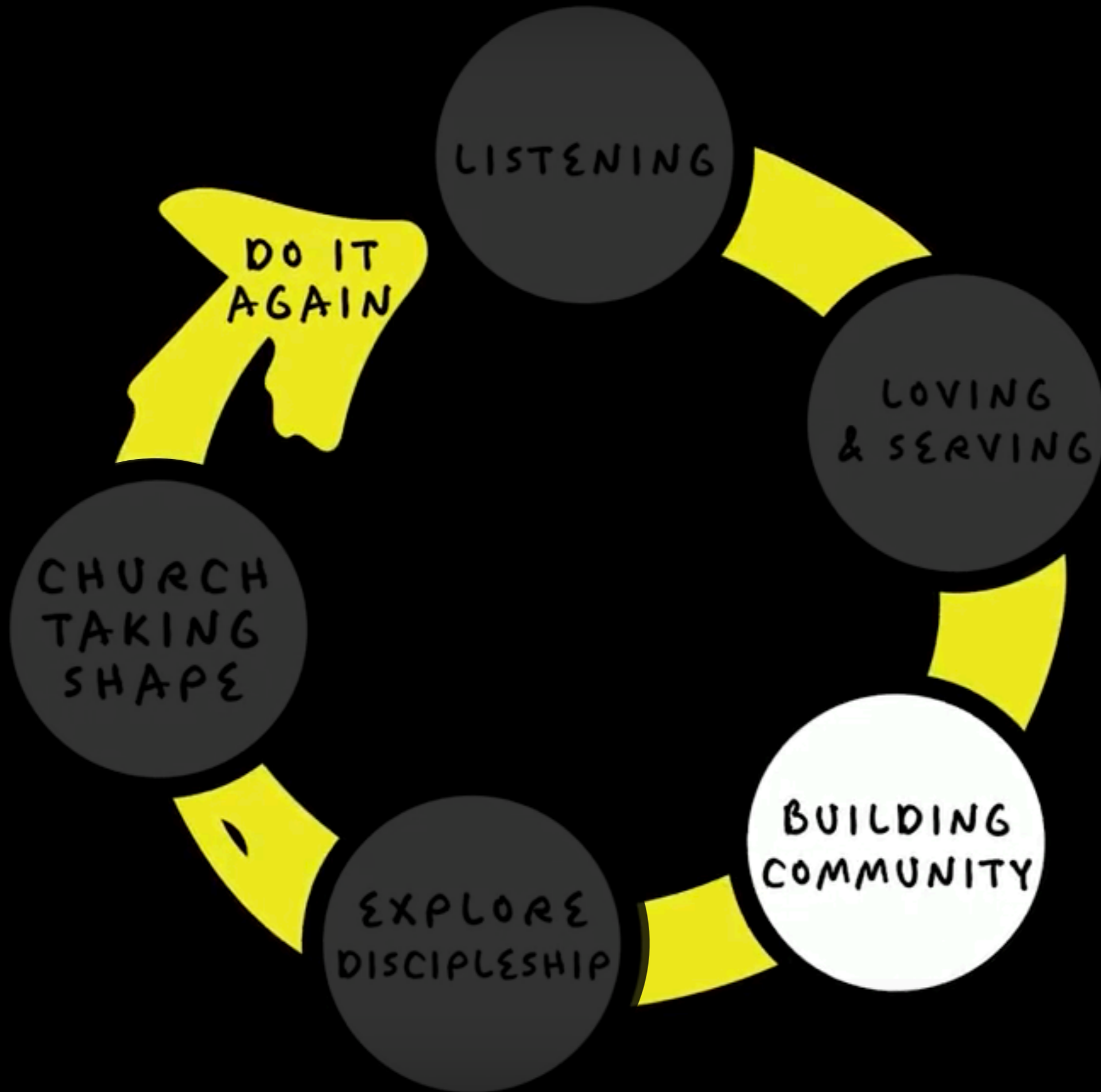
Our first task in approaching another people, another culture... is to take off our shoes, for the place we are approaching is holy. Else we may find ourselves treading on men's dreams. More serious still, we may forget that God was here before our arrival.

- Max Warren

(CMS General Secretary 1904-1977)







'Often, the best gift we can give another person is our time and attention. Human beings need a place in which they and their contributions are valued, and a hospitable community finds ways to value the gifts people bring. Few experiences are more lonely or isolating than finding oneself unwanted, unneeded or unable to contribute. People come to life, however, when they and their offerings are valued.'

Christine Pohl, Living into Community

SANCTUARY COMMUNITY





1. Casual conversation – taking time to listen to peoples stories and to ask probing questions in a non-intrusive sort of way.
2. Looking – what did people do, how did they gather, what did they value, who related to who etc.

WHAT DID WE HEAR?

- Stories from 3 people who used to come to church, and stopped because they felt they had been hurt (De-churched).
- Stories from dads who came from broken families and who were struggling to see their children.
- 2 baptism enquiries – 1 wedding enquiry – 1 new youth club member
- Comments from people that no-one does anything to bring people from the estate together

WHAT DID WE SEE?

- Struggled slightly to respond to structured programme (didn't all want to join in circle games etc.)
- Perhaps there was a sense of unease about being told what to do on 'their own turf' – especially if they are not used to it.
- Used to being disappointed
- There was quite a bit of tension between some of the groups of kids, which got emotional and violent.

WHAT DID WE SEE?

- A tangible lack of trust that good things will happen, so when queuing there were fall outs, because of fear they wouldn't get seen, what isn't fair etc.
- Some of the negative demanding stuff is because they aren't used to having things, so stockpiling for the future.
- Inter-generational relationships where grandparents cared for their grandchildren
- They trusted us to run the BBQ for them, and appreciated how inclusive we were.

WHAT DID WE SEE & HEAR?

- Convenience of having a social-time, not having to cook a meal for tea.
- A sense of relief (see above).
- Other people's generosity (supplies of water and ice-cream).
- People taking ownership of the event and taking part.

An estate matriarch:

'I still don't know what you are after.
You're here quite a lot lately. What are
you getting out of it?'

SANCTUARY: NEXT 12 MONTHS

- More of the same – long haul perspective
- Explore the possibilities for a mobile meeting place;
- Provide opportunities for residents to get to know one another;
- Network those already actively serving this community;
- Provide opportunities to explore the Christian faith;
- Plan for long term sustainability of this ministry.

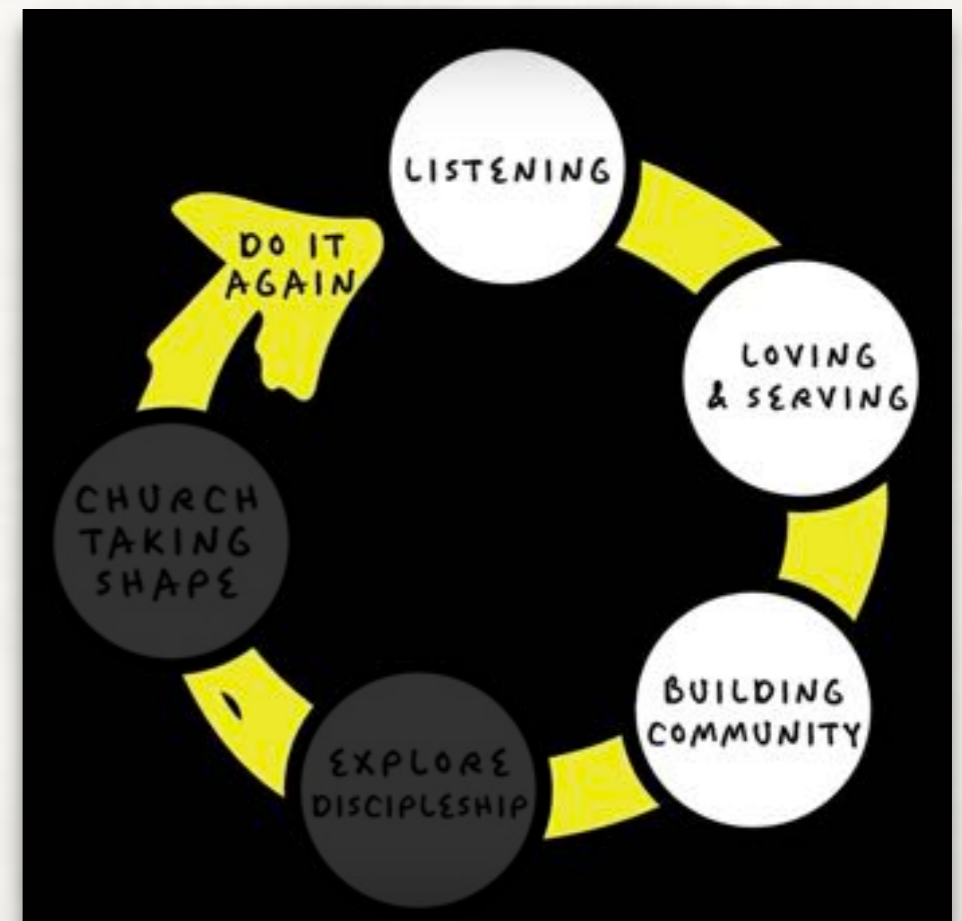
DISCUSS // TRAFODWCH

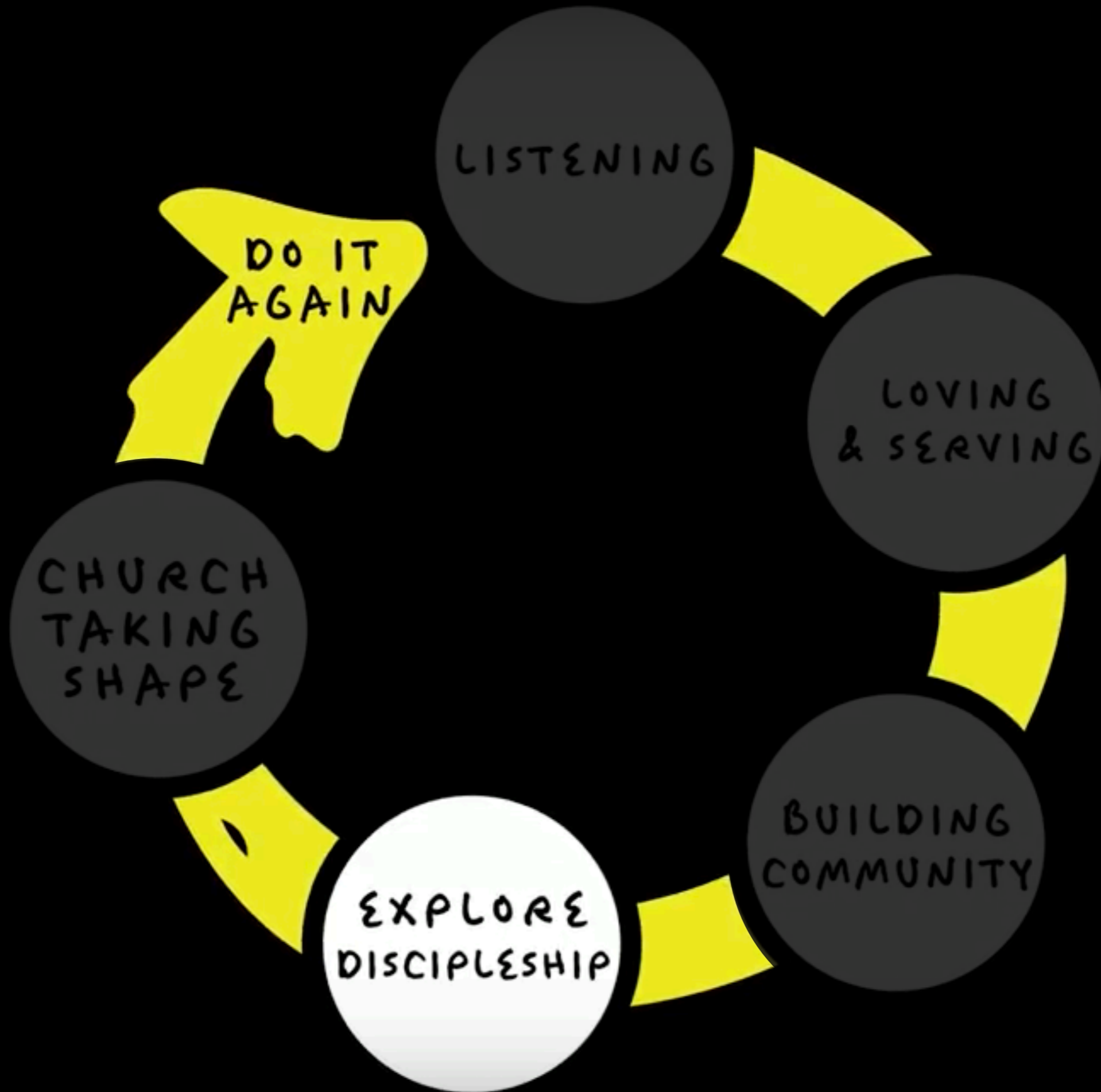
What would taking these steps (listening, loving and serving and building community) look like in your context?

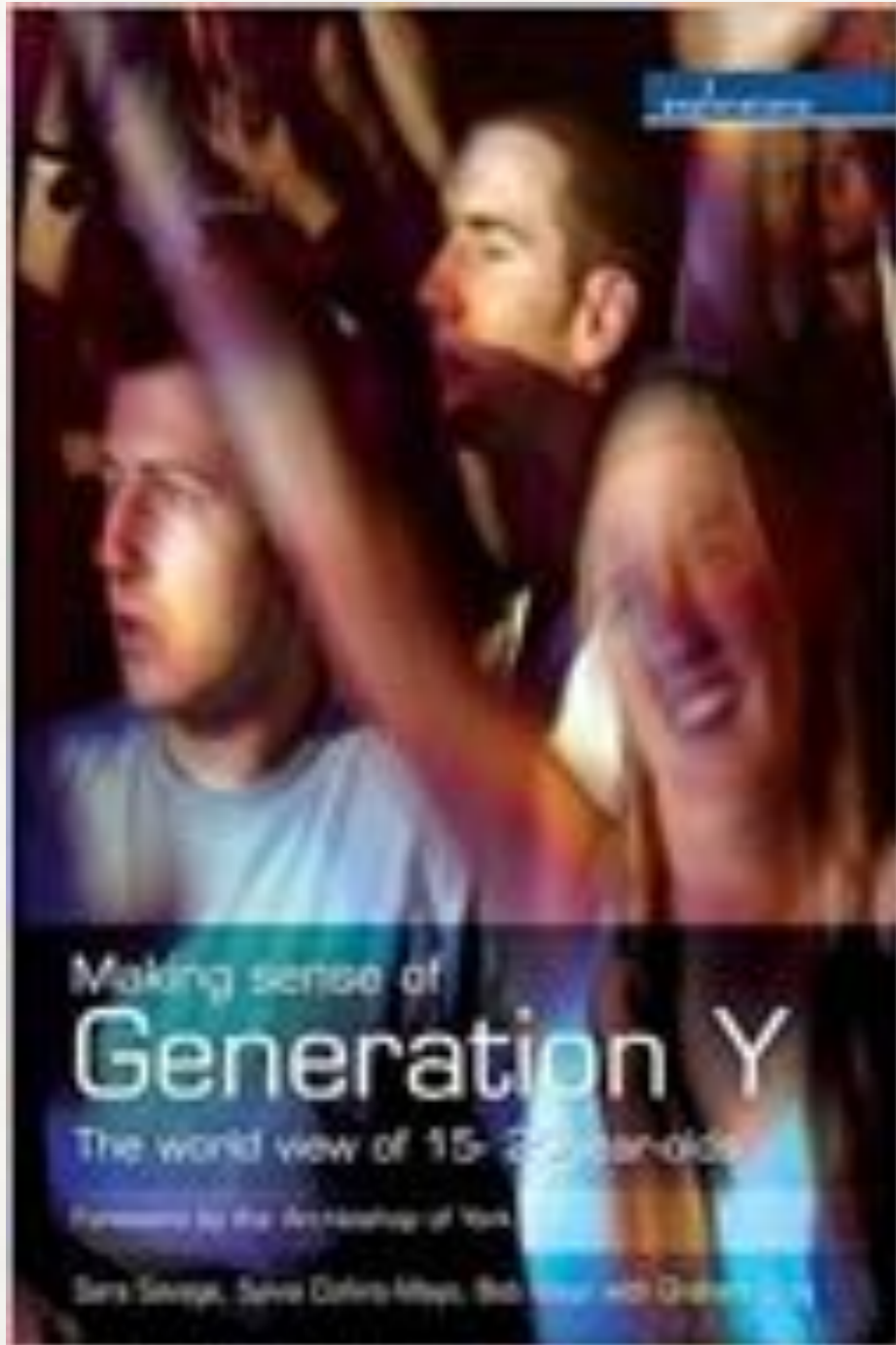
Sut busa y camau hyn yn edrych yn eich cyd-destun chi?

What could you do?

Beth allwch chi ei wneud?







Formative
spirituality

Transformative
spirituality

A SACRAMENTAL ENVIRONMENT

“Through friendship, laughter, being real with each other, finding a way to engage in honest conversation, honouring questions, encouragement and mutual learning.”

Barbara Glasson

A SACRAMENTAL ENVIRONMENT

“Grace and radical generosity are the focus of the community and its understanding of the New Testament word *ekklesia* for the church.”

Ian Mobsby

SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS

'...were in the business of apprentices and apprentice-makers. That's what people were, apprentices – people learning to live the way that their Master lived.'

Greene & Cotterell

INTENTIONAL LEARNING

The Unlock Learning Cycle

Unlocking real life stories of urban people.
Start with the group telling stories from their real life experience.

Leading to more experience.

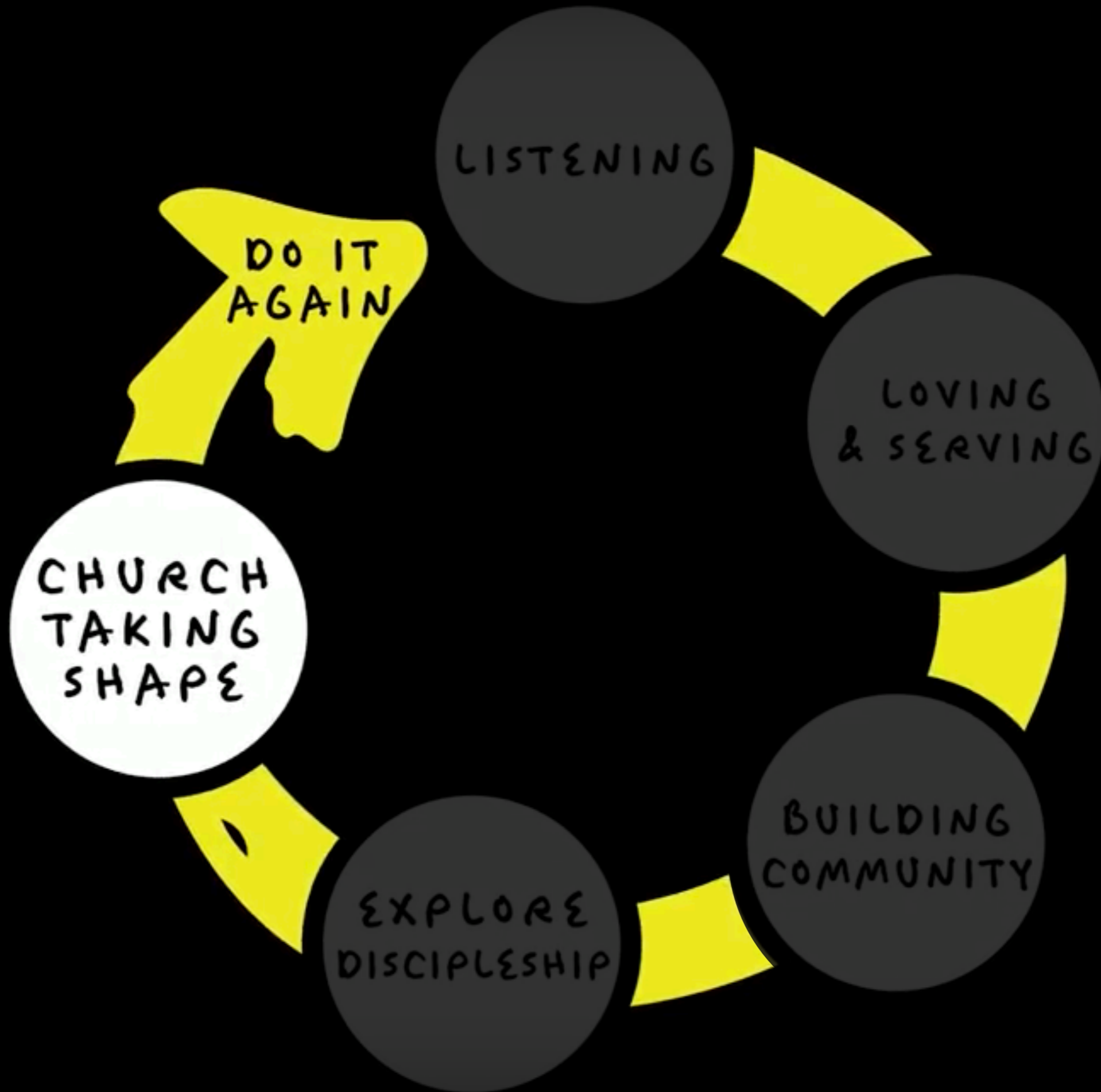
What we learn now is learnt for life and changes us. We also learn to keep reflecting!.

Releasing life changing skills and confidence.
Change happens as a result of linking real life experience with the Bible. This change often leads to action among others.

Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ.

The real life stories are connected to and compared with similar situations in the Bible.





CHURCH TAKING SHAPE

- Church needs to be rooted in God
- Church needs to exist for the sake of others
- Church needs to be a response to and vehicle for the Gospel

WORSHIP

'...a vital task of FxC is to offer habitable and hospitable patterns and ways of worshipping which are authentic to Christianity and to the culture of the people who comprise the church.'

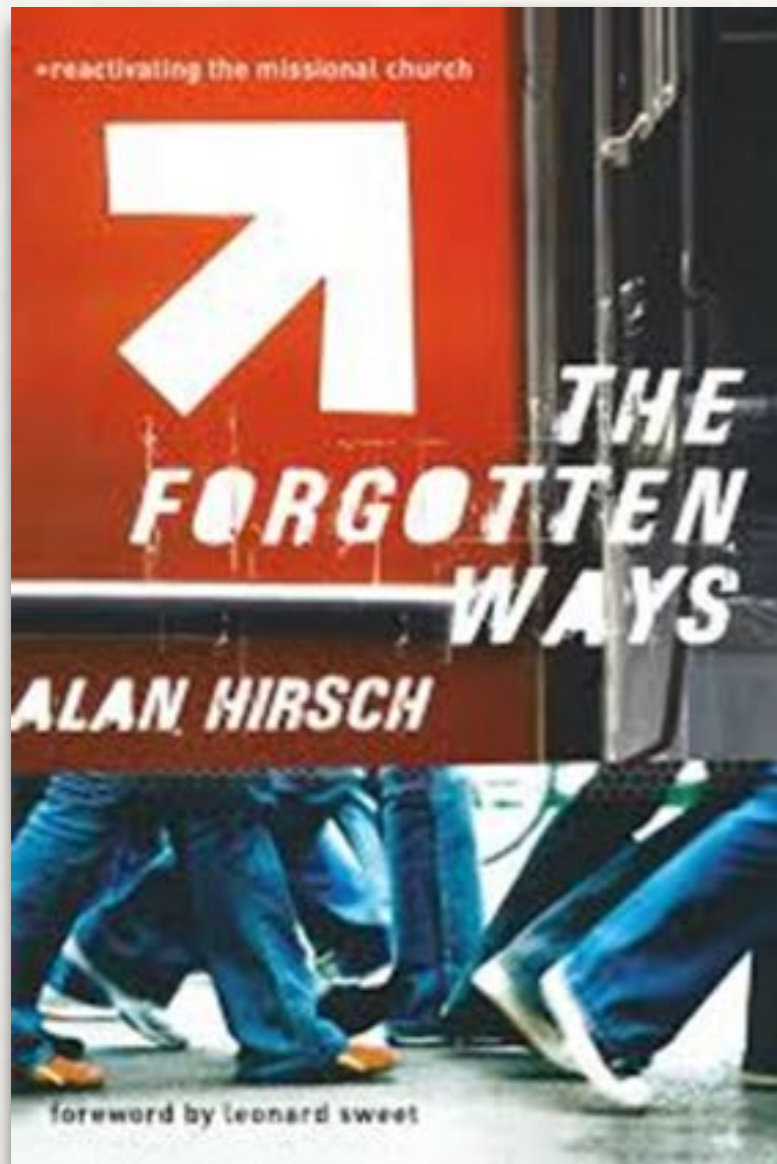
Rowan Williams

BELONGING

'An individualistic age loves the poem of a man looking back at his life as a set of footprints along a beach, and seeing only one set of footprints carrying him in the hard times of his life. This generation sees the multitude of footprints carrying them in the hard times of their lives, because Christ carries through his church. And church is essentially about belonging to a community of people.'

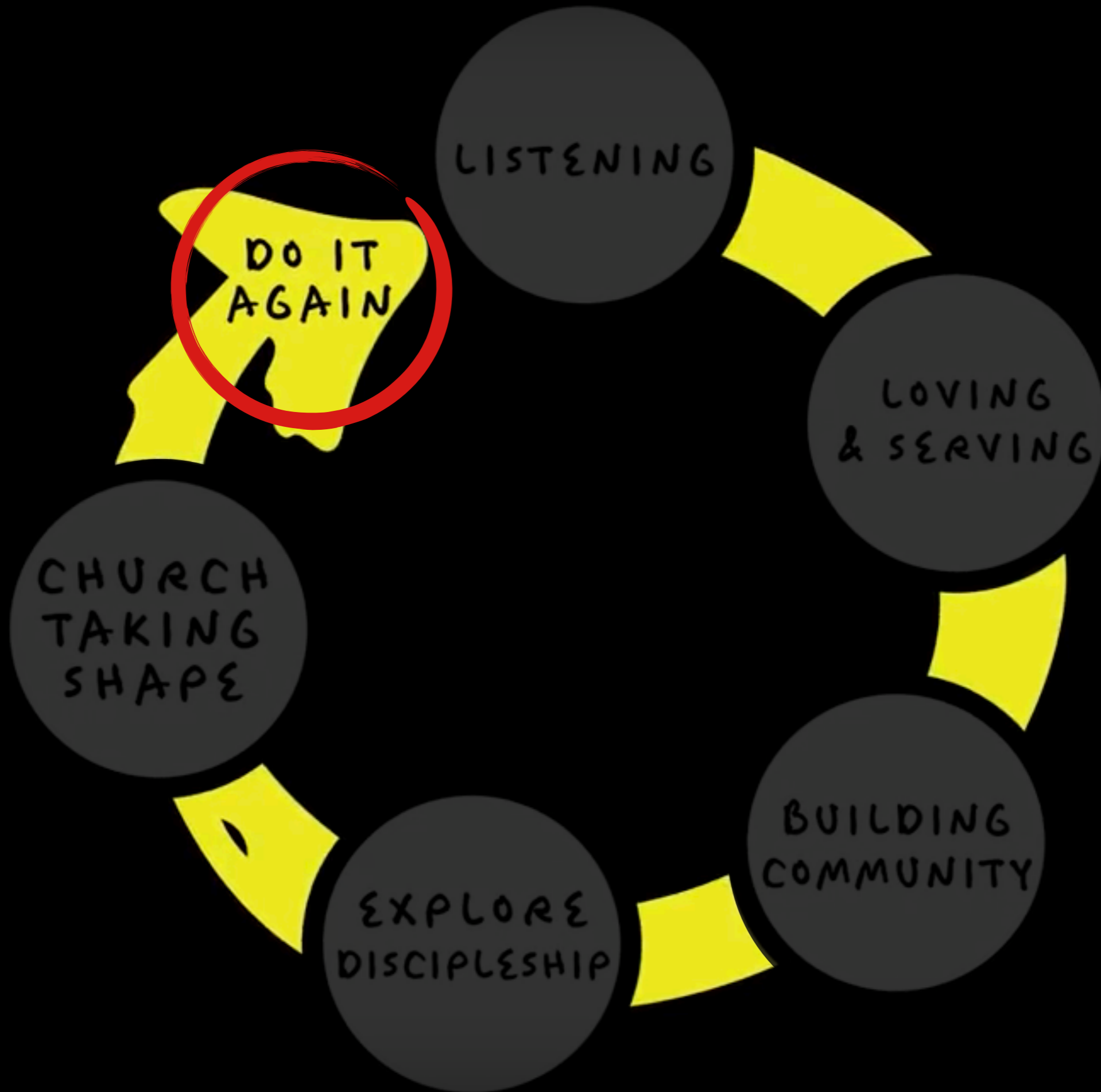
Tim Sudworth

DISCIPLESHIP



'When dealing with discipleship, and the related capacity to generate authentic followers of Jesus, we are dealing with the single most crucial factor that will in the end determine the quality of the whole – if we fail at this point then we must fail at all others.'

Alan Hirsch

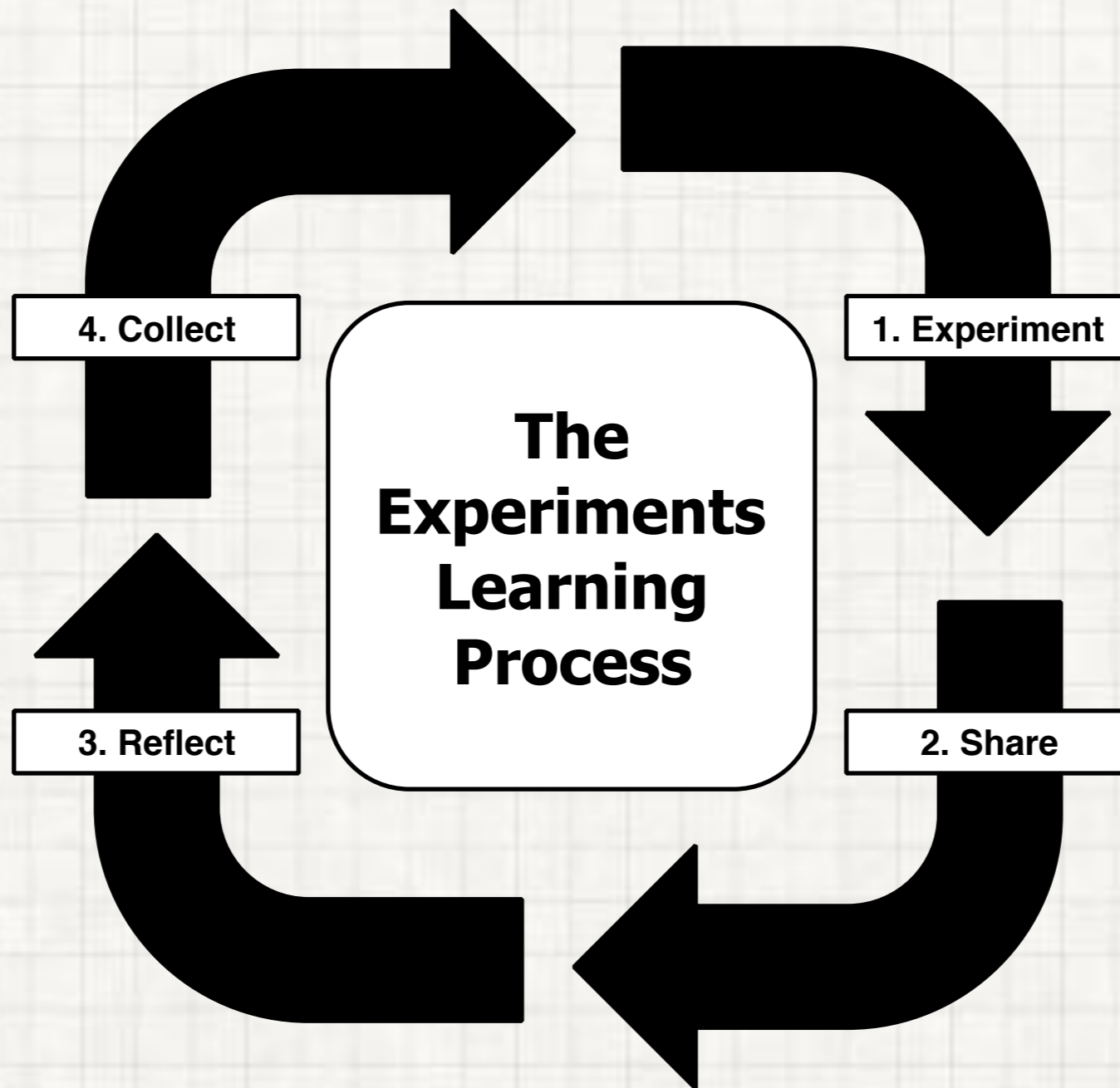


REPRODUCING CHURCH



Acts 2:10
Acts 11:22





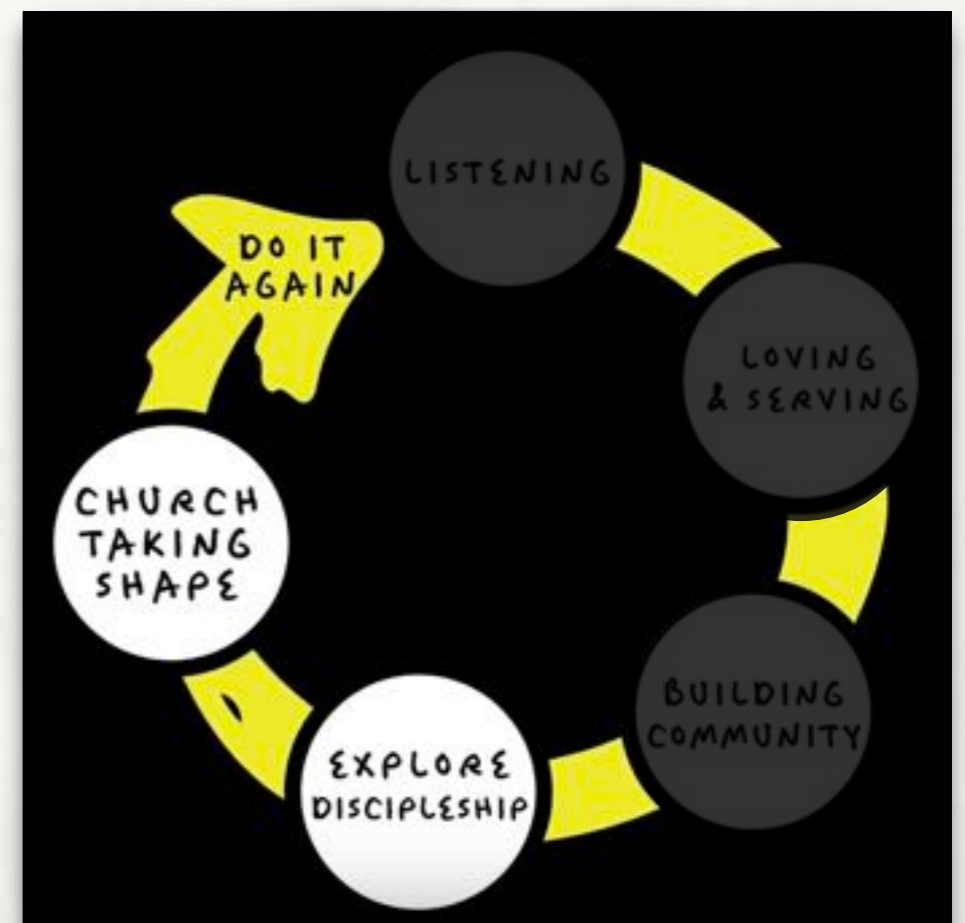
'The church is not only a gathering of people, it is a communion between God and people... it is a mystery... Consequently, not everything is completely knowable in human terms; God maintains the right to surprise us'.

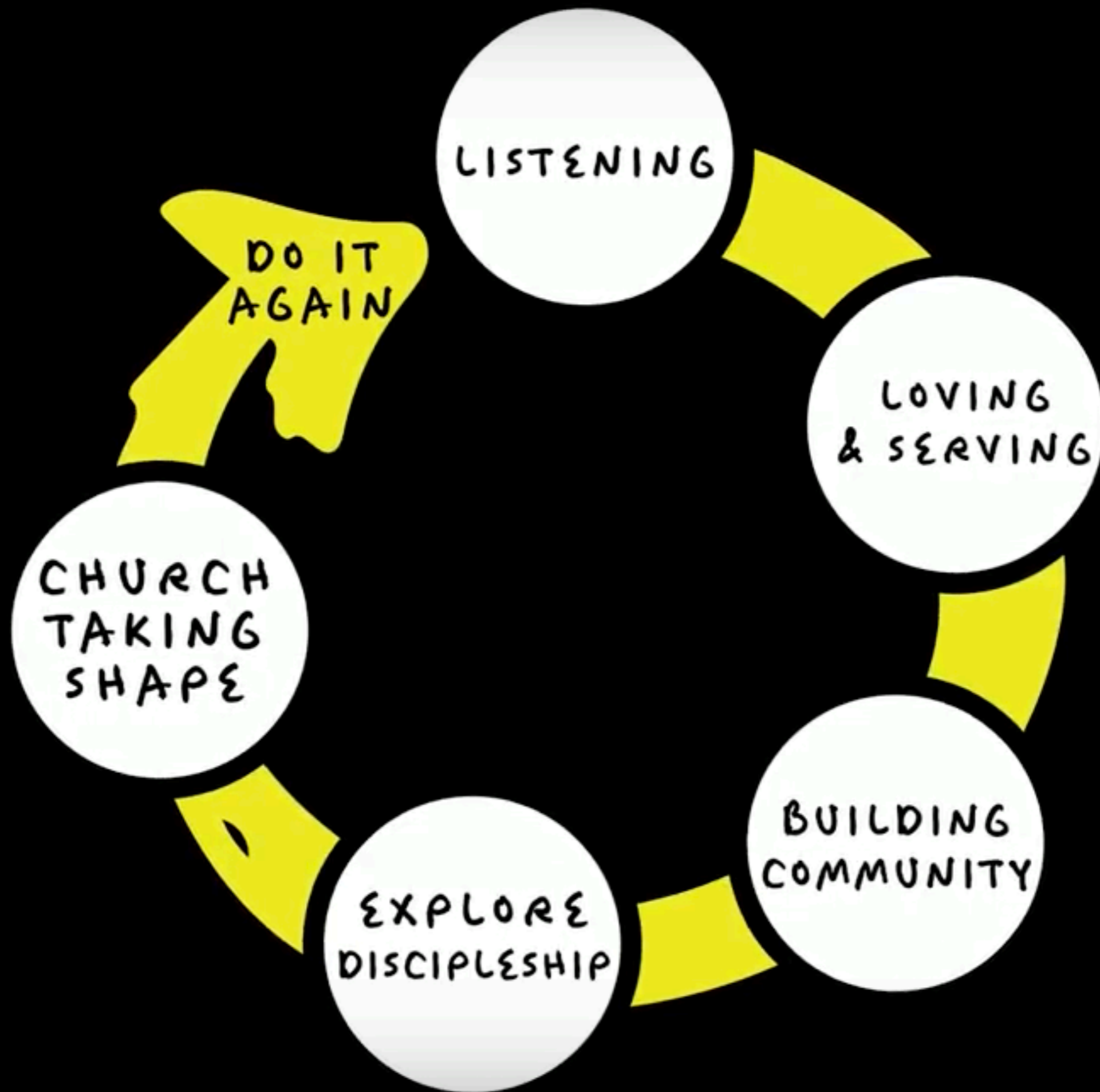
- *Giorgios Vlantis*
(*Greek Orthodox*)

DISCUSS // TRAFODWCH

Use the questions sheets as a prompt to discuss together these stages of a fresh expressions journey.

Defnyddiwch y daflen gwestiynau ar y bwrdd i gychwyn trafodaeth am y camau yma i ddatblygu 'fresh expressions'.





**Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.**

**Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.**

**Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.**

**We ask You to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.
Amen.**

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