

Peter the Rock Tribute to Bishop Peter Hall



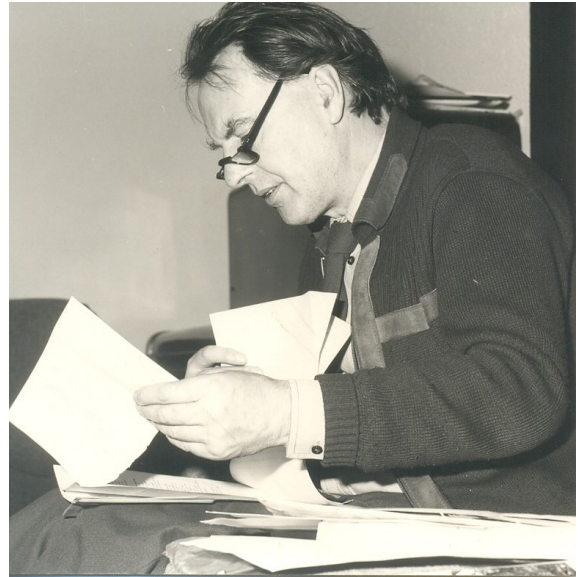
Unlock London Walk Workshop 2015

Bishop Peter Hall

was a founder member of Unlock and a driving force in the establishment of the Unlock London walks as Unlock's primary fundraiser.

His death at the end of 2013 was a great loss and the 2015 Unlock London Walk was staged as a tribute to his life and work. The walk explored the parts of London where Peter had lived and worked when he was Bishop of Woolwich in the 1980s.

Below are two of the tributes to Peter's life, his work and his character which were published by Unlock in 2015.



Peter's early involvement with what led to Unlock

When the first precedents to Unlock were started, Peter was working in what is now Zimbabwe. He had kept in touch with a group of Evangelicals in UK, of whom David Sheppard was the best known. They had a concern that, especially in the estates of urban sprawl, the gospel should be shared, not in a "top-down" academic way, but taking account of the life experiences of ordinary people.

For Peter, his current experience was of bringing the "good news" to folk of a completely different culture. He felt this to be exactly parallel. I'll never forget his delight when he returned from calling in at the end of the parish African Bible study. He had found them studying the "scapegoat" that God had provided - and they were weeping with joy! They had had the same experience in their religion of sending a goat away to the wilderness to carry their sins! Now they heard that Jesus had "borne our sins". He is the Scapegoat. *They* could tell *us* how that felt! And the gospel was emerging as totally meaningful to its hearers - certainly not "top-down" academic!

When we returned to UK, in 1971, Peter quickly linked up with his friends. His patch was in a city church in the middle of Birmingham, so the "urban" bit of their thinking was very relevant to him. They carried their thinking through to the founding of ECUM and EUTP (Evangelical Urban Training Project) later to have a shorter name "Unlock". These were the days of the first Project Officer, Neville Black in Liverpool. Peter became Chairman of Unlock in 1982, and worked closely with Jim Hart, the second Project Officer. He retired from being Chair in 2002.
Jill Hall

I had the huge honour of taking over as Chair of the Unlock national Council from Peter. That's a long time ago now, but throughout that time Peter and Jill have remained wonderfully supportive. Not a single iota of steering from the back seat, just tremendous love and practical commitment mainly through organising the walk, in Peter's case, to the last.

At Council we've talked a fair bit about Peter. These are the bones of what has stood out for us:

- enormous personal warmth - and a great sense of humour and enjoyment of life;
- humility - he didn't mind using his position or title if necessary but it was always clear he thought of himself no more highly than any one else;
- passion for the powerless-poor and a clear view that we need to see and address people's 'sinned-against-ness'.

We miss him greatly, but his spirit will not cease to inspire us.

Andrew Dorton



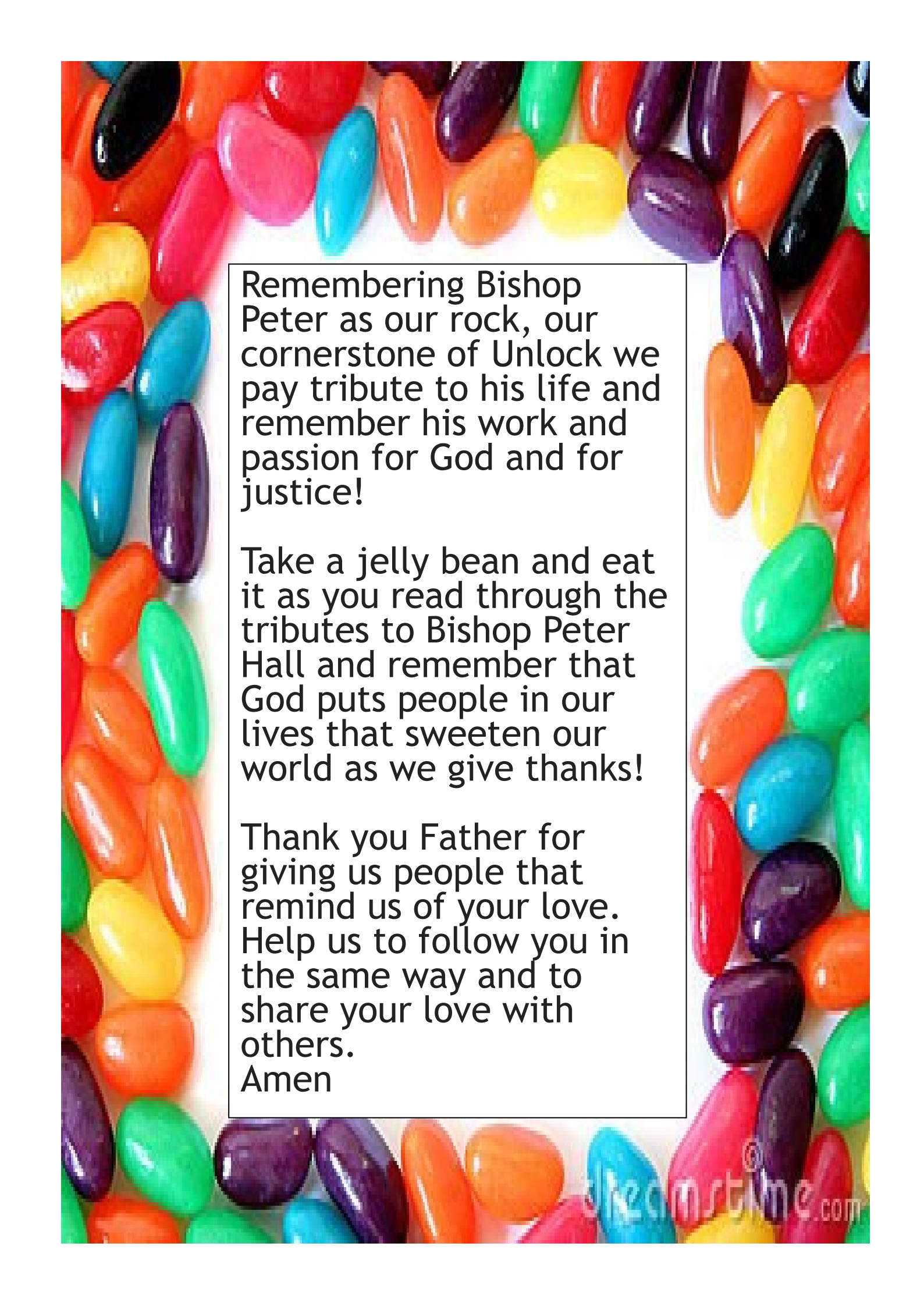
Show slideshow from
[http://unlock-urban.org.uk/
documents/
PHpresentation.pdf](http://unlock-urban.org.uk/documents/PHpresentation.pdf)



Provide:-

- A dish of jelly beans
- Instruction card – see page 4





Remembering Bishop Peter as our rock, our cornerstone of Unlock we pay tribute to his life and remember his work and passion for God and for justice!

Take a jelly bean and eat it as you read through the tributes to Bishop Peter Hall and remember that God puts people in our lives that sweeten our world as we give thanks!

Thank you Father for giving us people that remind us of your love. Help us to follow you in the same way and to share your love with others.
Amen

These are some of the key passages about St Peter, several of which seemed to us to connect to what we all remember of Bishop Peter.

1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

John 21:15-17 - When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

Matthew 16:13-19 - Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:21-23 - From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Matthew 17: 1-8 - Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

Most of these texts above are on the posters on the following pages (6-15) or you can show them using the slide show at: <http://unlock-urban.org.uk/documents/StPeterPosters.pdf>





'Do
You
Love
me?'



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'Feed my sheep'



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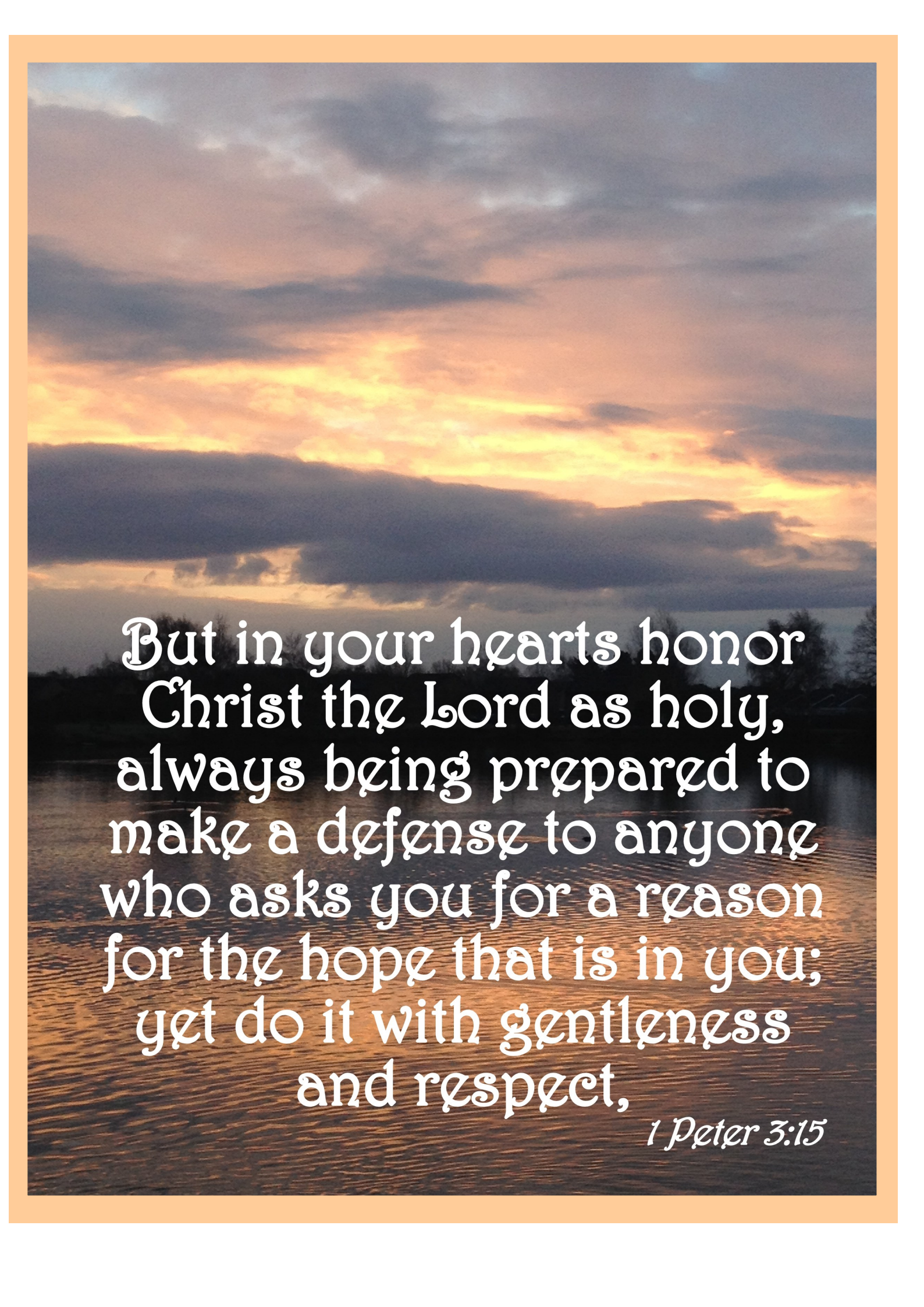
But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer
to everyone who asks you to give the reason
for the hope that you have.

But do this with gentleness and respect...

- 1 Peter 3:15





But in your hearts honor
Christ the Lord as holy,
always being prepared to
make a defense to anyone
who asks you for a reason
for the hope that is in you;
yet do it with gentleness
and respect,

1 Peter 3:15



**KEEP
CALM**

1 PETER 3:15

**DEFEND
THE FAITH**

'You are
the Christ,
the Son of
the
Living
God'



Matthew 16:13-19 - Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.



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*'Get behind
me, Satan!'*



Matthew 17: 1-8 - Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.





St Peter

- ◆ **Name:** Simon (son of Jonah), Cephas, Peter
- ◆ **City of Birth:** Bethsaida
- ◆ **Marital Status:** Married ([Matthew 8:14](#))
- ◆ **Siblings:** St. Andrew (Disciple)
- ◆ **Profession:** Fisherman (owned boat)
- ◆ **Education:** None
- ◆ **Relation to Jesus:** One of the 12 Disciples
- ◆ **Method of death:** Crucified up-side-down on a cross





Connecting and Reflecting

On pages 16–20 you will find a range of activities to help people connect their own stories with the stories of both Bishop Peter and St Peter. You will find a list of the resources need for each activity on page 21.

Public Domain Image



15,071. P. Z - BARQUE DE PÊCHE
SUR LE LAC DE GÈNEZARETH TIBÉRIADE

Moving on from loss – St Peter and Bishop Peter have both died. Most of us have known loss in one way or another. Christ died on the cross but that was the beginning of something new for us. Take a *white* stone and write or draw something on it that represents that new start for you. It may be a thought that has come to you after reflecting on the stories of Bishop Peter or on the Bible passages. It might be something you want to give thanks for, or an indication of where you have come from or why you are here today.

Take a moment to pray, giving thanks for Bishop Peter and others that dedicate their lives to God and to spreading the good news and helping others.

You can choose to either take your stones home with you or to place them at the cross to build a Kingdom roadway (see page 18).



Wash away sins - take a dark rock in your hand and think of a time when you have ignored what is right and failed to help someone in need or a regret that burdens you.

Use the chalk to write a name of someone you have failed or word that describes your sorrow and hold the rock as you seek God's forgiveness.

Now wash your rock clean in the water just as Jesus washed away our sins.

You can choose to either take your stones home with you or to place them at the cross to build a Kingdom roadway (see page 18).

Building a Kingdom Roadway **At Easter we went *to* the Cross.**

**Now let a Road be built leading *out*
from the cross to symbolise our call
and challenge to move out into the
world as God's disciples in the
footsteps of both Bishop Peter and St
Peter.**



You can choose to either take your stones home with you or to place them at the cross to build a Kingdom roadway.

Photos taken at Unlock London Walk April 25th 2015



Optional Additional Activity

We remember also today how great is **our God**

Genesis 15.5 Good News Translation (GNT)

The LORD took him outside and said,
“Look at the sky and try to count the
stars; you will have as many
descendants as that.”

Remember this promise by thinking of all your loved ones and those who are special to you and represent each one by using the yellow marker to make a dot that will represent a star on the black (or blue) paper.

Take a handful of sand and let it drain through your fingers into the bucket whilst reading Genesis 15.5 again!



Peter the Rock - Unlock Walk Workshop 2015

Activity	Set up	Instructions	Outcomes
View presentation about Bishop Peter	Project on screen with music. Provide jelly beans.	Remembering Bishop Peter as our rock, our cornerstone of Unlock we pay tribute to his life and remember his work and passion for God and for justice! Take a jelly bean and eat it as you read through the tributes to Bishop Peter Hall and remember that God puts people in our lives that sweeten our world as we give thanks! Thank you Father for giving us people that remind us of your love. Help us to follow you in the same way and to share your love with others. Amen	Reflection and discussion
Review Bible texts about St Peter	Posters displayed on flip stands and boards		Reflection and discussion
Wash away sins	Provide dark cobblestones and chalk plus washing up bowls of warm soapy water and towels	Take a <i>dark</i> stone in your hand and think of a time when you have ignored what is right and failed to help someone in need. Use the chalk to write a name of someone you have failed or word that describes your sorrow and hold the rock as you seek God's forgiveness. Now wash your rock clean in the water just as Jesus washed away our sins.	Reflection.
Moving on from loss	Provide white cobbles and marker pens	St Peter and Bishop Peter have both died. Most of us have known loss in one way or another. Christ died on the cross but that was the beginning of something new for us. Take a <i>white</i> stone and write or draw something on it that represents that new start for you. It may be a thought that has come to you after reflecting on the stories of Bishop Peter or on the Bible passages. It might be something you want to give thanks for, or an indication of where you have come from or why you are here today.	Reflection.
Road from the cross	Standing cross. 'Roadway' leading from it made of plastic sheet. Small potted plants.	Now let a Road be built leading <i>out</i> from the cross to symbolise our call and challenge to move out into the world as God's disciples in the footsteps of both Bishop Peter and St Peter. You can choose to either take your stones home with you or to place them at the cross to build a Kingdom roadway.	Reflection. A way of showing they were here.



Planning and Content Details

Unlock Session Planning Frame 1 - Ideas

Course / Event name: **Unlock London Walk 2015**

Facilitator(s): **Mike, & Jacqueline**

Session Number: N/A Session Theme: **Peter the Rock**

Aims: Participants will have the opportunity to
Reflect on the life and example of both Bishop Peter and St Peter
Consider how that might inspire their own faith journey
Create something to leave behind to show that they were here and what they have been thinking about, and/or something to take away to remind them of what they have learned.

Outcomes: Participants will be more able to
Connect their own lives to the lives of St Peter and Bishop Peter.
Understand something of the Gospel inspiration behind Unlock's work
Live out their faith in their own communities

Session Content

Icebreaker

Will an ice breaker help your group get talking? Is there an icebreaker activity that relates to your theme?

(Leaders - Create an attractive display of the stories of Bishop Peter along with some photos. Encourage people to look at this and reminisce amongst themselves.)

Remembering Bishop Peter as our rock, our cornerstone of Unlock, we pay tribute to his life and remember his great humility, his work, his compassion, his passion for God and for Gospel justice!

Take a jelly bean and eat it as you read through the tributes to Bishop Peter Hall and remember that God puts people in our lives that sweeten our world and give thanks!

Unlocking Life Experience

What prompts are you going to use to draw out stories from your group. Think of as many as you can although when working with a group you may only need one...

Music, Film/TV clip, Other sound, Question, Object, Picture/ Cartoon, Smell, etc...

Hopefully people will have begun to share stories amongst themselves naturally as they look at the display. The activities below encourage them to take that further.

Revealing the down to earth Christ

What Bible passage(s) will you have prepared?

Remember Unlock's teaching method is learner centred - listen to the stories that people tell and be ready to use a Bible passage or account of God's work that relates to what they say.

These are some of the key passages about St Peter, several of which seem to me to connect to what we all remember of Bishop Peter.

See Page 5



Is there a creative way you can re-tell any of the Bible stories?
(visual, dramatic, video clip, modernised etc)

Print each Bible text out separately as a nice large poster including illustrations.

Releasing Life Changing Skills

Connect

What questions will encourage the group to connect their story & God's story?

See activities below.

Reflect

Is there an activity that will help the group reflect on what they have learnt or help them plan to put that learning into action?

Wash away sins - take a *dark* stone in your hand and think of a time when you have ignored what is right and failed to help someone in need. Use the chalk to write a name of someone you have failed or word that describes your sorrow and hold the rock as you seek Gods forgiveness. Now wash your rock clean in the water just as Jesus washed away our sins.

AND/OR

Moving on from loss - St Peter and Bishop Peter have both died. Most of us have known loss in one way or another. Christ died on the cross but that was the beginning of something new for us. Take a *white* stone and write or draw something on it that represents that new start for you. It may be a thought that has come to you after reflecting on the stories of Bishop Peter or on the Bible passages. It might be something you want to give thanks for, or an indication of where you have come from or why you are here today.

You can choose to either take your stones home with you or to place them to build a Kingdom roadway.

Take a moment to give thanks for Bishop Peter and for others that dedicate their lives to God and to helping others.

(Let the road be built leading *out* from a cross to symbolise our call and challenge to move out into the world as God's disciples.)

Continuing Reflective Cycles...

Is there anything that you want to do or ask at the beginning of the next session to follow up this session?

N/A

Review

Will you seek feedback from participants? If so how?

N/A

Is there anything in this session to pay attention to in your own evaluation?

Resources needed:-

Display of stories about Bishop Peter including photographs

Paper and pens/pencils so that people can add to the display if they want to

Display of Bible texts ideally with illustrations - (do a google image search for each of the bible passages and see what pictures come up)

White cobbles and dark grey cobbles

Coloured marker pens

White chalk

Washing up bowls with soapy water and hand towels

A plastic sheet to lay out to create a base for the cobbled roadway

A free standing cross as the focal point from which the roadway will start

Some small potted plants to decorate the sides of the roadway as it takes shape.



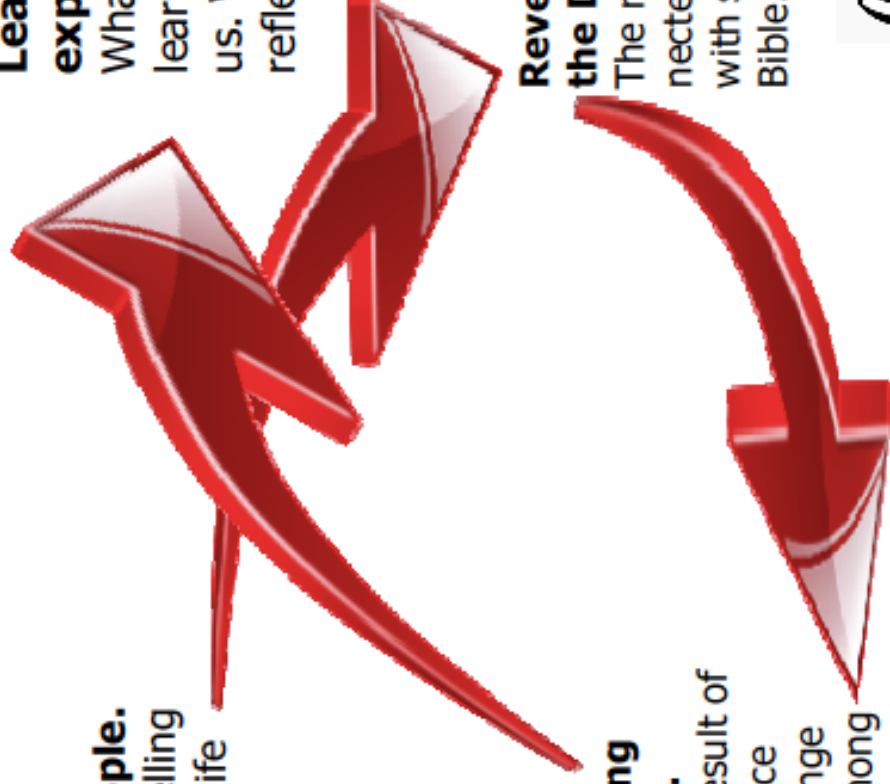
The Unlock Learning Cycle

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.



Unlock, by various names, has been around since 1972, trying to help (mainly) urban Christians to understand and share their faith appropriately. Our life experience matters; our stories; our joys and sorrows. The Bible has plenty to say, more than we'll ever know, about our lives, if we know how to read it and apply it - if we know how to **UNLOCK** it!

The work outlined in this pack applies the learning cycle on page 24, **starting by using a 'prompt'** to draw out group member's stories. In this case the suggested prompt is the slideshow about Bishop Peter Hall.

Usually in Unlock workshops we encourage participants to come up with their own Bible links but in the context of the walk workshop, when time is very limited, it is helpful to provide some. In this case we have used parts of the story of St Peter that we felt participants would be able to connect with the stories of Bishop Peter and with their own lives.

Finally there are suggestions for a range of **reflective activities**, (pages 16-20) giving people a choice of opportunities to reflect on the session and any action they might want to take as a result. The reflective activity creates space in which discussion and reflection can continue in an unforced way.

How well the group know and trust one another will affect the type of story that they share, often the newer the group, the more light hearted the stories are likely to be.



Unlock uses an approach to engaging with the Bible that is different to traditional Bible studies (see page 24). Unlock's approach usually starts from the stories and experiences of group members, or from their community, whereas a more traditional approach starts from the Biblical text. Unlock's approach has been found to work well with small groups of urban, oral learners from outside of the church. There are many free resources on the Unlock website designed for use with such groups. However, because each of these resources was designed for a particular group in a particular time and place they are unlikely be a perfect fit for your group as they stand. They are offered more as inspiration to you to design your own materials along the same lines, rather than as ready to use packages.

Unlock usually works with people outside of church who may be interested in finding out a bit more about faith but perhaps are not attracted to the formal methods of learning often associated with church. Our work is based on a reflective learning cycle and is a tried and tested way of introducing people to the Bible in a non-threatening way. Many churches have activities that draw in members of their surrounding community but then struggle with how to move on from those relationships into exploring faith, especially in urban environments where anything formal might be treated with suspicion.

This resource has been developed by a team of Unlock workers specifically for those who attended the 2015 Unlock London Walk.

Unlock Materials

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