
Ministry of the Pew

Meetings create a context for ministry. However it is not only the formal teaching and leadership roles which constitute ministry. Apprentices must learn to make the most of informal opportunities before and after the meeting. They need to be thinking: 'what can I be doing to make this meeting work?' They need to make the shift from being a 'consumer' to being a 'provider'.

Exercise

Minister informally at all church, conference and other meetings

Aims

1. To learn to be purposeful in ministry with people at meetings.
2. To be alert to make the meeting work, even when they have no formal responsibilities.
3. To broaden their range of relational and ministry skills by meeting people from different age, ethnic and socio-economic groups.

Trainers

Regularly work through Assessment Sheet with Apprentices after meetings. (See following pages.)

Resources

"Ministry of the Pew", MTS Discussion Paper

Ministry of the Pew Assessment sheet:

Name	Done	To be done	Action
Arrived early to meet others and set up			
Helped with ushering			
Welcomed newcomers			
Sat in 'strategic' spot to catch up with specific people			
Noticed problems with sound, lighting, ventilation, seating, etc			
Helped make logistics work			
Met newcomers after meeting			

Introduced newcomer to others			
Worked out next step with newcomer			
Avoided being 'distracted' by friends and others from catching newcomers			
Conversation and prayer with members about sermon			
Conversation and prayer with members about their life and ministry			
Evangelised non-Christian			
Looked after own guest			

Noticed people's reactions to the meeting and preaching			
Had a plan for seeing particular people			
Avoided distractions of using meeting to get my administration done			
Thought of a new idea to improve the meeting			
Last to leave			