

The background of the slide is a solid orange color, decorated with various silhouettes of autumn leaves in a lighter shade of orange. The leaves are scattered across the frame, with some appearing as simple outlines and others as more detailed shapes with veins.

Bruton and Cary Deanery Synod

Opening Worship

Tina Hodgett

Glory to God

Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory in the highest (repeat)

To God be glory for ever

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia
Amen.

Glory to God

Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to the Father (repeat)

To God be glory for ever

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia
Amen.

Glory to God

Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to Christ Jesus (repeat)

To God be glory for ever

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia
Amen.

Glory to God

Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to the Spirit (repeat)

To God be glory for ever

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen, Alleluia
Amen.

Colossians 1:15-20

READY TO REVEAL THE FATHER

COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

[illegible]

Pioneer Prayer

**Jesus, you are the pioneer
and perfecter of our faith
Lead us to where we have never
gone before
but where you are already at work.
Transform us to become like you
until we see you face to face
and you are all in all.
Amen.**

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Pioneer Mission
and the Pioneer Project

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What is a pioneer?

Vocation, definition, charism

Group work: Pioneers you know



A screenshot of a Zoom video call. A man with short brown hair, wearing a grey hoodie over a clerical shirt with a white tab, is speaking. He is positioned in front of a wooden bookshelf filled with books. The Zoom interface is visible, including the title bar at the top with the text "What is a pioneer?", the Windows taskbar at the bottom, and the Zoom status bar at the very bottom showing the time as 20:02 on 18/03/2018.

Pioneers are people called by God who are the first to see and creatively respond to the Holy Spirit's initiatives with those outside the church; gathering others around them as they seek to establish new contextual Christian community.



Pioneers derive their vocational identity from Jesus



Jesus,
the pioneer
and
perfecter
of our faith

Hebrews 12:2

Greek: archehos

Group work:
In what ways was Jesus a pioneer?



Jesus the pioneer

'Before all things': Alpha

Spent most of his time
with people outside the
faith community

Creatively responded to
what he encountered...

Spontaneous, resourceful

Re-imagined the Jewish
faith for his day

Only did what he saw his
Father doing, responded to
the Holy Spirit.

Gathered people around
him

Created Christian
community



Manager or entrepreneur?



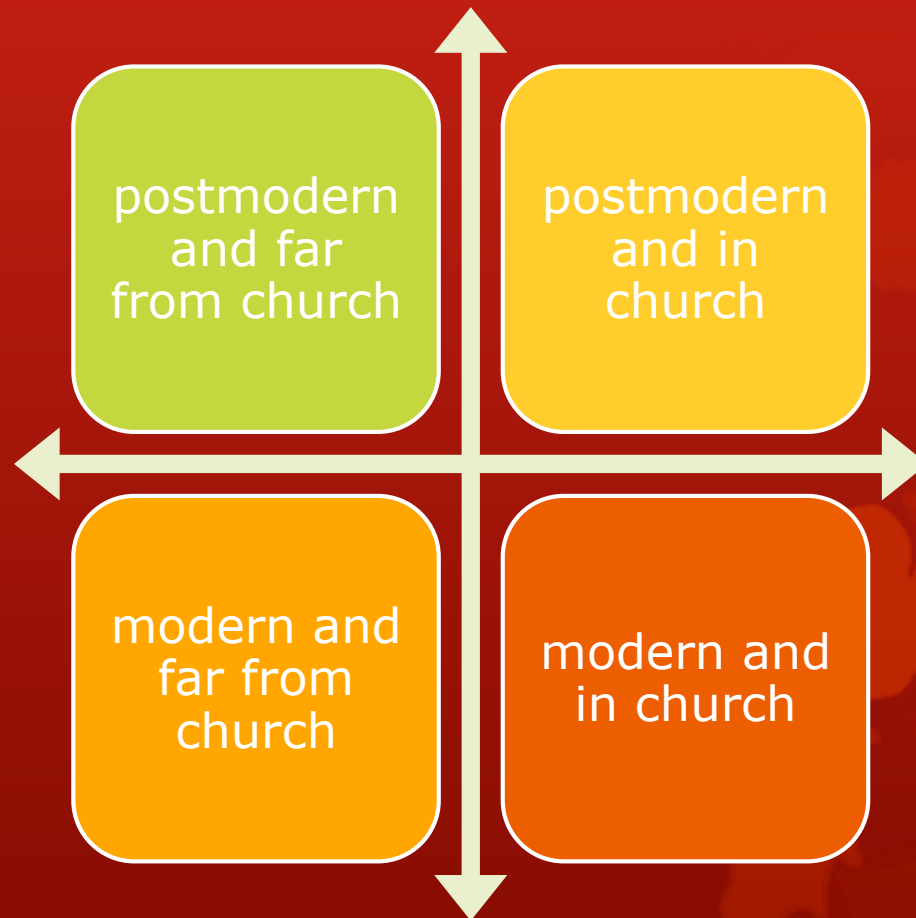
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The Challenge of the Culture Gap



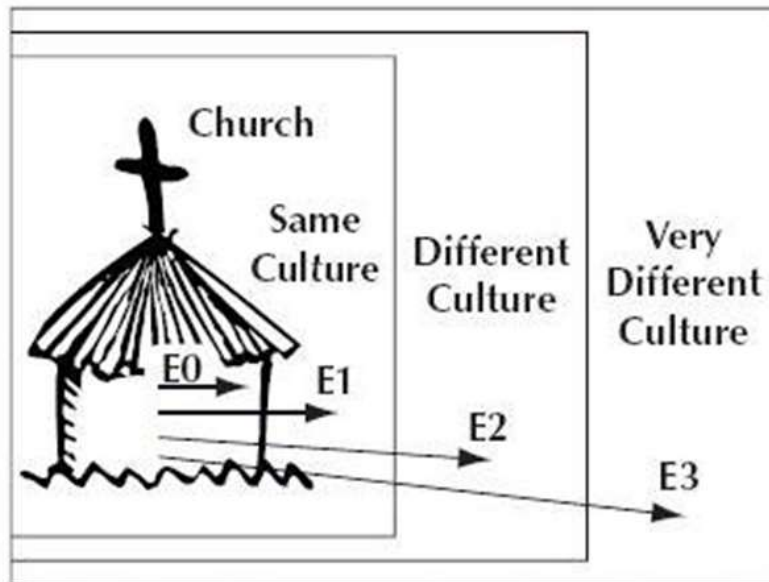
Cultural distance

Most people
nowadays
are in the
green box

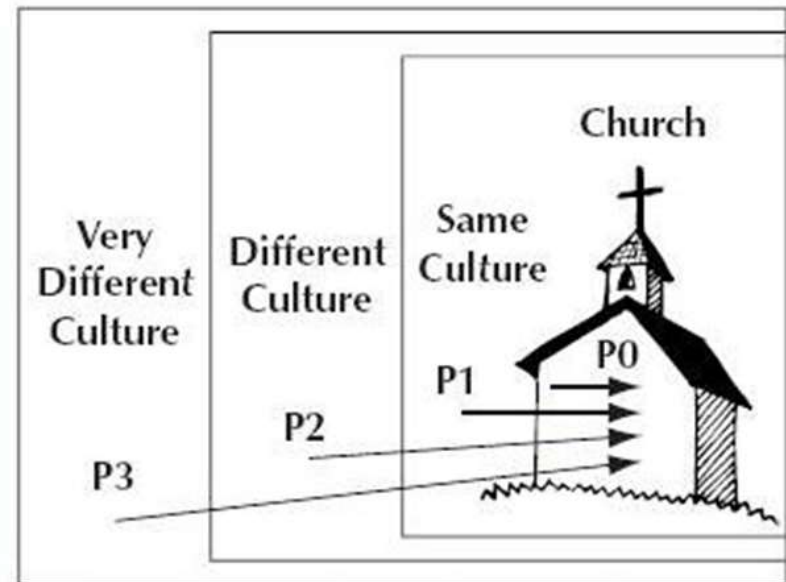


The 21st century culture gap

E-Scale



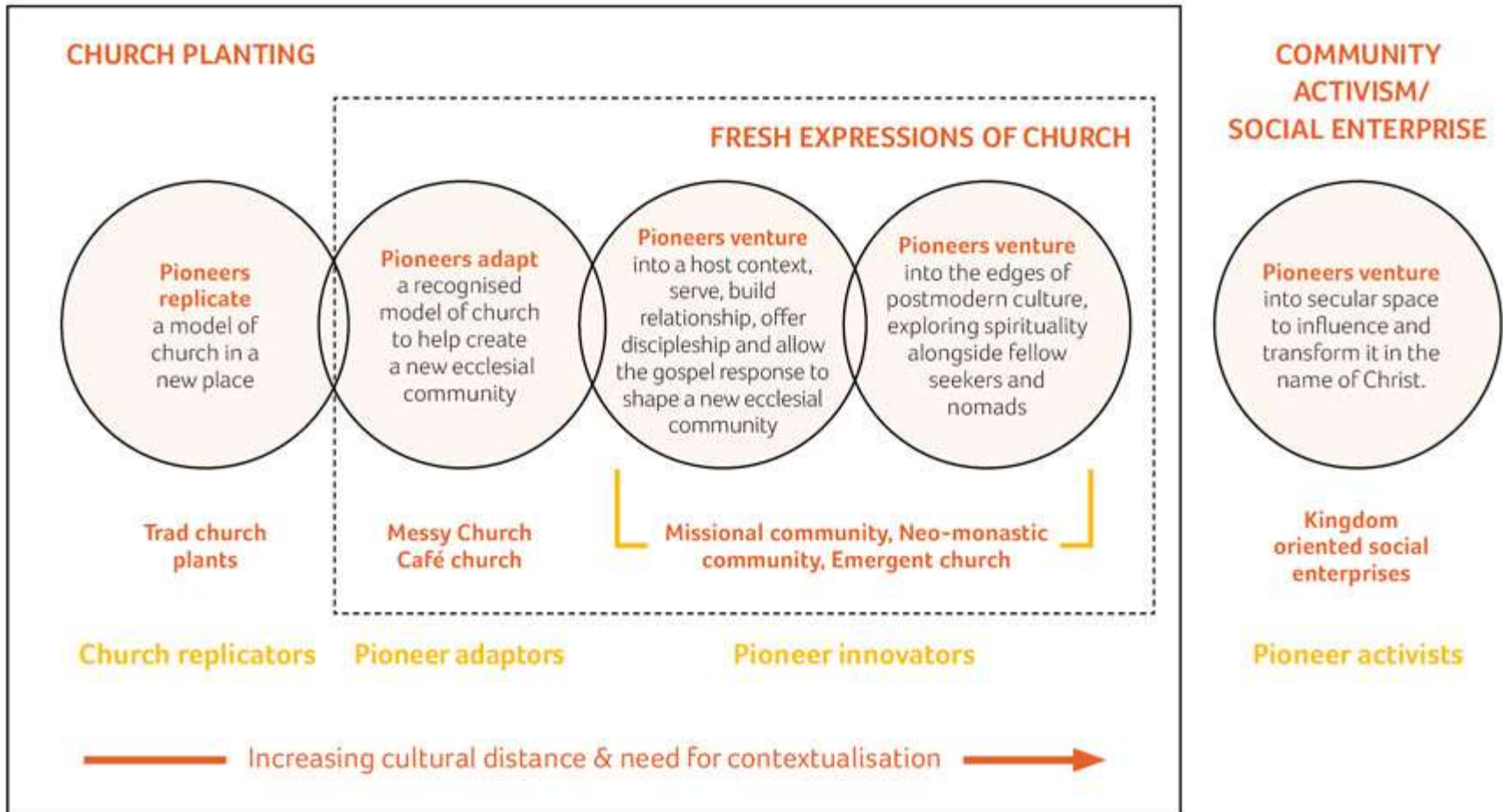
P-Scale



The E-Scale helps compare the cultural distances that Christians need to move in order to communicate the gospel with others. E0 refers to evangelism of church-going Christians. E1 extends to the very same culture through one barrier, that of "church culture." E2 evangelism presses into a close, but still different, culture. E3 evangelism pushes to very different cultures.

The P-Scale is more than a mirror of the E-Scale. The P-Scale helps compare the different cultural distances that potential converts need to move in order to join the nearest church.

The Pioneer Spectrum



Fresh Expressions

Some examples

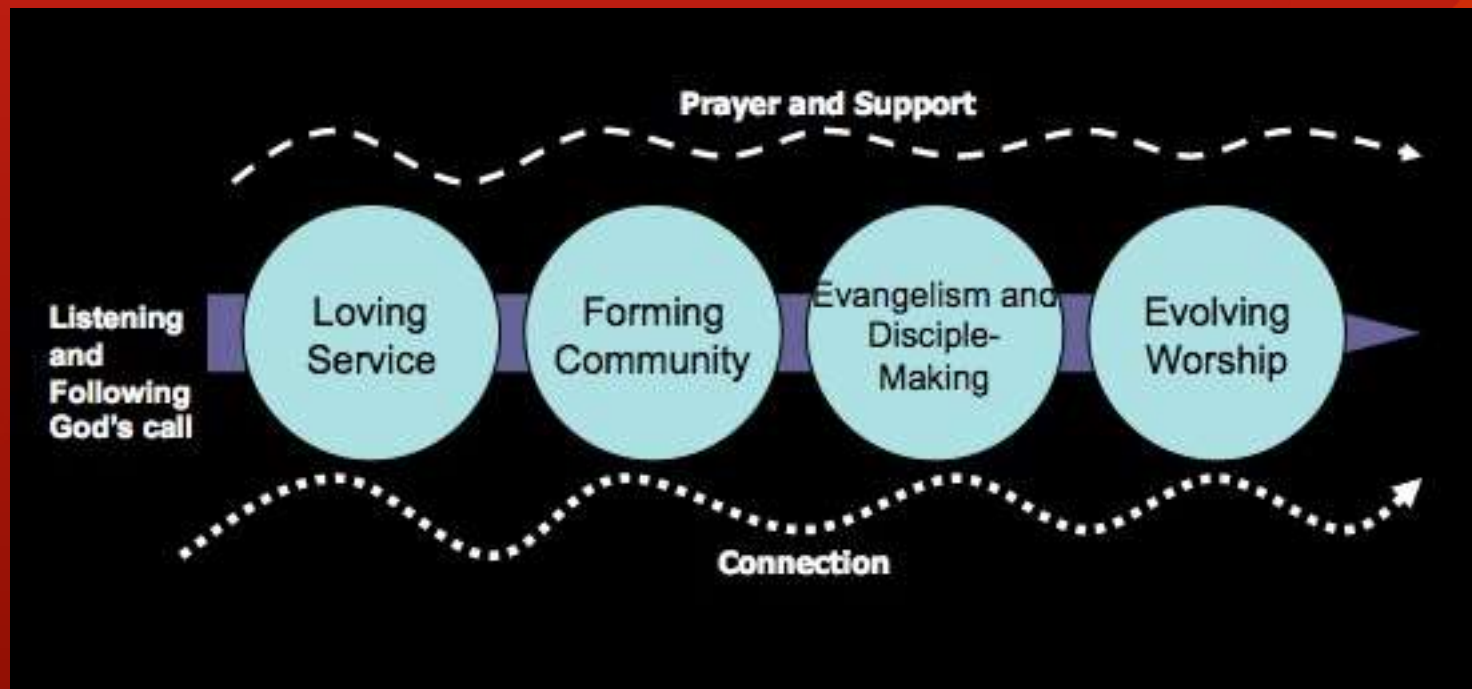
Fresh Expressions of Church



A fresh expression is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church.



The Fresh Expressions Journey



Case Studies



The Grieve Inn



The Upper Room,
Cirencester



Boxercise,
East London

Baby Days



The Pioneer Project

Strategic Development

Pioneer Project

- High profile part of the Diocesan Strategy
- £3.1M+ to create a pioneer landscape across the Diocese
- Pioneers of all types and degrees everywhere
- 9 full-time lay or ordained pioneers



Learning and support

Lay training

- Mobile app
- Mission-shaped Ministry Church Mission Society
- Certificate in Pioneering Mission Coaching for leaders of FX

Peer to peer support

- Learning Hubs
- Specialist Hubs
- Pioneer Hotspots
- Informal Networks (local relationship-based, Fb etc?)

Key features of the Pioneer Project



What I am not saying...

- Pioneers are better than everyone else
- Church 'as we know it' is a poor relation
- Parish clergy (or people of any other vocation) can't be creative or innovative or missional or visionary

A defensive response from the Church might be:

- We're all pioneers
- Pioneers just do the easy, fun stuff
- We don't need pioneers – we just need to do church better

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Questions....

....so far?