

CONVERSATION STARTER

Example:

The PDG is meeting a group of young people who have received a personal invitation to come along. The young people have not met the PDG before but have been asked to help the PDG in their work. The suggestions below can be adapted according to the age and number of the young people.

Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomes everyone and explains the purpose of the PDG and their need to hear the ideas and views of young people.

The gathering is first and foremost about building relationships. Take some time for the adults and the young people to get to know each other especially names. This might be a simple activity such as a signature sheet so that people circulate. Or ask two young people and an adult to share with each other their earliest memory of church, their favourite memory of church, their favourite food, holiday etc. Move the adults to a different pair of young people for each question.

Input

Someone from the PDG explains briefly the journey of the PDG to date e.g. the hopes, challenges and priorities that have been identified.

Discussion

Divide into small groups of adults and young people with one or two questions to discuss. Examples might be:

Q. How and when have you felt encouraged and supported in the church community? What helps your faith to grow?

Q. What further opportunities would you like to see offered to young people?

Q. Where do we find Christ in our local neighbourhood? How can we reach out to those in need?

Q. There may be a specific action the PDG is planning to take. Ask the young people what they think.

Action

Take feedback from Groups. How do the ideas and thoughts that have been shared get taken forward?

Prayer

Close with a short time of prayer. A few of the young people could be asked in advance to prepare this with adult support if needed e.g. catechist, adult parishioner