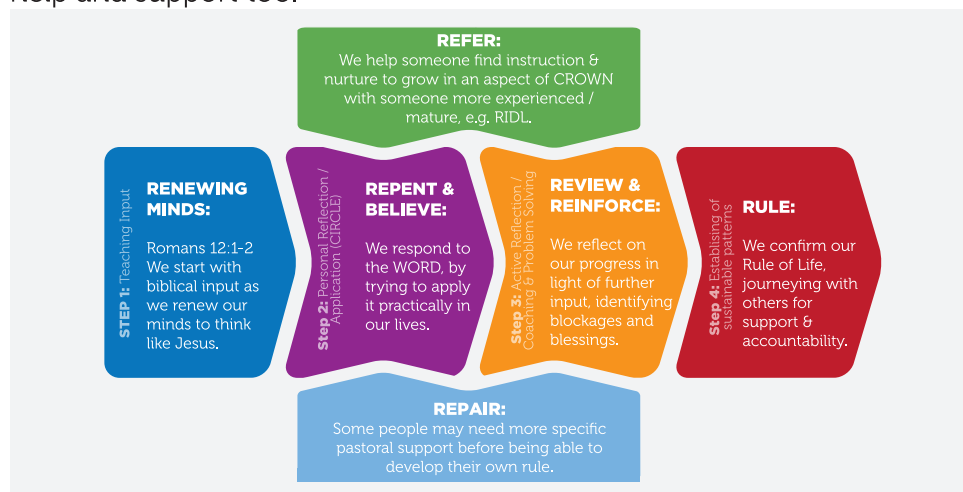


**EARTH:** are they sufficiently earthed or connected to the network/place and people they want to reach?

**LIVE:** how is their mission alive with Jesus power, God's Word, and the leading of the Holy Spirit?

**NEUTRAL:** This is the return that connects and completes the circuit. Is their mission connected to others in the church and shared in some way? Do point them in the CROWN coaches for practical input and help and support too.



**FOCUS ON WHAT GOD IS BLESSING:** The other key focus is building a strong pattern, helping the mentee discern where God is at work. As you tease this out with them, celebrate signs of God's presence in their rhythms, and emerging fruit. Encourage them to build patterns that see God lead their mission, responding to his leading as they pray for, find and journey with People of Peace.

## STEP 4: FORMING A RULE

As things become clearer, encourage the mentee to begin to write their rule down. This may include practical steps that help establish and protect the patterns - as well as the practical detail of their rhythm. If it is hard to get started, try sharing examples, (see CROWN example rhythms booklet). Once a personal rule has been resolved, move on with the mentee to another element of CROWN, noting that as we grow in our faith, it would be good to return to this at some point and ask how God might be leading them to develop their pattern further.

**OTHER RESOURCES:** CROWN Discussion Starter Questions. CROWN Example Rhythms. CROWN Mentor Guide. CROWN Life-Beats Study Booklets. CROWN Teaching Videos.

We value sharing life and faith with those outside the church.



Networks

## CROWN MENTOR QUICK-GUIDE BUILDING A PERSONAL NETWORKS RULE

### AIM

To work with a group or mentee to enable them to form rhythms that become a consistent, life-giving and sustainable personal rule for the Networks element of the CROWN rule of life.

### WHAT MIGHT THAT LOOK & FEEL LIKE?

The mentee will show a growing commitment to share the Gospel in ways that are appropriate to their circumstances, gifting and personality. This will be demonstrated in a growing pattern of prayer for others, looking for, and seeing God at work in the lives of others - and a fresh boldness to make Jesus known, whether through invitation, acts of love and service, sharing their faith and drawing people into his community. A networks rhythm also lends itself to shared rhythms, i.e. a common rule that members of a group or Missional Community might commit to.

### PREPARE

Have in mind the broad process and steps for guiding people to form rhythms (see diagram) and reflect on which stage you feel they have reached. Make time to pray for those you are journeying with, seeking the LORD's wisdom and insight to help them to grow. Note any Scriptures, thoughts, questions or impressions that come to mind which may be useful for when you meet.

## STEP 1: RENEWING MINDS - SCRIPTURE

(See the Life Beats Studies for further details)

**Search & Spot, Stay & Share:** Luke 10:1-20

**Seek & Sent - Opportunities, Boldness & Power:** Acts 8:26-40

Spend some time with the mentee establishing the biblical foundations behind the rhythm by discussing the passages or working through the study material. They can also watch some of the relevant CROWN short teaching videos available on-line between sessions. Work with the questions this provokes, looking at other passages and resources that might be useful to help the mentee come to an personally owned understanding of these key principles.

**A Networks Rhythm positions us outwards as bringers of good news and bearers of God's presence, finding joy as others come to faith in Jesus.**

Peace' - would they say they had a 'Person of Peace'? Are they seeking God for his wisdom on 'next steps' with them? Honest reflection will help form a realistic pattern to build upon.

**TAKING THE NEXT STEP:** Explore with the mentee what the first or next step of commitment to a networks rhythm looks like. New believers are often well placed to make their faith known as they know many people outside the church. They may need challenge or encouragement to do this - or guidance if they risk putting people off! Well established Christians might be over-busied by life and church with limited 'reach' beyond. Clear understanding of Jesus' methods about reaching People of Peace can be simple and liberating. It is one of the most exciting ways we can see God work. Overlapping rhythms can help too; can they share, be supported by and be accountable to those they share closest community with? Rhythms should reinforce rather than undermine each other - so do check that their existing patterns remain strong whilst they focus on networks.

It is important to be realistic about what is resolved, it is better to take small 'baby steps' that can be sustained than try to do too much that will end in failure and discouragement. However, do agree clear steps with the expectation (and accountability) that they will be seen through. These will provide the basis for reflection and the shaping of their eventual rule.

## STEP 2: REPENT AND BELIEVE

**WHAT IS GOD SAYING?** Begin to explore what it means to respond to the biblical teaching. At this stage it may help to imagine a 'blue sky' scenario - so that the mentee can share their aspirations or a sense of what an ideal rhythm might look like for Networks. Encourage them to Dream Big! For some, it may be to recapture patterns in which they have felt closest to God in this area. Try to get them to contextualise it to St Michael's, Who might they pray with and be accountable to about evangelism and reaching out to others? Do they share any patterns with others (Jesus sent out in twos)? How might they engage in Missional Communities or other outreach ministries?

**ESTABLISH A BASELINE:** Having established a sense of what God might be saying to them, it is important to ground this in reality. Where do they think they are at now? What is going well; what is not? Do they consider this an area of strength or is it a real struggle? What regular patterns do they have of sharing faith with others in the church family? Are they part of a Missional Community or other group? Do they feel that Jesus has 'sent them' to a particular group or people (who do they see often)? Are they intentional about seeking 'People of

## STEP 3: REVIEW AND REINFORCE

**OVERCOMING BLOCKAGES:** As people seek to grow in Networks, there may be specific challenges they come up against. Some may be practical and require creative thinking and problem-solving, others may be deeper rooted, exposing strongholds and demanding pastoral care. Have they had disappointments in the past and been rejected? (Jesus said rejection wasn't failure!) Do they have space in their schedule for others? Are they willing it make it? What, if they are honest, holds them back? How can they face that and breakthrough? Using the CROWN discussion starter questions can help draw people out aid self-reflection. You may find the image of wiring a plug helpful to explore...