

Talking Church

How personal conversations grow local congregations

WORKSHOP

Conversations on the Edge

Workshop 1

Conversations with those moving toward sinful choices

Ste Casey & Andrew Collins

Conversations with those moving toward sinful choices

God calls us to restore those who are caught in any transgression. But attempts to pursue and speak with those moving toward sinful choices often go wrong. And we can be very aware that we are fellow sinners! Using a mixture of case examples and interactive work, we will deal with questions such as: How do we pursue? What questions help? How might we use Scripture? How do we deal with resistance? What role does the church play in such conversations?

Workshop 2

Conversations with those who have experienced spiritual abuse

Louise MacMillan & David Armstrong

How do we love well those who see the church, and even God, as the perpetrator of the harm in their lives?

How does the content and tone of these conversations differ from our normal counselling conversations?

How can we form church culture that is restorative rather than a contributor to harm?

Using scenarios, case studies and guided discussion we will work through an approach to helping those who have perhaps fallen off the edge in terms of church

Workshop 3

Conversations with those who have psychiatric labels

Chris and Zena Schofield

"I think I have Bipolar so I'm not responsible for my actions". "I've had Postpartum Psychosis". How would you respond to statements like this made during your pastoral conversations? How do people with psychiatric labels feel about their labels? How can we respond biblically, lovingly and gently to those with psychiatric labels? This workshop will provide an opportunity to explore this topic and consider how to walk alongside those with psychiatric labels.

Workshop 4

Conversations with those experiencing doubt

Steve Midgley

Doubt comes in many different forms. The uncertainty that paralyses those diagnosed with OCD seems very different to the existential angst plaguing someone struggling to believe the gospel. Yet such struggles with doubt are some of the most troubling and disabling experiences a person can face. As we consider these different doubting experiences, we will explore recurring themes to try and understand the spiritual roots of doubt in order that we can offer the most effective biblical counsel.

Workshop 5

Conversations with those not yet believing

Helen Thorne

God is the loving God of the whole world. His word offers masses of hope to those who don't yet know him. But how do we begin conversations with those outside the church? And how do we walk alongside unbelievers without overplaying or overlooking God's plans? Through cases studies in anxiety and addiction, this workshop will help us wrestle with some of the practical ways we can listen and speak with those who aren't yet in Christ.