

Session 11: 'How do we cope with those who we find difficult or who are different from us in the church?'

Questions:

- 1. What are the joys and challenges of being part of a diverse church community?
- 2. We tend to gravitate towards people who are like us. What would it take to build genuine relationship with those we find difficult or who are different from us? Why do you think people find this so difficult?
- 3. How does God use difficult people in our lives to make us more like Jesus?
- 4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-26. What do these verses teach us about how we engage with people in the church who are not like us?
- 5. Read Matthew 25:31-46. Damian spoke about 'Looking closely and seeing Jesus.'

What does it mean that we are loving Jesus by loving those who are difficult or different from us?

Pause for 30 seconds and ask the Lord to bring someone to mind who is difficult or different from you in the church. Ask him how He wants you to engage with that person this week.