



Listening for Mission

[www.light-wave.org](http://www.light-wave.org)

## Session 5: Planning and Testing God's Call

### Welcome

Think about what makes good news. Tell the group about an issue you are facing and say what would be good news for you in that situation.

### Worship

Praise God that He has good news for our every need. For example:

#### **When...**

Lonely  
Empty  
Guilty  
Broken  
Trapped  
Rejected  
Feeling Worthless  
Aimless  
Dying

#### **God gives...**

Friendship  
Fulfilment  
Forgiveness  
Wholeness  
Freedom  
More than Acceptance (He seeks us out)  
Reassurance of our infinite value  
Purpose for Living  
Eternal Life

Give thanks for God's good news to your group and to you as an individual.

## Word & Witness

Read Acts 13.1-3 (The Church in Antioch)

- What is the Church in Antioch doing in order to discover God's call?
- How does God lead them to take the next steps in mission?
- Spread out the maps and diagrams you have made. Pray and spend some time thinking about how the gospel is good news for the community you are seeking to reach. From the pictures you are building up, which aspects of the gospel are likely to speak into the needs of the community (the list above may help)? This may be your "open door". How will you, as a team, communicate and practically demonstrate these aspects of the gospel?
- The "open door" is just the beginning. Spend some time thinking about the ways in which gospel values may be most challenging to people as they grow in discipleship.
- Gather your plans together so that you can clearly explain them to someone else. You will need to answer the obvious questions (Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?), for example, saying:
  - What you plan to do
  - Why you are going to do this
  - Who will be involved and how
  - When and where this will take place
  - How other people are going to join in
  - What other help you need
- Plan to invite your small group coach (or other respected Christian friend or minister on the coach's recommendation) to meet with the group before your next session, to listen to what you think God is saying and to your developing plans. Give them permission to ask some hard questions and give you feedback.

Spend some time listening to God together. Share anything that you believe God is saying.

NB: These small group notes are based on the Booklet "Listening for Mission" available from [www.freshexpressions.org.uk](http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk).