

## 3P's - A simpler pattern for SG meetings via Zoom

### Introduction

We offer this pattern as an alternative simpler pattern than the 4W's for shorter SG meetings in this lockdown period when, if we meet at all, we are doing it by Zoom. We will however continue to produce SGNotes moving to a consistently Zoom-friendly format.

Like the 4W's the 3P's has its origins in Wesley's 'Bands' structure, one of the earliest forms of small groups, and has been used in the Square Mile by Christians having lunchtime SG for many years.

It reflects the same DNA as our 4W's format; namely

- Loving God
- Loving One Another
- Loving the World

It continues the focus on building community through sharing and reflects the SG values that we know so well. Remember that honesty and intimacy, even though we are not physically present, builds community.

- All involved
- Being Disciples
- Creating Community
- Doing evangelism
- Encountering God

So, what are **The 3 P's**:

**PRESENCE** – 5-10mins. Becoming aware of the Presence of God. This is the only pre-prepared portion. Someone (usually the leader) will share this but it can take many forms; a piece of poetry, a scripture, a story, a testimony. The purpose is to acknowledge and remind participants again of God's presence with us.

**PRESSURE** – 25-30mins. Everyone as an opportunity to share what pressure they are feeling at this time. E.g. concern about health or the future, family/relational pressures, financial etc. You can either have someone share and pray for them and then move on to the next person or have everyone share first and then pray at the end of everyone.

**PURPOSE** – 5-10mins. God still has a purpose for each one of us even when we are in 'lockdown'. Share your ideas of how you are reaching out to those with whom you are or could be in touch; e.g. street WhatsApp groups, caring in the community, having extra time for prayer, making phone calls, family focus, creative connections. Then someone finishes this time by praying for everyone.

**Some notes:**

1. Someone needs to prepare **Presence** but the other 2 can be totally spontaneous.
2. If your group is 8 or more you will need to use Zooms '**break out groups**' for **Pressure** to allow everyone time to share.
3. If conversation at the start of SG naturally begins with **Pressure** you can let that run and then move people to prayer before doing **Presence** and **Purpose**.
4. After 3 or 4 meetings like this you may feel that less time is needed on **Pressure** and more time can be devoted to **Purpose**.