



centre for
LIFELONG
LEARNING

FORMING
PEOPLE
STRENGTHENING
CHURCHES

WEBINARS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS 2027

Equipped to thrive: Ongoing learning and development
for Christian leaders and churches.



ONLINE
Nationwide



IDEAL FOR
Pastors, Elders, Ministry Leaders
and Ministry Teams



DATES AND TIMES
To be advised

CENTRE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

GROWING LEADERS FOR FAITHFUL MINISTRY AND MISSION
THROUGHOUT AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND.

The following is a summary of the Carey Centre for Lifelong Learning professional development options for 2027.

Conflict resolution: A Biblical, Baptist and Bowen Systems Approach

Conflict is a normal part of congregational life and handled well can produce better decisions, real commitment, unity, and growth. However, handled poorly, conflict can result in reactive decisions, avoidance, mistrust, gossip, and disunity.

This series explores what it could look like if Baptist Churches approached conflict wisely and honourably. It will include Biblical and Baptist ecclesiological perspectives, explore congregations as emotional systems, and offer real-life examples and practical tools to navigate conflict well.

Ideal for pastors, Elders, and Ministry Leaders. Bring your whole leadership team!

4 Webinars | dates and times to be confirmed | cost \$115

Parenting as Church Leader with Rachel Turner

Parenting as a church leader is a unique situation, with a minefield of questions:

- When spiritual leadership is our job, how does it affect family dynamics?
- How do we spiritually parent our children while also needing to lead the church?
- How do we create a healthy work/life balance when church leadership is involved?
- How do we live in a goldfish bowl and yet enable our children to flourish?
- How do we parent the way we want, while navigating our congregations' expectations?
- How do I help my kids still love God and church through all of this - especially when it gets hard?

There is good news here! Your family cannot just survive ministry but thrive in it. Drawing on extensive research, Rachel Turner explores these issues and more and builds a set of simple tools and approaches to help church leaders and their families flourish together.

3 Webinars | 12th, 19th and 26th May, 7:30pm | cost \$89

Discerning God's Voice - with Jess Renata-Paul

Learning to discern God's voice is an essential part of our spiritual formation. It shapes our relationship with God to be close and personal and helps us navigate life and leadership guided by the Holy Spirit. Discerning God's voice helps us to know and partner with the will of God for our lives, families, ministries, community, region, nation and beyond.

This practical and interactive 3-part series will give you a Biblical foundation for discerning God's voice, help grow your confidence in discerning God's voice personally, and encourage you to partner with the Holy Spirit in your life and leadership. You will also learn about prophecy, and the other revelatory gifts of the Holy Spirit - outlined in 1 Corinthians 12.

For pastors, Elders, Ministry Leaders, and congregation members.

3 Webinars | 3rd, 10th and 17th March, 7:30pm | cost \$89

Doing Good: A Beginners Guide to Community Transformational Development with Emma Stokes

How can your church work with individuals or communities in ways that bring lasting good? What does it look like to genuinely partner with a community and journey together in ways that bring mutual transformation? Across three sessions we will weave Scripture together with practical insights from development theory to explore a biblical vision of flourishing and to consider how you can 'do good' in your own neighbourhood or with communities you partner with overseas. Take away questions to help you reflect between sessions on your current assumptions and approach or to prompt fresh ideas on a way forward for your church or team.

This series is for Pastors, mission team members, and anyone passionate about serving their community well.

This could also be a great resource for the Acts 2 Baptist Initiative

<https://acts2.baptist.nz/>. Particularly the Justice pathway

<https://acts2.baptist.nz/justice/>

3 Webinars | 7th, 14th and 21st April, 1pm | cost \$85

Doing Mission with the Bible Open with Michael Rhodes

In recent years, Christians and churches have prioritized low-stakes opportunities for relational connection in their outreach strategies. Inspired that some will “belong” before they “believe,” we’ve often treated “Bible study” like the “Advanced Course” in Christian discipleship and the very last thing we’d do to reach out to people who may not know Jesus. But across church history, around the world, and right here in Aotearoa, other Christians have discovered the power of “doing mission with the Bible open.” Leaders around Aotearoa are finding that there are people in their communities, many with no affiliation with the Christian faith, interested in learning from the Bible together.

In this webinar, we will explore stories and share methods for opening the Word with others as an act of Christian mission. You will hear about family-focused Bible studies that gather unchurched families from low decile urban neighbourhoods, Bible reading groups that allow recently arrived immigrants to practice English and hear about Christianity for the first time, groups led by youth for youth, Bible studies by and for Māori, and more. Come ready to be inspired *and equipped* to begin gathering people around God’s Word as an act of Christian mission.

4 Webinars | 19th and 26th May, 2nd and 9th June, 1pm | Cost \$115

Lonely in Community with Julie Polglaze

We are created for community, yet it is possible to feel deeply lonely even when surrounded by people. For some, church can be a place where this loneliness is particularly difficult to navigate, especially when their life circumstances differ from what they see around them. Lonely in Community explores different experiences of loneliness through a pastoral care lens, considering the challenges they can bring and how churches can respond with greater understanding, compassion and practical care.

4 Webinars, 11th, 18th and 25th Aug and 1 Sept, 1pm | Cost \$115