



I am sending you out like sheep among wolves.
Therefore, be as wise as snakes and as innocent as doves.
– Matthew 10:16

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
– Matthew 5:9

'Every true disciple is a listener,' says John Stott. So, let's practice 'triple listening' to *one another* on our frontlines, *the world* of our wider culture, and the *word* of God. As we work through these four steps – listen, imagine, create, communicate – we become wise peacemakers who join the cultural conversation, growing even more fruitful in the places where God has called us to make a difference.



I. Listen. What's going on and why, in my particular time and place?

Describe the situation, prayerfully listening to God's heart for the people involved...

What do they *love*?

What do they *hate*?

For what do they *hope*?

II. Imagine. What should be going on, as my frontline is located in the big story of God's mission?

What wisdom might God bring to mind from his word, helping you be a peacemaker in this moment?

Recalling the big story of the Bible, capturing God's mission in the world, where do you see:

The good of creational intent?

The evil of cultural idolatry?

The new of healing action?

Commit this to the Lord in prayer, asking that he may make you an instrument of his peace.

III. Create. How will we respond, seeking shalom, through spiritual practices and healing action?

We're called by God to garden his world, cultivating *shalom* through right relationship with God, our neighbours, nature, and ourselves. This takes wisdom. So, pray for discernment to water, weed, and weave with one meaningful action for each...

Water what's good in this place, helping it grow to be fully itself

Weed out what's bad, to limit what threatens shalom

Weave something new and good in this place, bringing healing and beauty, pointing people to Jesus

IV. Communicate. How will we point people to Jesus, with good news that connects in our context?

Pray back through this situation. Why is Jesus good news to your neighbours, worth sharing about?

How does the gospel...

Affirm what they *love*?

Challenge what they *hate*?

Satisfy their deepest *hope*?

Being a wise peacemaker

Listen: What's going on and why?

Imagine: What should be going on?

Create: How will we respond?

Communicate: How to share the good news?



licc.



Through research, teaching, writing, and consulting, The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity works to equip churches and empower individuals to serve God in their Monday to Saturday lives. licc.org.uk