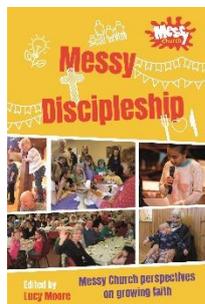


PRESS RELEASE

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Messy Discipleship Messy Church perspectives on growing faith Edited by Lucy Moore

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As the fastest-growing fresh expression of church in the UK, Messy Church has learnt a thing or two about discipleship since its beginnings in 2004. This new collection of perspectives, edited by Messy Church founder Lucy Moore, brings academic analysis and practitioner wisdom to bear on a key question for today's church, capturing the latest thinking and learning from the Messy Church context.

Since the last Messy Church discipleship book was published in 2013, the changes in the world at every level have been giddy, but through them all – including the pandemic – Messy Churches have grown, adapted, staggered, survived and flourished. Above all, they have gone on growing disciples of Jesus in small, messy, real-life communities around the world. As Lucy writes in her introduction:

'Success isn't measured by producing a book on discipleship; success is about navigating a route through the chaos together... Like any group of hikers on a walk, discipleship comes down to not giving up, even when there are steep mountains, discomfort, blisters, confusion, darkness and mistakes in navigation.' Individual chapters of the book examine each of the core Messy Church values – being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration – and how these work in practice to promote discipleship.

Despite some persistent doubters and critics, Messy Church has always been serious about growing disciples. Research is emerging – and is soon to be published – to show how effective the movement has been in doing just that. As Lucy concludes in her 'outroduction': 'Discipleship is about pressing on towards the goal, undeterred by obstacles. If we can model this as a movement, it will be a trait passed on to the disciples made through Messy Church.'

About the editor

Lucy Moore is the founder of Messy Church. She promotes Messy Church nationally and internationally through training and speaking events, and is the author of a number of books for BRF. Lucy is part of the Leadership Community of Fresh Expressions, has represented her diocese in the House of Laity at General Synod and was Honorary Lay Canon of Portsmouth Cathedral during her time in Hampshire. She is a member of the College of Evangelists, on the working group for discipleship of the Anglican Communion and is seconded to the Evangelism and Discipleship team of the Church of England. She is on the Board of Messy Church USA. For more information, click [here](#).

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BRF's vision is to enable people of all ages to grow in faith and understanding of the Bible and to see more people equipped to exercise their gifts in leadership and ministry. BRF ministries include Anna Chaplaincy, Living Faith, Messy Church and Parenting for Faith. Find out more at brf.org.uk.

