

Comments on the Example Assignment

Steve shows a good level of understanding through the first part of his presentation, and explains concepts of missional thinking generally quite well. The exploration of what the “21st century world” is like, put into terms and context that the target audience would understand is a good example of this.

What would have strengthened the first part is using quotes from his own reading, rather than the same ones used by the module leader in the sessions! Steve also makes some minor errors such as dating the origin of the 5 marks of mission when discussing parish MAP.

The engagement with statistics to explore the context is done well. It is a bit like “number overload” at points, and could have been sculpted more into a “narrative” (ie story based) format. He also lists some numbers without any frame of reference - what is the picture like nationally or in the local areas around the parish?

Good level of engagement with stats and evidence to back up picture of the parish context, and uses this information when exploring the opportunities in the second half.

The reading and research that has been done around mission in multi parish benefices has clearly influenced and informed his conclusions and discussion of opportunities.

The list of “what we are doing” currently as a church is helpful in that Steve uses it to identify “gaps” comparing the current life of the church to the 5 marks of mission. Steve keeps this list brief and maintains a focus upon the question at hand.

Sculpting the presentation of possible opportunities is done around the 5 marks. And he references his exploration of the context a number of times during this presentation of potential opportunities. This linking and evidencing the thinking and reflection behind the suggested opportunities is a good example of how to complete this task.

Steve does make some errors here, and his thinking doesn’t always line up perfectly, but the linking between exploration of the context and the proposed opportunities is what is asked for in the assignment.