

Inspire London Apprentice Scheme



Inspire London runs a one or two year apprentice scheme to train young men and women in pastoral ministry. Inspire apprentices do biblical and theological training through the All Souls Langham Place apprenticeship programme but are based with Inspire for pastoral ministry experience and practical service.

1. What does Inspire's apprentice scheme involve?

Training

- A day a week (with typically half a day as preparation) in biblical training alongside other apprentices looking at:
 - Exegesis - how to faithfully handle God's word (2 Tim 2:15)
 - Systematic and biblical theology - understanding God, humanity and God's world and tracing these themes through the bible (Luke 24:44-46)
 - Exposition - teaching God's word to others through practice talks and preparing 121 and group bible studies
 - A personal project - exploring a chosen area more deeply over the course of the year
- A study week of more intensive (and great fun) training with the other apprentices
- Attending an apprentices conference

Development and experience

- You will be mentored by one of Inspire London's staff team (depending on your particular area of interest) who will support you, pray with you, help you grow in your love of the Lord Jesus Christ (Mat 22:37), in personal formation in his image (Rom 8:28-29) and in leadership and pastoral ministry gifts (2 Tim 1:6)
- You will be given plenty of opportunities to do pastoral ministry in areas relevant for you e.g. 121 bible study, small group bible study, evangelism, leadership (organising events and ministry initiatives). Inspire has the benefit of being a growing church plant (started in 2013) with a second congregation in a new area starting this September so there is lots of scope to try new areas out.
- In addition given our partnership with (the larger) All Souls, if there are particular areas you would like to explore that we do not currently do then we can help you link in with the right person there - so you get the best of both (church) worlds!

Service

- A key part of preparing for pastoral ministry is growing in humility and willingness to serve (Mark 10:43), so you will have opportunities to serve practically - setting up at church, helping in various office tasks, cleaning etc.

Discernment

- Through talking with you, observing you in practical and pastoral ministry, and through feedback and 1 on 1 coaching, we will help you discern your gifting, areas to grow in and whether God might be calling you to pastoral ministry in the longer term.

2. What is Inspire London like as a church?

Inspire London was a church plant from All Souls Langham place in September 2013 into Old Street. Starting initially with a planting group of 34 we have grown to about 120 church family members and are in the process of taking on the ministries of a parish church in the EC1 postcode area, starting in January 2018. Staff and apprentices will work across both congregations (the parish church and Inspire's existing congregation).

Our vision

To be a united and diverse community inspiring London with the good news of Jesus Christ. The church family draws people from diverse backgrounds, rich and poor, international and British, students, young professionals and families. Our aim is to reach people in London from different backgrounds who are often segregated and to see them brought into an united community in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:14-18).

Our values

- **Biblical preaching** - There are so many messages and voices vying for our attention in our world today: Billboards, media soundbites, tweets, emails, texts... all feeding us information. Sometimes it can feel like a data smog – unable to see a way through. What we need is the loving and authoritative voice of the God who made us and redeems us. God speaks to us through the Bible and the primary way he wants it to be communicated is through preaching (2 Timothy 4:1-5). Consequently faithful preaching that is empowered by God's Spirit and insightfully applied is central to our gospel community.
- **Engaging the heart** - Often in our culture there is a false divide between intellect and emotion. Some elevate intellect emphasising that we are 'rational' beings, others elevate emotion saying "if it feels good – do it". The Bible shows us that the core of the person is their 'heart' (Romans 6:17 , Ezekiel 36:26-27). The heart is the seat of our desires. Desires are not less than intellectual but they are not merely intellectual either. In the same way our desires include our emotions but are more than just our emotions. A way of thinking about our desires is that they include both our intellect and emotions. Consequently our ministry will seek to engage people's hearts to live transformed lives to the glory of God (Romans 12.1-2).
- **Cultural Connection** - We are all creatures of our culture; the music we listen to, the books we read, the films we watch, the art we enjoy. When the Bible was originally written it spoke in language and ideas that connected with the culture it was written

into. 2000 years later culture has changed a lot but people are fundamentally the same – with the same core issues. The challenge for Christians today is, relying on God's Spirit, to communicate God's timeless truths and realities in a way that connects (1 Corinthians 9:19-23). Consequently, we want to be both faithful to the bible and creative as we engage with the culture God has placed us in.

3. What about funding and how do I apply for the apprentice scheme?

Inspire offers up to a £6000 grant for apprentices depending on needs. We encourage all applicants to seek to raise funds for the programme through seeking gospel partnership with family members, friends and appropriate grant making bodies but we recognise that this is not always possible to do in its entirety. In itself this is an important aspect of training in relying on God and the joy of gospel partnership (Philippians 4:14-19).

If you would like to apply then please email admin@inspirelondon.org expressing your interest and asking for an application form. In addition, should you wish to ask any question or to find out more information then please email Anna: admin@inspirelondon.org

The initial deadline for applications will be the end of March 2018 but an extension can be granted in extenuating circumstances.