

When the Church Disappoints Exchange 28 March 2015

Disappointments

- 1. How do you cope with disappointments?
- 2. When was a time when you were really disappointed?
- 3. What is harder: When people disappoint you, when God disappoints you, or when you disappoint yourself?
- 4. What inspires you to hope in your disappointment?
- 5. How do these verses offer insight when we face disappointments? Hebrews 11:14; 1 Peter 1:6-9

Faith:

- 1. Have you ever known something to be true but not acted on it? What makes you act on it?
- 2. What is faith and is it different to belief?
- 3. It seems that faith is more than just knowing about something. What contributes to faith in something?

Church:

- 1. Was Jesus disappointed by the official church of his day? How did he deal with it?
- 2. Was Jesus disappointed by his community? How did he deal with it?
- 3. What has disappointed you about church? How did you deal with it?
- 4. When you are feeling unhappy about church how do you know whether the problem is the church or the problem is you?
- 5. People often say they believe in God but don't like the church. Why do you think this is so?
- 6. Do you think church is *necessary* for those who are wanting a relationship with God or just another option amongst many? What does the church add to a person's relationship?
- 7. How important is it for people to agree within a church? What things matter more?