

Discovering Intergenerational Church with Daryl Tempero, Kiwi Church, Christchurch

Intergenerate webinar, hosted by Rachel Sangster on
March 31st 2022.



Bio: Daryl Tempero has been part of local church leadership most of his adult life, and part of staff teams for 25 years. He is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, and after a decade as an associate pastor in a growing suburban church, he had a growing list of questions about local church and mission in a New Zealand context. He and his family went to explore a new way of being church, particularly for those who have been part of church but for many different reasons have drifted away.

This journey led to the beginning of Kiwi Church, a Presbyterian congregation based in Christchurch, with a community also in West Otago. Darryl is the minister half time, and it is quietly growing to be a network of small relational communities, who gather together for various activities, and have different expressions each week.

The bio above mentions that Daryl had a growing list of questions about the local church and mission. As Daryl talked about his journey, he mentioned some of those questions, and they resonated with me. Maybe they resonate with you too?

He mentioned that **Sunday mornings were passive** and people seemed to be bored. They were stuck in a consumer model of church, where they came to receive their religious goods and services and then went home again. Any growth in the church seemed to be transfer growth from other churches. This led Daryl to ask, **are we growing spiritually?**

Another really important question was, **who speaks for God in our gatherings?** Who is in the centre? Is it just the clergy or pastors? If it is, then we are in big trouble! Who was at the centre for Jesus? The marginalised, which included children.

These questions led Daryl to Kiwi church. These are intentionally small communities of faith, **where everyone has the opportunity to speak and have a voice.** It avoids 'jargon' so is open to those without a church background or

who have walked away from traditional church in the past and may still carry hurts. **It focuses on relationships and participation and experiences.**

Daryl finished with some questions for us to consider for our context.

Who are we as a church community (rather than what do we do)?

What does worship look like in your context?

Know your why. Why do you gather on a Sunday morning? Does it nurture our relationships and disciple people? Does it help people to experience and discover?

This webinar will be available for you to view soon, at

<https://www.intergenerate.com.au/>

Jan Ozanne

If you would like to talk to someone about these questions or explore further how you can make your faith community more active and inclusive, please email childrensministry@baptist.org.nz