

## *Sense Making Faith*

[www.spiritualjourneys.org.uk](http://www.spiritualjourneys.org.uk)

*Sense Making Faith* is a resource and workbook for both individuals and groups. Focussing on the physical senses and the human imagination, it allows people to learn more about both spirituality and sharing faith.

Beautifully illustrated in full colour, and headed up by poems from the Archbishop of Canterbury, each chapter is set out in the form of a spiralling journey of exploration. For example, in *Journey into Seeing*, the chapter begins by asking ‘what is seeing?’ followed by an exploration of how we ‘see’ God and how God ‘sees’ us. The Journey continues into the spiritual journeys of blind people and on into what non-Christians see in their search for God. How people abuse the gift of sight is also examined before looking at where the spiritual paths of Christians and others outside the Church cross. Here is an opportunity for faith sharing, but to share honestly and effectively, Christians also have to reach deep into different Church traditions, to rediscover a spirituality of the senses in ways which have been sometimes overlooked or which people have forgotten how to use.

Each chapter is punctuated by pauses or waystations in which the individual reader is invited to reflect or engage in some activity that enables self discovery and deeper reflection. For groups, there are seven sessions (introduction, five senses, imagination) based on each Journey with full assistance for group leaders contained in a section at the back of the book. Group sessions are also designed as journeys with mix and match material involving discovery, discussion, bible study, prayer and many practical activities to enrich the life of the group and relate faith to the local area.

*Sense Making Faith* is released in conjunction with a website. Web icons in the book point to further material at [www.spiritualjourneys.org.uk](http://www.spiritualjourneys.org.uk). The website carries further journeys and explorations, additional information and a wealth of downloadable text and image material. In addition there are more resources for clergy and groups, as well as news and useful links.

*Sense Making Faith* comes from the ecumenical *Mission Theological Advisory Group*, a joint initiative of the Church of England and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. This project was chaired jointly by the Rt Revd Dr David Atkinson, bishop of Thetford and the Revd Professor John Drane. The material was compiled and written by Dr Anne Richards with help from the group. David McLeod of Makar Productions produced the design and layout. It is published on 10th December 2007 by CTBI publishing at £15 ISBN 978-085169-347-7. The website is designed by Melchior Telematics.

Information about the book and the website, examples and ‘taster’ materials are available in a variety of formats. Contact [anne.richards@c-of-e.org.uk](mailto:anne.richards@c-of-e.org.uk).