

Mission Communities

A Coaching Network Supporting
Leaders of Young People.



embody



embody is an initiative of Global Mission Partners



The local church exists for the sake of the world. We are Jesus' hands and feet, and wherever Jesus goes the hungry are fed, the naked are clothed, health is restored to the sick, prisoners are freed, and God's good news is shared. This is the salvation mission of God in the world (cf. Luke 4: 16-21).

Participation in God's mission of justice, reconciliation, and restoration is one of the markers of a healthy disciple who follows Jesus in what he did. **embody Mission Communities help you connect your young people with opportunities to live out God's call to justice and restoration in the local, national, and global neighbourhoods.**

What are Mission Communities?

A Mission Community is a group of 6-10 leaders, committed to their local ministry contexts, who come together on a regular basis to talk mission, develop plans, support one another, receive intentional one-on-one coaching, and grow as disciples of Jesus. They support you as you form healthy and growing disciples who are passionate about and participating in mission locally, nationally, and globally.

Where do Mission Communities fit in for young leaders?

embody Mission Communities are designed to sit **alongside the things you already do, and draw out the best of what God is doing in you and your community.** They provide **time for you to focus on you**, to identify ways you want to grow and develop. They make **space for reflection** on projects and activities so that lessons learned don't get lost. They create **steps for action** so that you can make the most of momentum and move towards your goals. And they create **strong connections** with other leaders of young people in similar situations to you, so that you can support and encourage one another.

embody Mission Communities won't conflict with your **ministry work**, your **study**, or your other **leadership development programs.** embody Mission Communities augment, support, and help you make the most of all these things.

100% of our

pilot group members

report that they

started, renewed, or

engaged deeper with

mission and justice

after participating in a

Mission Community.

Who should apply for Mission Communities?

If you are looking for a ways to involve young people in mission and justice work, but aren't sure where to start or need a little more support to kickstart your involvement, spend a year as part of an embody Mission Community and lay the groundwork for you and your young people to flourish.

One Year Commitment

embody Mission Communities commit to the journey together for one year. During that time, you will do the following:

One one-on-one coaching session for one hour per month. One-on-one coaching is an opportunity to take stock, explore a topic, develop a plan, and take steps to move forward in your mission project.

One all-in group discussion session for two-hours every two months with the other members of your Mission Community cohort. This is your chance to share what God has been up to in your life and ministry, and hear how God is moving in the rest of your cohort. You will discuss, brainstorm, encourage, question, and pray for one another, all facilitated by an embody coach.

Topics Covered

Individual sessions:

1. Goal setting
2. Open coaching
3. Finding the heartbeat of your youth group
4. Open coaching
5. What is in your hand?
6. Goal check in
7. Open coaching
8. Building communities of practice
9. Open coaching
10. Leading young people in mission
11. Open coaching
12. Goal check in

Group sessions:

1. Getting to know you, creating a covenant
2. What is mission?
3. Making a youth group missional
4. Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers
5. Structured for mission
6. What's next?



“ I’ve loved being able to share stories and encourage each other in the work we are all doing, and hearing other expressions of mission and thinking about how I can adapt them to my context. ”

– Pilot Group Member



Cost

Participants who are participating in a Mission Community as part of their professional development in a formal ministry role are asked to make a \$300 contribution to embody. If cost is a barrier to participation, please contact Mitch at mitch@gmp.org.au to discuss options. Individuals who are not in a paid ministry role may participate at no cost.



Prerequisites

To maximise the impact of participation in a mission community, you are encouraged to do the following before the first gathering:

1 Have a clear and defined **mission project** or goal to work on for the duration of your one year commitment to the Mission Community. You should be able to articulate **what you want to achieve** and **why this expression of mission is right for you and your neighbourhood now**. This mission project can be an existing project you want to amplify, or a new project entirely. If you don't have a mission project already, your embody coach will work with you to develop that vision.

2 Have a **conversation with your ministry leader(s)** in your local context about the Mission Community, outlining what will be happening and what your hopes are for your participation in this community. If you're an employed minister, this probably means talking to the person at your church who supervises you. If you're a volunteer, this probably means talking to the minister at your church you work most closely with.

3 Have access to a **computer, tablet, or phone** and an internet connection that will reliably allow you to connect to a Zoom online meeting. This device must have both a microphone and camera.



“ Consistent coaching has helped me look at what is needed in my leadership and mission, and put me on track to get there. ”

– Pilot Group Member



How to Apply

Apply to join a Mission Community online at embody.org.au/mc/application. If you have any questions, email Mitch at mitch@embody.org.au to start or continue a conversation.

Timely applications are appreciated before December 31.

The first group session will take place before the end of January.