

***If you have read, or are reading, this essay in a group, ask yourselves the following questions:***

1. Are there issues raised by this essay that have caused differences of opinion to emerge within our group? If so,
  - (i) What are they?
  - (ii) How will we go about discussing those issues further?
  
2. Are there issues raised by this essay with which we are in broad agreement? If so,
  - (i) What are they?
  - (ii) How have they helped us to think about and develop our faith?
  
3. Are there ways in which we feel our faith has been challenged by this essay? If so, how do we respond to that challenge?
  
4. Are there matters raised by this essay that we would like to investigate further? If so,
  - (i) How will we go about doing so?
  - (ii) What (if any) resources do we need to do so?
  
5. Are there any matters arising from our reading of this essay which we would like to see carried through into action in our Church community?  
If so,
  - (i) What are they?
  - (ii) How will we go about making that action happen?

***You may find it helpful to write down your responses to these questions.***

**PLEASE NOTE:** if you are not in a position to respond to the essays, individually or as a group, and you would like to discuss them further, please do not hesitate to contact the Convener of the Doctrine Committee at office@scotland.anglican.org who can arrange for someone to discuss them with you.

## THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SC 015962



## GROSVENOR ESSAYS

## STUDY GUIDE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS

## Introduction

The Grosvenor Essays have now been published for some years, and have become a familiar sight in the SEC. The Doctrine Committee is working on making all of the Essays more easily available on-line, and it is hoped that they can be even more widely used in study groups in churches, clergy meetings, retreats, and so on.

In each case, a Grosvenor Essay can only be a start to help people think and grow in a more informed way in their church life in its wider contexts - in science, the arts, ecumenical relationships, Christian doctrine. Very often such things can be confusing and seem difficult, but the hope is that these short essays can begin to open up questions and discussion, as well as provide more reading and resources for those who wish to take matters further either for themselves or in groups.

This very brief Study Guide is designed to be used with all the essays as a help to provoke questions and to stimulate ways of using the material in study groups of all kinds. There is no one way of using the Essays, and they are not intended to be text books, rather points of information and encouragement. And so this paper is no more than a 'guide' and if there are better ways of using the essays then feel free to pursue them. We are always glad to receive comments and criticism.

More often than not it is the questions rather than what we know (or think we know) which we ask that are most important. This guide, then, is presented largely in the form of questions. From these, we hope, will arise discussion and ideas in the various contexts in which we find ourselves.

***If you have read, or are reading, this essay by yourself, ask yourself the following questions:***

1. Have I felt my faith to be challenged or threatened in any way by this essay? If so, how?
2. Have I felt my faith to be deepened or enriched in any way by this essay? If so, how?
3. Are there any particular topics raised by this essay that I'd like to read more about? If so:
  - (i) does the bibliography offer me helpful suggestions?
  - (ii) How else might I find out more about this topic?
4. Are there any topics raised by this essay that I'd like to talk to someone about? If so, whom shall I approach?
5. Has this essay generated material to enrich my prayer life? If so, how will I make best use of it?
6. Has this essay prompted me to take any practical action in terms of visiting people, or exploring churches/ museums/ galleries or other public spaces? If so, how will I go about taking that action?
7. Are there further resources I need to build on what I have learned from this essay? If so, how shall I go about locating them?
8. Is this essay something I'd like an opportunity to talk about with others? If so, how will I go about enabling that to happen?

***You may find it helpful to write down your responses to these questions.***