**Examine Expectations:** What as Priest do you expect to see and would want to see happening within the service you are crafting. If you think the expectations of your usual congregation members and your visitors are going to be very different, what steps will you take to bring the two expectations and your closer together?

**What ways can you work:** with your Church to encourage a congregational theology of hospitality, to see Baptism work as a fundamental part of your ministry and outreach. Building teams to work with parents before and after services and enabling volunteers of all ages to work with you in the services themselves. Remember children are wonderful in the way they relate to faith, and the right ones assisting you leading will be a blessing for your Church and a key means to grow and nurture their faith.

**Symbols:** How are you going to change the way you think about the symbols used in baptism, and then how will you move forward in using them in practice. Be bold and make those changes, it will refresh and revitalise your ministry which will flow out into your community. It can take a time, but in a year or so, word will get out and people by word of mouth will advertise what a wonderful experience Baptism is at your Church.

**Examine:** What you do currently, and ask, Why do I do it like this? Allow deeper questions to form, and with Scripture delve deep into the way Jesus works with people, the symbols and stories he engages with. Can you move our traditional ritual practices and give them a new life to bless your community?

**Get Personal:** How anointed do you feel taking a Baptism, do you feel and understand that you are a channel between heaven and earth? Take yourself out and meet baptism families, get to know them, and be ready to share all the activities they could be involved in. Remember you are not trying to win them for God, they are his children already, your job is to assist them to hear God that he might lead them in his time, you just need to walk with them.

**Ownership**: How can yourBaptism families own the service with you and your Church, look at how they can take part, and enable them to do so. Never do a service to people, Do a Service with them!

**The Big Five:**

***Entertain:*** Put on a good show, make people smile, it shows your love them and you are real

***Enthuse:*** If you put in a huge effort it will make a huge impact, if you are disinterested, you may never see them again.

***Educate:*** Jesus always taught, not only using words, make sure people learn and have been fed with understanding to gain in the days to come

***Equip:*** Make sure people know what to expect, and provide those opportunities to be and take part

***Engage:*** This is personal, you cannot be taught it, and only you can do this in your way.

However, we need to work on the idea that we must engage with our people. In the UK the public are not coming to Church anymore, they think it is old fashioned, irrelevant and above all boring, there is nothing Church offers that they want a part of.

As the Baptism service still holds some relevance in the UK, and it appears to still have importance from what I can see in your wonderful country, Ask yourself this:

If Baptism is one of my few Church Shop Windows that people will still look at outside: How do I work to entice those people to come inside?

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