

Working for
Working with
Being with
Being for

SAMUEL WELLS
**Incarnational
Mission**
being with the world



'...full of deep wisdom and insight, inspiring faith and love.
Every Christian should read it.'

Bishop John Inge

Working for

Working for is where I do things
and they make your life better.

I exercise my skills.

I delight in alleviating needs.

I seek gratitude or esteem.

The "needy" are defined by their deficit.

The way to address disadvantage or distress
is for those with the skills, energy or resources
to bring their capacities to bear on the situation
of those who are struggling.

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Working with

Working with is where we partner with others to improve the situation of those in need.

Together we identify problems.

We build coalitions of like-minded people.

We combine resources and energy around a common cause.

We involve stakeholders.

We seek win-win solutions by bringing people together to empower people who are struggling.

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Being for

Being for is about advocating for change.

It is about being clear about the attitudes, language, ethics
of change.

It is about serving a cause,
building a platform, pursuing an ideal,
expressing concerns, clarifying motives,
ensuring accountability.

It is less about engaging with the people
being served and more about pursuing change
on their behalf and on behalf of society as a whole.

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Being with

Being with is about people and situations
that don't need fixing.

It sees that most of life is not about solutions
- love, death, birth.

To solve people's problems disempowers them
and reinforces their status.

Instead one accompanies them to find
their own methods, answers and approaches,
and celebrates who they are.

Being with starts with people's assets, not deficits.

It does not seek to do for them
what they might do for themselves.

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