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## Navigating the Ice-field

At our 2021 Minister's Conference, Jane Henderson used the analogy of crossing an ice-field as a way of reflecting on how we navigate the changing landscape post Covid-19 lockdown. This is the second part of presentation 2. If you haven't done so already, we recommend that you watch this first [via this link](#).

Conference participant, Revd. John Boyers offered this further reflection on advice for those who are crossing ice-fields from his background in Geography.

1. Recognise that this is dangerous terrain.
2. Only travel when you have appropriate resources and equipment ready. And the rope that connects all.
3. Travel together, roped and closely connected, so if one falls down a crevasse they will be saved and supported by the others.
4. Consciously avoid the really dangerous and uncertain areas.
5. Understand that your final goal may not be reached by the shortest, most direct route.
6. Be prepared to retrace your steps to find a more suitable way forward.
7. Never assume that the route taken by someone else earlier is the correct route for you now! There can be movement and change in a glacier which requires a different route for you at a different time.
8. Take note of the climate. It has implications for your journey. The surface is more stable in winter but the weather is harsh; summer is more pleasant but more dangerous, as melt water eats into the very surface you are planning to walk on.
9. Remember you intend walking not on a fixed road surface, but on something that is an active and moving. Be aware that the glacier is moving to its own destination. You need to respect it and move with and not against it.
10. Be very careful each step of the way and be sure, as you push ahead to progress your journey, that every next step is a safe one which can be completed without problem.