

PRACTICAL WAYS OF RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

- Jesus' pray-for strategy (Matthew 9:35-38)
- III scheme (Pray for one person for one minute at one o'clock - could pray for a different person each day of the week)
- Gospelopoly 4by4 prayer scheme
- General contacts (people know who they are but not how they are)
- Colleague Acquaintances (people we relate to in daily activities / work)
- Neighbour Acquaintances (People we live near, shops & services we visit regularly, parents of our kid's friends)
- Discussion level friends & family (People we're sharing our hope within with.)
- Gospel friendships (people we are intentionally in gospel conversation with.)

- Jesus' go-to strategy (Matt. 10): Go with my authority (v. 1), where I send you (v. 5), to lost people (v. 6) with my message (v. 7) to receptive people (v11)

Relationship builders:

- Add another person to your day - Go to the pub etc. and meet people
- Take up a sport or hobby - Be a strategic consumer

THE ROLE OF CHURCHES

- Know your church's harvest field ('Church Contact Square')
- Build the visibility of the church
- we exist (leaflets, signage, media, vox pops)
- we welcome all (social activities & one-off events, welcoming strategy)
- we're worth knowing (website, design, missionary small groups.)

PRACTICAL WAYS OF RESPONSE BUILDING

- Gain a gospel urgency (See people as lost and facing eternity without Christ)
- Learn a gospel outline (Be able to explain what the gospel is)
- Know gospel maths - that we all have a vital role in evangelism
- Know your gospel calling - evangelism styles
- Conserve your gospel ammunition - wise in the what & when of evangelism
- Understand the learning cycle:
- Receive information (talk/presentation/sermon, personal study)
- Reflect on meaning (Sermon application, small group discussion)
- Review options & act (One to one, prayer, response/reflect time in service)
- Know the response challenges: Jesus' identity, mission & call

THE ROLE OF CHURCHES

- Use variety: different course material, times, places, presentation methods
- Encourage discussion: allow people to ask questions, spend time one to one
- Make a call to response on Sundays, as a key part of an evangelistic course and in one to one - don't leave people hearing but not accepting Christ

KEEPING EVANGELISM ON OUR AGENDA

- Have a regular evangelistic course as a key part of your strategy (See back)
- Establish a cycle of events linked together through the church year (See back)
- Appoint an evangelism point person to:
- keep evangelism high on the church's agenda
- Plan and communicate a cycle of events
- Keep casting a vision for evangelism
- Make evangelism a budget item
- Encourage prayer partnerships (Pray together for each other's contacts)

PRACTICAL WAYS OF RESPECT BUILDING

Know your respect active verb:

- Be real and share your joys and struggles and how your faith impacts you
- Prepare to tell your testimony
- 50:50 rule when inviting people to parties etc. and time spent when there
- Serve as school governor, local festival, planning, community projects etc.
- Host a welcome meal for people moving in locally (spot 'sold' signs)
- Offer free babysitting, do some shopping etc.
- Provide meals for new parents to help in the early days
- Organise a street or block to a meal, party, kids' or family sports competition

THE ROLE OF CHURCHES

- Social events and fun days
- Sunday: Breakfast, coffee, lunch, tea, supper; event after services etc.
- Culture events: Local history evenings, wine tasting, concerts, etc.
- Sport: put on sports tournament or screen big matches etc.
- Facilities open to local groups, parties etc.
- Social concern: community work parties (decorating, home improvements and furnishing, improving estates, giving Christmas hampers, etc.); disability support; bereavement counselling; recovery from addictions (alcohol, etc.); recovery from divorce, etc.; visiting in prisons; projects for the homeless.
- Café etc.
- Family life: Toddler groups; after-school clubs; youth clubs; adoption support; dads clubs to see children; crisis pregnancy support; holiday kids clubs,
- Senior citizens groups / holiday club
- Awards ceremonies to celebrate contributions to local 'social capital'

PRACTICAL WAYS OF RELEVANCE BUILDING

- Know your answers
- Develop a gospel mindset on current issues
- Engage with the secular world your friends live in. Within godliness:
- go where they go; read what they read; watch what they watch
- Hold a connection event (reading group, discussion of contemporary issue, film etc. where the Christian perspective can be explained and debated)
- Use your story of how faith in Christ impacts you day to day
- Use the bible - carry a pocket bible & introduce people to the person of Jesus
- Know the relevance window openers: eternity, unconditional love, joy, security

THE ROLE OF CHURCHES

1. Connection social events. Eg:
 - A 'pause for thought' in a concert
 - A talk or testimony after a meal
 - A talk on a contemporary topic and its relation to the gospel
 - A discussion of a film, play, book, etc.
2. Connection courses. Eg:
 - Parenting; Marriage preparation or Marriage building
3. Connection discussion events
 - pre systematic gospel course groups that start with the felt needs and questions of the participants
4. Connection services
 - church services that deliberately connect scripture to the viewpoint of those who are not yet believers