

Reset: Evangelism



As good news people in our place, the church has been called and empowered to proclaim the kingdom, share our faith, tell our stories of transformation, both individually and corporately.

As you consider how to revitalise the mission of your church, these questions will help you to consider how evangelism is connected to the various strands of church life. They will also help you to identify new opportunities for sharing the good news as you reset in a post-COVID world.

These questions are informed by data collected from our Changing Church surveys. More information on the surveys is available [here](#).

Gathering

➔ How many times a month is evangelism directly referred to in teaching, prayer, praise and other aspects of your gathering?

- Every week
- Every fortnight
- Once a month
- Less than once a month

➔ How could you more regularly and creatively refer to evangelism in aspects of your gathering? For example, referring to evangelism in the main sermon, creating a space for congregation to pray for five friends, sharing stories of people coming to faith or how people have shared their faith?

Small groups

➔ Considering your small groups, what is the balance between internal care and external outreach?

➔ As you think about evangelism, what opportunities might be available through your small groups to:

- equip Christians?
- create spaces of hospitality and community?

➔ How flexible are your small groups to initiate and respond to newcomers?

Programme

➔ Twelve per cent of churchgoers invited someone to Alpha or a similar course in the last year. Do you run a specific course that allows people to explore the Christian faith (such as Alpha or Christianity Explored)? How might you build the confidence of your church to make personal invites to such a course?

➔ List the various ministries that engage with people outside of your church. Go through each one of those and rate on a scale of one to five how effective these are at helping people take steps towards Jesus.

➔ Within each outreach activity, consider the extent to which Christians volunteers are equipped and given confidence to have conversations of faith with those who come in?

Leadership

➔ A third of individuals (34 per cent) said their church wasn't helping them with evangelism at all. Describe to what extent evangelism is part of the wider vision and strategy of the church.

➔ Fifty per cent surveyed church leaders said they would value more resourcing on evangelism. Which of the following activities have you already undertaken and where might

you need to invest in further resourcing for your leadership team and your church?

- Evangelistic training
- Encouraging hospitality
- One-on-one mentoring
- Hosting invitational events
- Telling stories of church members sharing faith
- Preaching about the call to share Jesus Working through answers to apologetics questions
- Equipping for outreach focused prayer ministry
- Creating regular space to pray for friends
- Other (please specify):



Scattered

➔ In a three-month window, the average Christian spoke to six people about their faith, yet 44 per cent felt they did not have enough significant relationships with those who aren't Christians. Describe how you have seen your people seize opportunities throughout the coronavirus pandemic to share their faith in their scattered places – neighbourhoods, colleges, local communities, workplaces, social circles?

➔ How can you sustain this opportunity for evangelism in our scattered spaces? How might this consideration impact the scale of your church programme?

Culture

➔ What do you consider to be the main challenges for sharing faith in this culture?

➔ In what ways have you intentionally equipped your church to understand and to speak their faith into specific cultural issues?

Civic life

➔ How often have you engaged with, prayed for and spoken about Christian values with leaders (such as politicians, head teachers, business people) who feed into the civic life structures surrounding your local church?

Local churches

➔ How regularly are you praying with other local church leaders for people to come to faith in your city/town/village?

➔ In what ways might you consider partnering in prayer and active evangelism with other local church communities?

Local community

➔ Forty-nine per cent of churches were involved in food and medicine delivery, and 54 per cent stepped up to befriend the elderly and isolated. How has the coronavirus outbreak increased opportunities for your church to provide services in the community? How might your people share their faith in such situations?

➔ What proportion of your church membership live in the local community area? What avenues or barriers exist between your church people and those in the community, and how might these be bridged?

As you have reflected on the good news people in your place graphic, identify three key action points as you reset the place of work and vocation within your church:

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