



GREAT GOSPEL GIVEAWAY

Two Hour Practical Training

www.hopetogether.org.uk/great-gospel-giveaway

Why Now?

The Bible commands it!

In the Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20) Jesus commands us to - it's a command not an optional extra!

'So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end.'

We are to make disciples, it's Jesus who builds his church (Matthew 16:18). Our responsibility is to make the invitation but the response is up to God.

'From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this SO THAT they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him, and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.' Acts 17:26-27

Consider ...

What if God has placed us exactly when and where we need to be for those around us to find him?

Research suggests that people are more open than we might think

The Independent ran an article on 28th January 2025 which said that Gen Z are less likely to be atheists than parents or grandparents. Only 13% of under 25's identified as atheist whereas 62% said they were very or fairly spiritual. Comparatively, a quarter of those aged 45-60 said they were atheist.

In March 2025 SPCK reported that sales of Bibles had surged by 87% and whilst this is broader than Gen Z, the younger generation seem to be fuelling it as they turn to the Bible for meaning, mental health support and to explore faith. **Christian research backs this up** 2022, **Talking Jesus** (*Hope, EA, Alpha, Kingsgate, Luis Palau*)

Talking
Jesus

- 24% of practising Christians came to faith through reading the Bible, second only to growing up in a Christian family.
- 22% of non-Christians said they would read the Bible if they wanted to find out more about the Christian faith, second only to Googling it!

YWAM working in the Brent area of London, found that 40% of non-Christians said they would join a group to discover what the Bible has to say for themselves. When knocking on doors, of those who were in, 1 in 3 took a Bible.

The Quiet Revival (*Bible Society 2025*)

People are more open to both church and the Bible than they were in the previous 2018 research, especially amongst the younger generations. The research reported a rise in church attendance over the last 6 years, particularly by young men.

- 21% of men from Gen Z (18-24) now attend church at least monthly. (4% 2018)
- 1 in 3 people would try church if invited by a friend or family member.
- 1 in 4 would give the Bible a try.
- 37% of 18-24-year-olds were interested in finding out more about the Bible.

Talking Jesus also gives us an insight into the importance of relationship and our role as Christians.

**Talking
Jesus**

- 53% non-Christians know a practising Christian and they like us.
- If we have a conversation with them about faith 1 in 3 want to know more.
- The thing that stands out to them is when we share our story and ask them what they think!

Finding Jesus (Evangelical Alliance 2025) investigated how people came to faith over the previous five years.

- Reading the Bible was the second most helpful factor in people coming to faith. Attending church was the most helpful.
- Often people read the Bible on their own!
- The research also highlights the impact that other Christians can have on someone exploring faith. When asked who helped them on their faith journey the most, the answer was Christian friends not church leaders.

Consider ...

God is on the move., People are perhaps more spiritually curious than they have been in a long time and Christian friends are perfectly positioned to have conversations about faith and accompany people on their journey of discovery.

How? It Starts With Prayer

YWAM tell a story of an area where a church tried to reach 100 homes without prayer and had little success. But when they intentionally dedicated time to pray beforehand the difference was amazing, almost the complete opposite. When we pray it's like we're breaking up the ground ready for God to work. We're doing the weeding and initial ploughing, breaking up hard ground before it can be fertilised and refined ready for planting.

Consider ... What might it mean to break up the ground first in prayer?

Resources

There are lots of resources available. Which ones you choose depends on how deeply you want to dig.

- Keep it very simple and just get people praying, perhaps focussing in on the area in mind.
- Prayer walk an area physically or virtually. Prayer walking is a very intentional way of praying. Walking on the actual ground can be very powerful and lead to insights you might not have had otherwise.
- You might want to do some deeper prayer and listening to the place you want to reach. This could take the form of spiritual mapping or listening in different dimensions; to the history, to God, to the place and to people now.

Find our Great Gospel Giveaway prayer resources
www.hopetogether.org.uk/great-gospel-giveaway-prayer

Relationships

Prayer breaks up the ground and then relationships feed the soil. Consider who is best placed on the ground to reach out to people? Who has local relationships e.g. the local church and community initiatives which build trust.

Where Will Conversations Take Place?

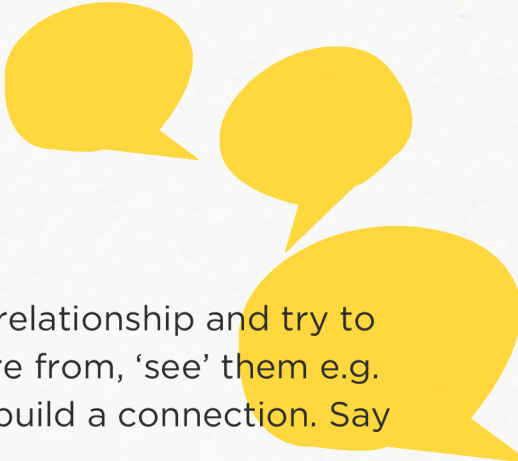
Consider 3 key places in relation to context and the strength of relationships:

Doorsteps

In the community on the streets – this could be a table in the street, on benches/sofas, under gazebos or more. A church in London took gospels onto the street and grew by 50 people in one year!

In community initiatives – social action projects like toddler groups, food banks, marketplaces and wellbeing cafes create natural places for connection and conversation. Where do you already connect with non-Christians in your community?

Having the Conversation

- 
- Pray and follow **HOLY SPIRIT NUDGES!** Build the relationship and try to find **COMMON GROUND** – your name, where you're from, 'see' them e.g. children, garden, football, shopping, notice them, build a connection. Say something friendly!
 - Explain **WHY** you are there – 'I'm from x, we're visiting homes to offer to pray for people. How can I pray for you?
 - Has there been any local **ADVERTISING** e.g. social media/radio/newspaper and have they seen it?
 - Would they like you to **PRAY** for them? Now or later? Are they happy for you to share their prayer request and pray with others? Their response might **REVEAL** where they are with faith. Is there an opportunity to go **DEEPER?**
 - Do they have any faith background? How open do they seem? What 'hooks' have they given you and what is the Holy Spirit saying to you? What is God doing in their lives that you can join in with?
 - Have they ever **READ THE BIBLE?** Would they like to? If so, starting with an eye witness account from one of Jesus' friends is a great place to begin. They could read it and ask who they think Jesus is. It might help to know that most historians, even those who aren't Christian, accept that a person called **JESUS EXISTED**. The question is who was he? Was he just a man, even a deluded one, or was he God?
 - Would they like to read it with **OTHERS?** It can seem strange and in need of 'translation' so it can help to read with others. Book clubs are really popular, so the offer is a bit like a Bible book club. Do they need a **DIFFERENT** translation?

For some people the **INVITATION** to church might follow or precede this. Coming into church might then help them to decide whether they want to read the Bible alone or in a group; for others, checking out the Bible before stepping into church might be more helpful.

Continuing the Conversation and Invitation: Bible Discovery Communities

You will need to explain that these are small groups where people can explore and discover the Bible together.

- The groups are not there to tell people what to think, it's not a lecture, but a genuine exploration using 4 simple questions.
- There are groups all across the area, in different places and on different days at different times.
- Hopefully there's something accessible to them. Depending on the conversation you might be able to offer an example venue to the person you are talking to e.g. if they have mentioned that they attend or know of a particular group and there is one meeting there.
- They can find out about the different Bible Discovery Communities from the QR code on the bookmark in the gospel (if you are using the bookmarks).

Hosting a Bible Discovery Community

Think creatively about where these communities could be. Where are people already gathering e.g. a toddler group, coffee shop, food hub, gym, online or the pub. The aim is to make sure that the venue isn't a barrier to people attending.

- 90 minutes max including refreshments or a meal. Depending on where you are meeting and how many people are in your group it can take a lot less time.
- A Bible Discovery Community could be 45 minutes in a lunch hour. It could also be 5 minutes a day over WhatsApp done as 1:1. Be creative and flexible!
- Small is beautiful. Bible Discovery Communities work best with a maximum of 10-12 people, so if your group is bigger subdivide.
- Use Mark's gospel for 4-6 weeks and focus on short passages.
- Aim to meet weekly to build connection with people and a habit of reading the Bible. 1:1 over WhatsApp can be done daily.
- Choose the passages and length to suit your context.
- Read the passage twice, using two different voices if you can.
- Tell people the first question before you read.

The 4 Bible Discovery Community Questions

1. What do they notice about the story? / What stands out to them?
2. What does it tell us about God?
3. What does it tell us about people?
4. So what? If this is God's word, what difference could it make to my life?

In Subsequent weeks, start by asking how the last week has been and whether what they heard last week did make a difference. Bible Discovery Communities are not about knowing the right answer but rather allowing space for the Holy Spirit to speak.

The questions are intentionally open and accessible in order to create a space for genuine conversations where hopefully everybody is comfortable to share. Hosts should avoid preparing by reading and researching around the passage. The main preparation is prayer. There are no experts. The aim is for a mutual space of shared conversation and discovery.

Using the Share Bibles App

This YWAM app that allows you to track gospel distribution. Who is not in, in but doesn't want a gospel, already has one or takes one. You can create a church team via the website. Different coloured pins show your team what's happening so they can see you which homes have been visited and which homes might need a follow up visit. When team go back the pin colour can be updated. A local coordinator can create a team via the Share Bibles website: www.sharebibles.com

No personal data is involved so there are no GDPR implications. It's the street and house that is logged not any names or personal details.



SHAREBIBLES

www.hopetogether.org.uk/great-gospel-giveaway-bible-app

**GREAT
GOSPEL
GIVEAWAY**

Accompaniment and Follow Up

The ideal according to research like Talking Jesus and Finding Faith, is that everyone exploring faith has someone to walk with them. Personal relationships, especially those between non-Christians and Christian friends are really important .

- Encourage your team to be intentional about forming relationships.
- Consider WhatsApp groups to maintain and grow connection.
- If people seem warm/responsive on the doorstep but don't turn up to the Bible Discovery Community, does the initial connection know them well enough to gently go back and tell them they were missed and it's not too late to join? Sometimes people like to be noticed and missed!

Additional Resources

This approach is intended to be as relational as possible.

We want to encourage ramps not cliff edges!

To support this you will find examples of follow up and accompaniment resources on the website here:

www.hopetogether.org.uk/great-gospel-giveaway-follow-up

Remember

The Great Gospel Giveaway is not a sausage factory...

As you are planning, praying, walking, talking, hosting or accompanying, ask yourself;

1. What is God doing?
2. What is the right next step?

Some people respond well to courses, others need a more relational approach such as using WhatsApp or a catch up over a cuppa to read the Bible, pray and discover together.