



FOUR PRINCIPLES FOR CREATING PATHWAYS TO FAITH

CONTACT - NURTURE - COMMITMENT - GROWTH

TRAINING
MORNING
FEBRUARY 2024



WELCOME

Welcome to Four Principles for Creating Pathways to Faith, part of our Evangelism: How to Make it a Whole Church Ministry series. We hope you enjoy our morning together as we explore evangelism in our contemporary context. Let us know if there is anything we can do to help the morning work for you.

Overview of the Session

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SUGGESTIONS FOR GOOD ZOOM ENGAGEMENT

- **Please participate, don't just observe** Pop things in Chat, ask questions (use virtual hand or just dive in with a question), contribute your best insights.
- **Set aside distractions** Close down other programmes, resist the temptations of your phone/tablet, put out of reach other reading material.
- **Keep your video on throughout** It will help you be fully present, and will help others engage with you. A blank screen is rather dispiriting.
- **Don't mute your sound** It helps with the flow of interaction, and an occasional background noise actually makes it feel less artificial. However, if there is a lot of noise in your room, or you are meeting as a group in one place, please do mute.
- **Combat Zoom fatigue** Two things will help combat weariness. Hide your self view (right click on your own image and select hide self view) and take regular stretch breaks (every 20 minutes or so stand up, stretch, take a few deep breaths).
- **Be patient** At some point something will go wrong. Please be patient with us as we try to sort it out.

GUIDELINES FOR GOOD INTERACTION

- **Learning together** We are all here to learn from God and one another. **Adopt a learning posture.**
- **Participate** Share your thoughts, insights and questions. Listen carefully to what others say. **Have an enquiring mind.** You'll get the most out of it if you do.
- **Confidentiality** What is said in the room cannot be shared outside the room attributed to anyone in the room. That makes it a safe place for us to be honest and share more deeply. **Choose honesty and openness.**
- **Reality check** It is always easy to become disconnected from reality in a training session, so please keep us connected with reality by taking us back to how things really are in your context. **Keep grounded.**
- **Next step** We will cover a lot of ground, but throughout our time together **be attentive** to what might be your next step following this morning's session. We will give you a chance to identify that at the end of the morning.

LEARNING TOOLS

We're using a Padlet Board this morning, as well as some of the features in Zoom. It works best if you identify one person in your group to act as 'Padlet monitor'. They will post on behalf of the group. They are fairly simple tools, but don't hesitate to ask if anything is unclear. Take look at a short (3 minute) introductory [video](#).

Throughout this handout there are hyperlinks to various materials. They appear in [blue](#) and [underlined](#).

TIMINGS

9.15	Welcome and Session 1
10.15	Break
10.25	Session 2
11.15	End

Timings are for guidance only, apart from the end time. We will finish by 11.15.

LEAD ON

Sign up today for a free monthly email with articles, resource recommendations and reviews for all interested in improving their leadership. Either scan the QR code below or sign up at www.cpas.org.uk/leadon.



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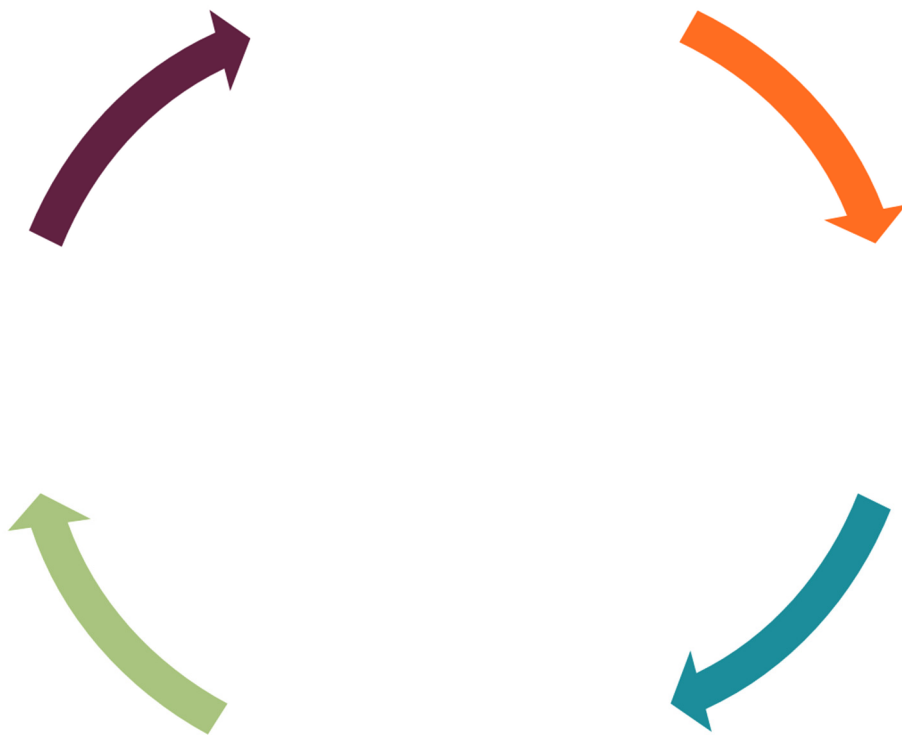
INTRODUCTION

PATHWAYS TO FAITH



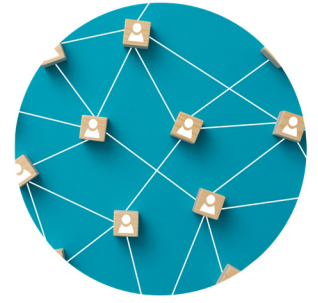
- God at work.
- Pathway made up of appropriate next steps.
- It is normally an accompanied journey.
- It normally takes time.
- The journey is rarely linear.

Growth Spiral



PRINCIPLE 1

MAKE YOUR CONTACT POINTS ENGAGING



1. SERVICES

2. BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS

3. PUBLICITY

4. ONLINE PRESENCE



ACTIVITY

Looking at each of these areas, share ideas on how to make each of these areas a little more engaging. No idea is too small or simple. Post your ideas on the Padlet board using the link in the Chat or the QR code. Please link to best practice.

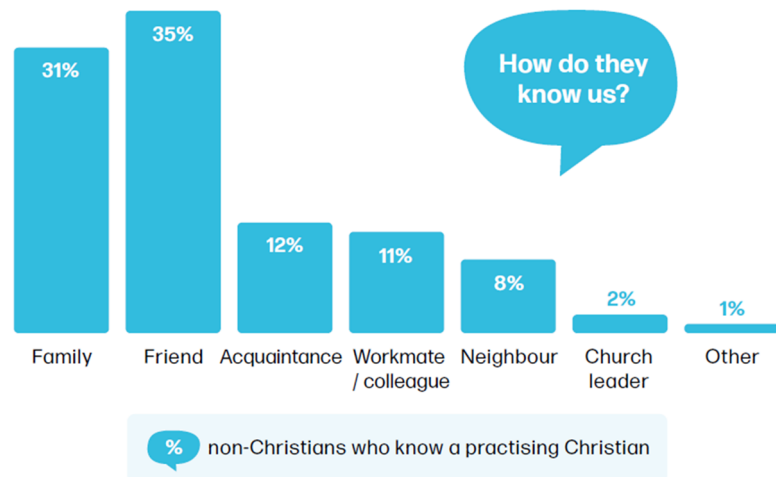
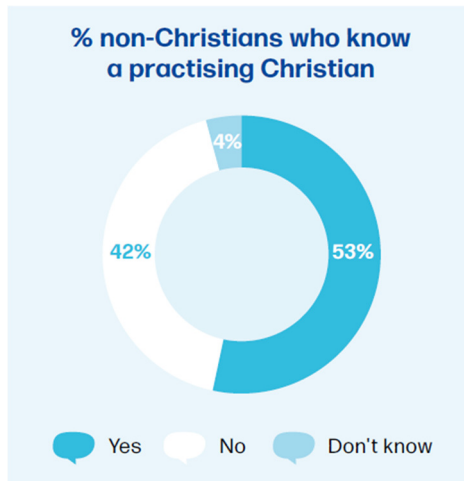
5. CHRISTIANS IN EVERYDAY LIVES

PRINCIPLE 2

START WHERE PEOPLE ARE AT

WHAT CONNECTIONS DO WE ALREADY HAVE?

- Through the everyday life of our congregation members.



Source: [Talking Jesus 2022](#)

- Through the connection points with our gathered life.

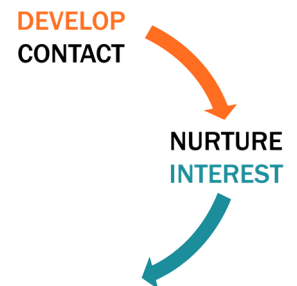
NURTURE INTEREST

Stage 1 Nurture interest through:

- Prayer.
- Love.
- Service.
- Nurturing relationships.
- Building connection with life interests and issues.

Stage 2 Nurture their experience of faith through:

- 1-1 conversation and bible reading.
- Enquirers courses.
- Contact with wider church community.





ACTIVITY

Where are your contact points? Draw a mind map of your personal contacts.

ME

What are your contacts in the community you are called to serve?



PRINCIPLE 3

THINK NEXT STEPS

If someone wanted to explore further, what could we offer?



ACTIVITY

Take a scenario below (or come up with your own) and identify a range of possible next steps. Think small, simple and easy for you to offer, and them to take. Remember to think about where they are at, what might be an appropriate next step for them.

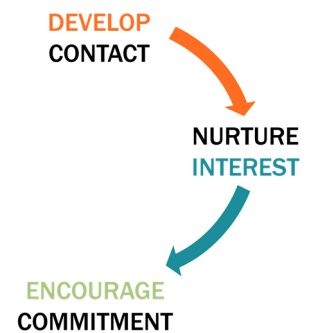
- Christingle service.
- Couple asking for child to be baptized.
- Someone joined church Facebook group.
- Carol service.
- Primary school where doing assemblies.
- Young people at youth group.
- Neighbour who is lonely.
- Colleague at work going through a messy divorce.
- Family grieving loss of wife/mum.
- Couple after their wedding.
- People using the foodbank.
- Customers at church coffee shop (or equivalent).
- Someone attending livestreaming of a service.

PRINCIPLE 4

KEEP THE FOCUS ON THE DIRECTION OF TRAVEL

We want these pathways to be ones that lead people to faith in Christ. Our role as leaders is to:

- Constantly remind people of the why.
- Persistently pray for new births.
- Regularly invite people to follow Jesus.



FOR REFLECTION

What one next step are you going to take as a result of this morning? Please make it simple, doable and attractive.

RESOURCES

THE ONE TO READ

- Imagine Church, Neil Hudson (IVP)

TOP READS

- [How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture](#), James Lawrence (CPAS)
- Everyday Church, Tim Chester (IVP)
- Scattered and Gathered, Neil Hudson (IVP)
- Fruitfulness on the Frontline, Mark Greene (IVP)
- [Talking Jesus Research](#), (HOPE and EA)
- [Everyday Faith](#) (CHP)

OTHER RESOURCES

- For a wide variety of resources, articles and materials go to www.cpas.org.uk/leadingevangelism.
- PCC Tonight, [Leading in Evangelism](#): six sessions to use with your PCC to help shape churches around evangelism.
- [Leading Evangelism Learning Hub](#), a 16 month learning community to embed the ministry of evangelism into your church life.
- [Everyday Faith Portal](#), wide variety of resources and stories to help people live out their faith in everyday lives.



Lead On

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Leading Evangelism Learning Hub

Want to see the ministry of evangelism central to church life rather than on the periphery? Then sign up for our 14 month Hubs for incumbents to attend with others involved in leadership. www.cpas.org.uk/hub.



How to Nurture a Faith Sharing Culture

An exciting and accessible new church resource to help leaders nurture a faith-sharing culture in their church, congregation, fresh expression or church plant. www.cpas.org.uk/faith-sharing.



Venture and Falcon Holidays

CPAS runs around 90 fun-filled holidays for 8-18 year olds each year. The holidays are run by volunteers, and if you are interested in helping on one or know a young person who would benefit from a great holiday with a focus on Jesus visit www.ventures.org.uk.



Making Mission Possible

CPAS enables churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus. We are a registered charity working with individuals, churches and dioceses to resource local churches for mission in the UK and Republic of Ireland. To support our work or find out more, please visit www.cpas.org.uk or contact 0300 123 0780.