



LEADING EVANGELISM

LEARNING HUB

Connect • Model • Order • Mobilise

SESSION 4
MARCH 2024



WELCOME

Welcome to the Leading Evangelism Learning Hub. This is the fourth of eight sessions we will gather for over 15 months. We hope the evening will give you a great opportunity to review where you are up to, reflect on what you are noticing, and refine your plans for the future.

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A Reminder

GUIDELINES FOR OUR HUB

- Learning together.
- Minimise guilt.
- Participate .
- Confidentiality.
- Reality check.
- Next step.

SUGGESTIONS FOR GOOD ZOOM ENGAGEMENT

- **Please participate, don't just observe** 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.

TIMINGS

19.30	Welcome and part 1
20.35	Brief break
20.40	Part 2
21.25	Feedback
21.30	End

Timings are for guidance only, apart from the end time. We will finish by 9.30pm.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

If you haven't yet joined Google classroom please do. You will find there all sorts of resources related to our theme this term, and it is also a place where we can share ideas, discuss things, and ask questions.

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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DWELLING IN THE WORD

LUKE 15:1-10

Dwelling in the Word is a process that many people are using to listen to Scripture, to each other and to God. It's not about sharing information or seeking scholarly answers or even the right answers to the issues raised in the text, but it is about listening well to one another and discerning what God is up to amongst us.

We invite the Holy Spirit in prayer to open our ears, hearts and minds. We listen to the passage read out loud and notice where our attention is drawn – a verse, phrase or single word. We then remain in silence for a minute or two, staying with the place in the passage that stood out for us.

LUKE 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering round to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, 'This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them.'

³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ 'Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, "Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep." ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who do not need to repent.

⁸ 'Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and says, "Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin." ¹⁰ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

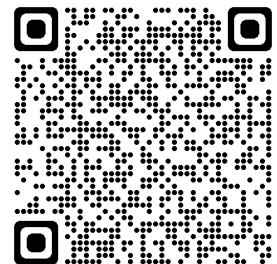
- 1** We each turn to a person in our group. If there is someone you don't know so well engage with them.
- 2** We listen to that person as he or she says what they heard in the passage in a particular verse, phrase or even single word. They may mention something they'd never heard before, something odd or something comforting, or something about which they'd like to find out more about.
- 3** Listen well, because your job will be to report to the rest of your group what your partner has said, not what you yourself said. Some people even take notes to help them focus and remember. If you don't yet know each other well, introduce your partner by name to the group and then share what you heard them say. Each one takes their turn when they are ready to speak.
- 4** If there is time a conversation develops around what God is saying to us today from the themes arising in the whole group. Please ask someone to post your insights to the Jamboard using the link in the Chat function or the QR code on the screen.

Space for Your Reflections on Luke 10:1-12



Core Themes

Use the link in the Chat or the QR code to post your core themes from your group onto the Jamboard. Please post with your Church name first and then your comment.



How to Share Faith

THREE THINGS WE HOLD ON TO

- God is the evangelist.
- Evangelism is a body ministry.
- Gratitude is the best motivation.



SALT CONVERSATIONS

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Colossians 4:2-6

Start a conversation

Ask a question

Listen for where at

Tell stories

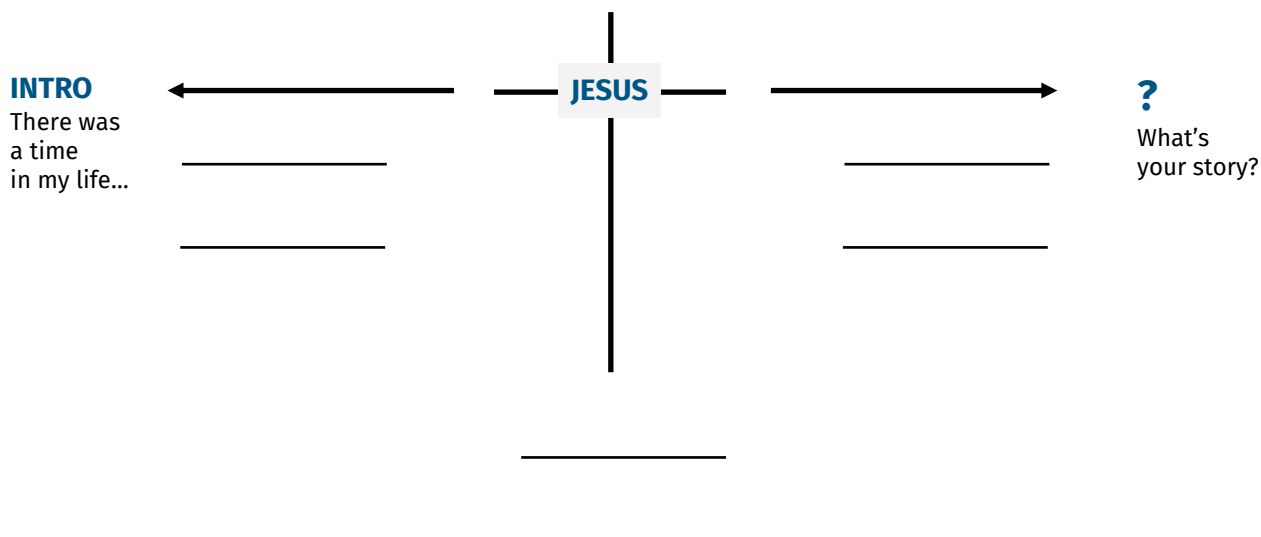
Invoke to take a next step

Tell Stories



EXERCISE

Listen to the 15-second story of someone else and see if you can capture the key points from the story using the graphic below. Then make a note below of anything else it might be helpful to feedback.



How succinct was their story (we're aiming for no more than three minutes)?

If it was too long, what could be cut out (repetition, unnecessary detail)?

How clear was their story?

If it was a little 'fuzzy', what would help it to be clearer (removing hidden assumptions, irrelevance)?

How free of religious jargon was their story?

If it contained jargon, which words would it be good to change (religious language or names of things that someone outside church life wouldn't understand)?

OWN UP

- When we tell the story of what did over the weekend, own up to going to church.
- When we tell the story introducing our self, own up to being a Christian.
- When we tell the story of how we have coped with a trying time, own up to the difference our faith has made.
- When telling our story of how we came to faith, own up to the central part Jesus played.



EXERCISE

Take one of the above scenarios and work together on how you might 'own up' appropriately.

O W N I N G U P

Staying
silent

Going
too far

Invite to Take a Next Step

INVITE TO A CONNECTING EVENT – BUILDS RELATIONSHIPS

- A coffee, drink, online chat.
- Bite to eat, meal round your house.
- Church social event or online gathering.

What other connecting events can you think of in your context?



INVITE TO JOIN YOU IN SERVING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS – BUILDS BELONGING

- Help with a foodbank or night shelter.
- Help with a street clean or garden tidy up.
- Help with launching a recycling project or a campaign for justice.
- Invite on an overseas trip to build a school with your mission partners.

What other ways could people join you in serving the needs of others in your context?

INVITE TO CONSIDER JESUS – BUILDS BELIEF

- Invite them to read a gospel and meet up with them every fortnight to chat about what they are reading.
- Invite them to an enquirers course (for example Christianity Explored or Alpha).
- Invite them to read a book/blog, watch a video, listen to a podcast.
- Invite them to an appropriate service.

What other ways could you invite people to consider Jesus in your context?



EXERCISE

Imagine you were chatting with your pray for five people, what do you think might be an appropriate next step for each of them?

PERSON	WHERE CURRENTLY AT	POSSIBLE NEXT STEP	HOW TO INVITE
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Practise the Practices

Practice 1: Pray for Five

Each time we meet we will take a few minutes to talk about how it is going praying for our five people who as yet aren't disciples of Jesus, and then briefly to pray for them. We hope this is something you will do as a group each time you meet as well. You may like to use the structure below.

- Talk a little about how praying for your five is going? Are you finding it easy or hard? Do you manage to pray regularly or occasionally? What helps you to pray for them? How are you finding the prayer suggestions we offered back on session 1?

- Have you had any opportunities to show or share the faith with any of your five since session 3? With anyone else?

Practice 2: Practise Faith Conversations

- How have those opportunities gone? Using the guidelines for practising faith conversations in the session 3 workbook, talk about what can you learn from them for future opportunities?

- Use one of the suggestions on page 22 of session 3 workbook to practise a faith conversation as a group, working out how you would respond in the particular scenarios you identify.

Next Time You Meet – Review your Action Plan

REVIEW

Remember the three common errors when making an action plan:

1. Trying to do too much too quickly.
2. Not being clear enough about what you are planning to do (what you are going to do, who is going to do them, when they are to be done by).
3. Running ahead of the process (later sessions will cover how to shape an evangelistic culture, creating a plan for evangelism, equipping congregation members to share their faith).

Where are you up to? What progress have you made? How are you doing with the core practices (Pray for Five and Practise Faith Conversations)? How clear are your plans?

REFLECT

1. What are you noticing?
2. What are you struggling with?
3. What questions are you left with?

REFINE YOUR NEXT STEPS

1. What are your next steps?
2. What would you like others to pray for you? Please post to the Padlet board.

BY THE END OF YOUR TIME MAKE SURE...

- You have taken a moment to pray for your five.
- You have identified your next step(s).
- You have identified your next meeting date (ideally every 4-6 weeks).
- That everyone has session 5 in their diary, Saturday 27th April 9.45am-4pm.

