

## - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION -

SERIES: Being Gospel-Ready

# The only thing that can move us

Week one.

### Leaders note: The goals of this session are to

- (a) Encourage members to be honest about their feelings and weaknesses in this area of evangelism. Many feel like failures in the area. We don't need to make them feel worse. Empathise with fears. Thank them for honesty.
- (b) This particular small group session will highlight how a lack of love (on a foundation of what is believed) is the greatest hindrance to evangelism. While there are other hindrances - like fear of what others might think, love can move us beyond fears. The heart of the matter is a matter of the heart!
- (c) You will make a list of some who you want to encourage to consider faith. Future sessions will come back to these lists.

### INTRODUCTION (15 minutes)

- What is something you feel passionate about? (E.g. a cause...). How passionate would you rate yourselves to be on a scale of 1-10?
- On that same scale of 1-10, how passionate would you say you feel about the gospel, and the need for others to hear that message?
- On the same scale, how strong do you feel you are as a witness for Jesus to those around you?  
(Compliment honesty. Empathise with struggles.)

### DISCUSSION

#### Two more introductory questions:

1. (Briefly list items). What do you think are the main hindrances stopping us Christians from being more active in encouraging others toward faith? What do you think is the MAIN hindrance? Would you agree it could be a lack of love (love can motivate us to overcome fears; love can motivate us to get equipped, etc.)?

2. Now, the honest question, what do you think hinders *you*?

*(Giving members time to reflect, please ensure you create an environment of understanding and acceptance, so people will feel able to share honestly - rather than giving what they perceive the 'right' answer to be).*

### Read 2 Corinthians 5:10-6:2 (15 minutes)

3. What do you think Paul means in v11, when he says that the reason he tries to persuade men is because he knows what it is to fear the Lord? Can anyone put that in different words so it makes sense to us all?

*(Note the context of v10. Recognition of eternal realities motivates action in evangelism).*

4. Would you say he was motivated, then, by the fear of people going to hell, or was it by love?

*(If hell is a reality - which the Bible affirms, then these are one and the same thing. Paul says explicitly in verse 14 that it is love that motivated him - as does John 3:16 say of God's actions on our behalf).*

5. What do you think Paul means in v16 when he says he regards no one from a worldly point of view? He then says he once regarded Christ that way. What do you think he means by this?

*(At one time he thought Jesus was a just like any other man. He views all people as they are to God - just as Jesus did when looking on the crowds in Matthew 9:35f, seeing them as 'harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd'.)*

6. How would you summarise Paul's application as found in v20 through to 6:2?

*Note: If helpful, there is a paraphrase of this passage below, plus a one-sentence summary of its message. You could read these in summary of your discussion on the text.*

7. Are there any questions at this point?

### 8. Exercise: (10 minutes)

We are going to do a small exercise now. This will bring direction to our prayer time.

i. Make a list of **a few people you would like to see come to faith**.

ii. Consider and list **possible hindrances**. What might be holding them back from coming to faith? *These are your prayer items, and possible conversation-topics to discuss with them one day!*

iii. Then list their **interests**, and any **practical needs** you know them to have. *These are the 'bridges' across which you could get to know them better so as to show love.*

Name	Possible hindrances (For prayer and conversation)	Interests (for 'bridge building')
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9. While we cannot make any person come to faith, we can encourage and pray. Take turns to share about one of the people you would like to see come to faith (maybe using first names only).

- What do you think might hinder their journey toward faith in Christ?
- What might open a door to a stronger connection with them, and maybe a conversation or two?

### APPLICATION (10 minutes)

1. Do you love these people enough to do something for them? If so, what could you do? How will you create opportunities?

2. As a group, spend time praying for (1) these people, and (2) that God would stir His love in your heart, so you would have the will and courage to act.

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EXTRA [FOR GROUP LEADER]

## 2 Corinthians 5:10 – 6:2

### Passage Paraphrase and Summary

V10 We recognise we will all stand before God at the final judgment

V11 Because of this, we are giving our *lives* to persuading people of the truth of what Christ said and did.

V12-13 Be assured, we are not so passionate, and do not try to influence you and lead you, because of pride. We aren't doing this for our own benefit!

V14 We are trying to persuade all to follow Christ – including you - because love compels us!

We are convinced of the reality of who Christ was, and that He died for all, and that all people therefore *need* to come to know Him.

V16 So we don't look at people with the eyes of the flesh anymore – we try to see them as they really are, as if through in eyes of God.

V17-19 A person who has become a Christian is a new Creation, reconciled to God and forgiven for their sins. (While those who are not reconciled to Christ are lost, and in great need!)

V20 So we see our entire life-mission as being Christ's ambassadors to all who do not know Him.

We encourage you with all your hearts to turn to God.

Christ has died for our sin – please don't take this lightly. Please don't take it for granted. Please don't receive the grace of God in vain.

V2 Give your lives to Him, and to making Him known! Now is the time to do this. Today is the day to begin!

**A note – in its context...** Paul was explaining to the believers a Corinth that his perspective of the need for Christ, and deep feelings of compassion for those without Christ, were the reasons he was so passionate and forthright in his dealings with them. This needed saying because he was more than a bit direct with them at times!

### Summary of a message applicable to all believers from this passage

If we see people as they really are, the love of Christ will compel us to action.

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## - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION -

SERIES: Being Gospel-Ready

### Commissioned to communicate

Week two.

#### Leaders note:

At the beginning of this session the goal is to get members even more open in sharing. Many lack personal confidence as witnesses. When discussion is open and honest we are better able to hear what God would want to say to us each. So getting members to open up is your first goal.

Note also that the practical exercise (B3. In the discussion) is important if lessons taught are to be applied. Please guard your time in the discussion so adequate time is remains for this.

A handout is included below for the members, if not given out already.

#### INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)

**Comment:** Today we're going to talk about the Sunday message we just heard. We're going to talk about how well we know how to communicate the gospel in a clear way.

#### Two questions to start us off:

1. On Sunday our preacher shared of a time when he was stuck for words. Do any of you have a funny incident where you got caught out because you didn't know what to say?

2. Can someone read 1 Peter 3:15-16?

- How many of us could share a clear gospel message now, were a relative or friend to ask what you believe?

**Demonstration:** Would anyone be willing to actually demonstrate now what you might say in just 2-minutes? (If they do, encourage them heaps!)

#### DISCUSSION

##### (A) Authenticity and personal conviction (20 minutes)

**Comment:** Communication is most powerful when it comes from the heart. Authenticity is key. So let's start by discussing why we are Christians:

1. Why are you a Christian?
2. What has convinced you that this belief is true?
3. What difference has God actually made in your life?
4. Why would you want to recommend Christianity to your friends?

##### (B) The Gospel (20 minutes)

###### 1. Revise gospel content (3 minutes)

Revise together what the gospel content is, as summarised in the weekends message

- (Creation - Fall - Redemption through Jesus - Restoration. In addition it is wise to include some personal evidence and to invite a response).
- Have members say these four points out loud together, to aid memorisation.

## 2. Demonstration of gospel sharing (7 minutes)

Have someone demonstrate how they might share the gospel using this framework in response to the question '*So, what do you believe as a Christian?*'

## 3. Practice (10 – 15 minutes)

Break into pairs, and take turns at sharing - in response to the 'seeker' asking the Christian what they believe and/or why.

Note: If someone really doesn't want to take a turn, don't force them.

Note: Because many Christians struggle to communicate the Christian message clearly - and without jargon, practice is important. 'Practice time' isn't something to skip.

## APPLICATION (5-10 minutes)

1. Is anyone willing to make the commitment that, if an opportunity arises this week to share what they believe, or why, that they will choose to take it?
2. Are you willing to join in a prayer that God will create such opportunities with our friends and family?

## Pray

- (1) ...for those you love, such as were listed in small group last week
- (2) ...for each other, that God would help you be disciplined to do what it takes to *actually be ready* to give an answer for your faith at any time

## HANDOUT

# What is the Gospel?

A possible thought outline for the gospel is as follows:

- Creation - Fall - Redemption - Restoration

When communicating, it is wise to

- ...include evidences - like Peter does when preaching in Acts 2 and 3 (personal testimony, fulfilled prophecy, miracles, 'apologetic' reasons for believing in God etc.)
- ...and then to Invite a response.

## (i) CREATION

In the beginning God created everything, and it was good!

Scripture:

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth..."* (Genesis 1:1)

Illustrations:

- God's work in your life
- Things that amaze you, that also convince you that God must exist
  - The miracle of life
  - DNA
  - Miniature machines inside cells
  - The fine tuning of the universe
  - The existence of morality, rationality/freewill, beauty, love, etc, etc.

## (ii) FALL

We have used the free will God gave us to go our own way - choosing wrong instead of right, bringing sin and suffering into the world. Because God is righteousness (perfect), we are separated from Him - both now and beyond this life.

Scriptures:

The Bible says, *"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23). *"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us"* (1 John 1:8).

*"Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin"* (Romans 3:20). Our best efforts cannot attain the needed standard - which is perfection. In Hebrews 9:27 it says, *"...man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment."*

Illustration of sin vs perfection: Imagine you were thirsty and were about to drink a glass of cool, clear water. Then I reach over and put a small bit of sewage into your glass. Would you drink it? Of course not! And, would you be upset? Of course! While the sewage may be a small thing, such an impurity is a big deal to us. In the same way our sin may not seem a big thing to us, but it is a to a perfect God. He is holy, and cannot let anything imperfect into heaven.

Illustration of the justice of judgement: Imagine a judge was ruling on a murder case. The accused admits that he did the murder, but then says sorry. He promises to never do it again, and asks to be let off. How would you react if the judge let him off? Would he be a good judge? In the same way God must see that our wrongs are punished.

## (iii) REDEMPTION

It is at this point that we come to good news for them. Most religions basically agree with the ideas represented above - that spiritual things are real, right and wrong exist as real things also, and we are also somehow 'infected' by a desire to do wrong/be selfish, while we should be doing good/right.

However, the Christian faith brings something unique to the table here - not based in all the things we have to do to get to God. Instead God loves us enough to make a way for us to be 'saved' from the consequences of our wrong-doing (it's about what God did - not what we have to do).

In short, because God is just He must punish our sin, but because God loves us He has provided a way out. The gospel is a message of love. The way God saves us is by providing forgiveness for our sins through Jesus - whose life, death and resurrection were to take the punishment due to us, in our place - so we could be forgiven if we turned to His ways and asked..

Scripture: Romans 6:23 says, *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*



A series from A.T. Consulting, NZ.

Why did God have to give this to us as a gift? It is because we could not gain it for ourselves. Our righteous works could not 'earn' it for us, and so He provided it for us, because of His love!

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). Jesus' death on the cross was to take the punishment for our sin, in our place - and it was all because of love.

*"That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved"* (Romans 10:9). Faith in Jesus is the 'key' by which we receive the gift of forgiveness.

*"Peter replied 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins'"* (Acts 2:38). The decision to follow Jesus involves repenting (turning from our ways to God's ways) and also 'confessing' to (telling) others - as happens when we choose to be baptised (see previous verse), thus letting our choice be known to those around us.

It is also clear from the Bible that Jesus is the *only* Saviour - the only one through whom we can be forgiven, and receive a restored eternal relationship with God (eternal life). *"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'"* (John 14:6).

**Illustration:** Imagine you are in a fire, and have passed out, and someone saves you. Imagining you are drowning and someone saves you. This is the image of what God has done for us.

We don't always realise see the seriousness or consequences of our sin – but God sees them, and has done what is needed to make it possible for us to be saved.

## (iv) RESTORATION

Having turned to God's ways again, God then restores us to the purpose He has for us both in this life (making the world better) and beyond (in heaven).

### Scriptures:

Genesis 1:28-31. God made humans last. Everything else in this creation was made as a gift and home for us. Then God very clearly gave us 'dominion' / rulership over the earth, giving us the responsibility of looking after it.

Matthew 6:10 *"Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."*

Even in the Lord's prayer we see stated God's desire that we work to make earth perfect again, as heaven is perfect.

Throughout the Bible God's desire for justice on earth, equality, care for the poor, honesty and integrity - and much more, are abundantly clear. God's people are to use their gifts, abilities, experiences, opportunities and resources to make earth a better place - until God eventually comes and completes the job.

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### A comment on how do might best explain this message in our culture?

If we say *'Come to Jesus and you will have eternal life'*, some people might 'pray the prayer' to get to heaven - without understanding the commitment that is required (repentance). IN contrast if we say *"Come to Jesus and you will be able to being an actual relationship with God Himself"* - people know that relationships require commitment. So, people understand the need for repentance (turning / changing) better. It is easy then to explain that this restored relationship brings a restoration to our purpose on this earth, as that we get to be with God beyond this life too - because we are God's friends (eternal life).

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### HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST SUMMARISED [FOR EASE OF MEMORY]□

- A – Admit you are a sinner. Ask for forgiveness.
- B – Believe in Jesus as your Saviour (the only one who can save you)
- C – Commit to follow Jesus as your Lord (your boss, teacher, leader)

### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT: A.B.C. [FOR EASE OF MEMORY]

Dear Lord Jesus, I admit I am a sinner [Admit] and ask for Your forgiveness [Ask]. I believe that You died for my sins [Believe] - thank you! I give the remainder of my life to you [Commit]. Help me to learn more about what you are like, and to serve you well with my life. Amen.

### FOUR HABITS OF CHRISTIANS [NEXT STEPS FOR NEW BELIEVERS]

1. **Read the Bible:** We read the Bible to understand what God is like and how He wants us to live.
2. **Pray to God:** We talk to God in prayer as our friend and master.
3. **Find Christian friends:** We attend a Church (spend time with a Christian group) to learn about God from others and to have Christian friends so we can encourage each other to love and serve God well with our lives.
4. **Share and serve:** We then show and share of God's love through how we live, and what we say - because this is what Christian life truly looks like!





**- SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION -**  
**Hope Project Equipping series: Making Christ known**

## **How to stand tall**

### **Week three**

#### **Leader's note:**

The goals of this session are (a) to reinforce learning about the gospel from last week, (b) to reinforce learning from the weekend's message about how love motivated Jesus to radical boldness, (c) to revise the simple gospel drawing, because it is easy to remember and use (and can help us share the gospel clearly even when not drawing it by simply remember it).

#### **INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)**

- Testimony: Did anyone have an opportunity to talk about faith / encourage someone toward faith this week?
- Discussion openers: What is one of the boldest things you have ever done?
- On a scale of 1-10, how bold would you consider yourself, and why?

#### **DISCUSSION**

##### **1. Revision: (15 minutes)**

- a. Revise the content of the gospel:  
*Creation - Fall - Redemption (through Jesus) - Restoration. (1min)*
- b. Could someone explain this message in fuller sentences to help us understand the points? (If so they would have just demonstrated how the message could be explained) (4mins) Thanks!

##### **2. Discussion on boldness (10 minutes – keep this section brief)**

**Read: Mark 11:15-18** (Possibly the text of the sermon on Sunday).

- a. At what point in Jesus' ministry did this take place.  
*(The start of the last week / 'passion week', immediately following the triumphant entry.)*
- b. What were the people buying and selling in the temple, and for what purpose? *(See Matthew 21:12 and John 2:14.)*
- c. To revise, where exactly was this taking place? *(Note v17 quoted from Is 56:7).*
- d. So, for what reasons might Jesus have been angry? *(1. Money making in the temple, with a dishonest or manipulative gain taking place in the name of 'worship'. 2. The use of the court of the Gentiles for this, thus leaving no place for the Gentiles to come and worship God).*
- e. Do you think that dishonest gain in the temple courts would anger Jesus the most – OR the exclusion of the Gentiles from being able to worship God at His temple? / What was it that made Jesus so outrageously bold on this occasion – creating havoc in the temple?

#### **To apply the lessons:**

- Each share about a time when you were bold in confronting another person on something you felt they did wrong (do not share specific details, so others are not criticized/maligned).

What caused you to overcome any fear of their reactions? *(The point we note is that we are all capable of being bold if we have reason to do so)*

### 3. APPLICATION: Would you be willing to learn how to share the gospel?

#### 3a. Watch a video together (4.30mins):

'How to share the gospel' at [www.alltogether.co.nz/equipping-videos](http://www.alltogether.co.nz/equipping-videos) (Some may have watched this at Church on Sunday also).

#### 3b. Demonstration. (5mins)

Have someone demonstrate how to share the gospel message clearly and concisely using the gospel drawing (or whatever 'method'/tool your pastors prefers).

#### 3c. Practice in pairs - with a 3 minute time-limit for the 'gospel explanation' (10 minutes)

**Comment:** In conversation the 'gospel' part need only be brief (2-3 minutes) - because other things will be discussed and said also - possibly including our own stories about what convinced us of this message etc.

### 4. Wrap up.

Read 1 Peter 3.15 together.

- If we are prepared God could use us, correct?
- Over the next 6 months we're going to revise this a few times.
- Hopefully we could all become equipped to be able to share the Christian message clearly at any point in time.

**Challenge:** This week, would you intentionally initiate a conversation by asking other people their views about something spiritual - taking an interest; and then - if and when you see an opportunity, be bold enough to ask if you could share briefly what Christians think - and share the gospel?

- (To note it: the gospel would usually be shared in the context of a conversation. So, we need to engage conversations. Only then will we find the opportunities).

### Close in prayer.

...including for those you love who you such in small group two weeks ago.

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### NOTE TO LEADER:

Please plan 3 or 4 times in the rest of the year during which you will give 15 minutes of your group time to repeat the above revision as at 3a, b and c.

- By doing this, you could put this teaching into *long-term memory*. That would be a significant accomplishment - and especially so if even just one member went on to share the gospel as a result, and saw one more person come to faith in Jesus!

## - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION -

SERIES: Being Gospel-Ready

### How to stand tall together

Week four

#### Leader's note:

This session aims to revise what has been learnt, and then to help the group make a practical plan that will *help this focus on outreach to be sustained a little longer*. Many will forget what they have learnt quickly. If we fail to plan, we plan to fail!

As the leader, please therefore bring your small group planning calendar, as well as the dates of any events coming up in your Church (which you could invite friends to).

#### INTRODUCTION

1. Testimonies: did anyone have a chance to talk about spiritual things with someone? At the end of last week we were going to go out to initiate conversations, to practice the skills. Did anyone do this? How did it go?
2. How have you found the series? How has it been helpful?

#### (A) REVISION

Today we are going to focus primarily on revision. (How well do you think you will do?)

##### 1. Re the core of the Christian message (10mins)

- What is the basic gospel content
  1. and what is meant by each point? (Ask for an explanation)
  2. Can anyone think of a Bible verse for each point?
  3. Can anyone think of an illustration for (i) why we might need forgiveness, (ii) and why God's judgement is just?

##### 2. Re knowing how to share it simply at any time (15mins)

- Can anyone remember/show us the basic gospel drawing? (5min)
- Practice this in pairs (10mins)
- Assess: Was the whole gospel communicated simply. and in just 2-3 minutes within the conversation? Was an invitation to make a response given, if appropriate?

#### (B) IDENTIFYING OTHER AREAS (RELATED TO OUTREACH) IN WHICH YOU COULD LEARN AS A GROUP

Here are 4 simple survey questions to see where we might next focus on learning, to become better at reaching out [Ask these questions in quick succession – asking for a show of hands]

1. How many of you feel that you could now share the gospel clearly, were an opportunity to arise?
2. How many think you might need better conversational skills - because you actually struggle to get relaxed two-way conversations about spiritual things going with non-Church people?
3. How many feel you feel that you really would need to be part of a like-minded team if you were ever to sustain your focus and efforts in outreach?
4. How many of you are put off from engaging in spiritual conversations because you feel you would struggle to answer questions about things like hell and judgment and Jesus as the only way?

Comment: Thanks for that feedback. While we will revise what we learnt in this series later this year (so it goes into long-term memory), there other areas here we could look at in future. Thank you!

## (C) FINDING YOUR IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

(Personal and group planning)

LEADER: Give members a copy of the article, “**10 ways to share faith – 8 of which do not involve words**”, to read and reflect upon before doing the below planning exercise.

- The purpose is to help them see a range of smaller steps they could take.

### To apply this...

i. Note when your next Church-wide outreach events or services might be

- *Who could you invite? When could you invite them? Is there anything you could do that might make inviting them easier? (What about a meal before or afterwards with your small group?)*

ii. What could you do as a small group in the next 6 months that non-believing friends could join you for?

- The goal here is to socialise with each others friends, to help those friends to become comfortable in a Christian group - so they might feel free one day to consider some spiritual questions - while authentically caring for them also!
- As friendships and trust develop, they could be invited to other things, and conversations can take place naturally.

iii. What could you do individually in the next 3 to 6 months to (a) get to know your friends better and (b) engage a conversation about faith-things?

### Pray

- ...for those you love, like those listed in your discussion two weeks ago.
- ...for your group, to be able to sustain a healthy outreaching focus.
- ...for each other, that you will individually, and as a team, become more effective in serving your mission.

## 10 ways to share your faith 8 of which don't involve words.

By Dave Mann, summarised from [http://www.shininglights.co/mobtraining-10\\_ways\\_to\\_share\\_faith.html](http://www.shininglights.co/mobtraining-10_ways_to_share_faith.html)

When God called us to be His witnesses He did not call us to have to change our personalities at the same time! While we want members to be able to share the faith for themselves, it's just a reality that some will remain too timid to do this. But this doesn't mean they can't do it by some other means!

### Here are ten ways your members could share their faith!

#### 1. Share the gospel yourself, with evidences to support

This is the most basic and obvious way: We talk with people. Ideally all believers should be equipped with simple ways to share their beliefs. But what if you are really timid? What else could you do?

#### 2. Share a well-crafted testimony

Telling personal stories is always easier than telling what might feel like a more 'formal' (less natural) message. We all have a faith-story. These (a) encourage faith, and (b) if we tell about how we came to faith we can indirectly share the gospel too.

#### 3. Invitation to small group event where someone else shares

Imagine your small group has a Christmas BBQ, and you invite a few friends. Someone could share what Christmas means to them just before dessert....and, just like that, the Christian message is shared (and those who invited their friends didn't even need to talk)..

#### 4. Invitation to Church or para-church event

Then they hear that their pastor is going to preach a clear gospel message at Christmas – so they invite all their family to the service before the family gather for Sunday lunch... and again, without needing to say it themselves, the message is communicated (...after which you ask your friends what they thought about it, and why).

#### 5. A tract

The Church then gives out a tract as a part of a small welcome pack at that event. The visiting friend reads it at home, and hear the message yet again, but through a different media...

(Note: Some tracts are 'old school' - but some good newer ones do exist. Look around for them - then buy a supply for yourself!).

#### 6. A booklet

Where a 'tract' can share only a very short thought, a booklet can share more of a message - like an article (but easier to read). Our friends might have particular doubts or questions about the Christian faith. We can find booklets that address these, and can also give away really good booklets with Christmas cards.

In New Zealand, 3 booklets were gifted to nearly every home in 2014 to 2016, and church people personally gave away more than 200,000 additional copies of each of these booklets. When a resource is good, it's not so embarrassing to give away!

## 7. A book

When my wife and I got married, we shared our faith at the wedding. We gave gift packs to our guests, which included:

- A book (*The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren)
- A DVD (*7 Miracles and a Martyr* by Reinhard Bonnke)
- A 'magazine' (*Jesus* by Campus Crusade for Christ Asia).

One of my wife's friends came to faith a month or so after the wedding because of this pack!

## 8. A DVD

There are many Christian DVDs on many different topics, for example, by creation.com, Lee Strobel, Reinhard Bonnke - and many others.

## 9. A Sunday morning Christian TV program

Some of our NZ Sunday TV programs are really good! Have you noticed this also?

## 10. A website

Check out [www.lookingforgod.com](http://www.lookingforgod.com) or [www.jesus.net](http://www.jesus.net) or [www.10daychallenge.co.nz](http://www.10daychallenge.co.nz).

Many such websites exist - and the social media ministry YesHels have a '5 day challenge' that can train you how to reach out online utilising social media! It's amazing!

Even posting a good video on FaceBook at Christmas and Easter could result in another person (or many) hearing and considering something of the Christian message.

The above show a variety of ways we could be active at outreach. Is there something you could do for those you love?

## An encouraging story

Catherine has been a secretary in a Church for 25 years. She's cheerful, but sometimes quiet. She's not the kind of person to share her faith too directly with people, but she prays, loves and encourages! Her dad died around the year 2000, and this 'woke her up' in terms of her need to share her faith by one means or another. Since then she has prayed for relatives (siblings, and her many nieces and nephews), inviting them to outreaches in her Church or small group that she felt could be relevant. Also, she was born in a leap year, so she holds a birthday party every 4 years. Each time she invites a friend or pastor to come share a devotion (the gospel). **As a result of these efforts – extending invitations with love and encouragement, she saw 10 relatives come to faith in the those 10 years!**

When we work as a part of a wider TEAM, more is possible than when we just work by ourselves.