

Opening up ways to simply share Jesus

6.30-8.30pm Thursdays 17 & 24 October

Andrew Hargreaves

Mission Development Officer

Deputy Head of Mission, Discipleship & Ministry

St Paul's Barton



Simply Sharing Jesus hopes

- Why mission & evangelism?
- Confidence and understanding of who God is and what He's done for us
- Confidence in my own faith and how God is at work in my life
- Confidence in telling my story and God's story
- How I can be an ambassador for Christ in my communities
- Developing a vision for my role in a personal, group & church witness plan

Knowing where I'm coming from tonight

Simply sharing Jesus - Evangelism is part of mission – Jesus/God talk

Oxford dictionary: The spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness.

The processes whereby people become disciples of Jesus Christ – Robert Warren

Knowing where I'm coming from tonight

Missiologist David Bosch

‘Evangelism is the core, heart and centre of mission; it consists in the proclamation of salvation in Christ to non-believers in announcing forgiveness of sins, calling people to repentance and faith in Christ, inviting them to become living members of Christ’s earthly community and to begin a life in the power of the Holy Spirit’

St Paul’s Barton



The need for Evangelism - Some stats

- 9,771 & 1.29
- 755,000
- 15,512 & 2.05
- 14, 46 & 40
- 855,000 & 1.57%
- Church attendance has declined from 6,484,300 to 3,081,500 from 1980-2015 in the UK (equivalent to a decline from 11.8% to 5.0% of the population – England is 4.7%)

St Paul's Barton



Reasons to speak of Jesus:

1. Out of joy & relationship

‘Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have’

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.”

St Paul’s Barton

2. Out of command - Matthew 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

3. Out of consequence

But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. Matt 10:33

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone speaking to them?

Romans 10:14

3. Out of consequence

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. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

John 3:16-18

St Paul's Barton



Learning from the Gospels & Acts

Woman at the well

John 4

Sending out of the 72

Luke 10: 1-20

Emmaus Road

Luke 24:13-35

Peter addresses the crowd at Pentecost

Acts 2: 14-41

Paul at the Areopagus

Acts 17

Identify 5 key lessons from the passage that we can translate for today

Woman at the Well

Let's learn from an expert!

- Everyday place - Where are your frontlines?
- Cross a boundary - Who will you include that you have discounted?
- Jesus Talk - (Not church)
- Spiritual Gifts - Whose strength – yours or the Spirit?
- Process - Where are your friends and contacts on the journey?
- One at a time - Know your story - Relationship can unlock a town

St Paul's Barton



Some encouragement....

- 67% of people know a practising Christian and this is a positive experience for them (only 1% know a church leader)
- 1 in 5 adults would welcome a conversation about Jesus and would like to know more (1 in 6 YP)
- 60% of people think he was a real person
- 21% think he was God in human form
- 43% of people believe in the resurrection of Jesus



Dave Male – Director of Evangelism & Discipleship for the C of E

- *The Word's Out*

It's not what we know....

- **It's the one we know**
- **It's the love we experience**
- **It's who you know (and where you are!)**
- **It's why you are here now**
- **It's who you are**
- **It's who you are with**

St Paul's Barton

It's not what we know.... It's the one we know

- **It's God who is at work in our world today, by His Holy Spirit**
- **He partners with us**
- **He's active as the sending God – get alert, be intentional, join in – eyes up and around!**
- **We don't have to engineer – it's more about our attitude and heart**

It's not what we know.... **It's the love we experience**

- **'You are my child, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased'** (Mark 1:11)
- **Do you know this – how's your heart connection?**
- **How's God at work in your life at the moment – Shepherd?** Answer to prayer? Healing? Changing your character? Working in your community or

St Paul's Family Barton



Can you share a way in
which God is currently at
work in your life?

Last time you
did this?

Any encouragements or
learning?

What are the
barriers to
doing this?



Confidence

Knowing
God

Desire

Barriers

Opportunity

It's not what we know.... **It's who you know (and where you are!)**

- **Let's think together about some scenes from Jesus life**
- **Where?**
- **Who?**
- **How?**

Frontlines

Where are your 5 frontlines and who are the people you meet there?



St Paul's Barton

What would be helpful
for you for next week?

- Ppts and handouts

Next week
6.30-8.30pm
Thursday 24th
October

St Paul's Barton

