

HANDOUT 1

Invite volunteers to read out these mini-dramas (3 mins)

Scenario 1. – An elderly woman is struggling to climb over a stile as part of a conservation group walk. She says: “Don’t get old, life does get difficult.” The group leader: replies: “But the alternative is worse!”

Scenario 2. – You are buying a newspaper in the supermarket early one Saturday morning.

Shop assistant: I don’t know how you can bear to read all that stuff – the world is in such a mess!

Scenario 3. – You are in a queue with a basketful of Christmas shopping. The person ahead of you turns round and says: “I don’t know why we do it, do you?”

Reflect on the dramas.

What would you have said in those circumstances? (5 mins)

All those scenarios were opportunities for faith sharing – not for getting the Bible out or preaching a full sermon but opportunities to plant a seed of faith in someone’s life. Those words may be one link in a chain, which in due course leads someone to faith in Christ.

So, let's have a go (8 mins)

In pairs, one of you makes the first statement on the list, and the other tries to say something about faith as a response. Then change over and try out the second statement on the card, and so on.

Statements:

What did you do at the weekend?

Have you always been religious?

What's your star sign?

Why do we make such a fuss about Christmas?

The thought of death terrifies me.

Why do such bad things happen in the world?

How am I going to cope without my husband?

Aren't you worried about bringing children up in today's world?

I'm so worried about my teenager going off to college.

If there is time:

Can you think of other typical statements / comments made by people you know?

How might you respond?
