



# Moving beyond contact events

Developing a coherent evangelism strategy

### Why do we use 'contact events'?

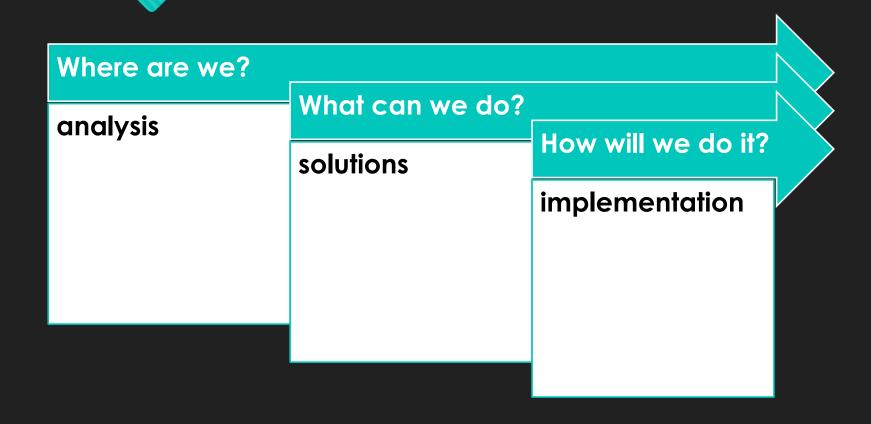


- They can be attractive
- They can be user friendly
- They are not difficult to put on
- They are very flexible
- They are limited, measurable & effective

### What are the limits of 'contact events'

- OThey are often a 'one off'
- OThey are too impersonal
- OThey do not develop deep and trusting relationships
- OThey do not allow for quality discipleship
- OThey can actually mask real evangelism

### Asking honest questions



### What are the big questions?

- O Who has become a disciple in the past year?
- O What kind of people are now following?
- O What maturity do we see in their lives?
- O Do these disciples make disciples?

### Going anywhere involves change!

#### Change of mind-set

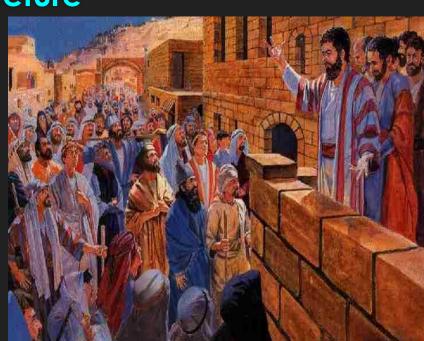
- Evangelism is for church - we are the church
- O Evangelism is not limited to 'activities'
- O The gospel cannot be delivered by 'cold calling'

#### Change of habits

- O Avoid 'building dependence'
- O Use the 'where you are' more than the 'where you want to be'
- Practice quality not efficiency

## Learning lessons...from the early church

- O Few in number
- O Little wealth, education or power
- O Lacked organisational structure
- O No 'facilities'
- Often on the run
- O No evangelism resources
- Opposition from all angles



## Learning lessons... from the early church

- Everyone was involved (Ac.8:4)
- The gospel flowed out (Ac.8:4)
- Every space was made sacred (Ac.8:5-25)
- O Spiritual confidence in a hostile world (Ac.4:23-31)
- They presented a gospel devoid of religious pomp and ceremony
- Relationship and Spiritually rich environment (Ac.2:42-47)
- They preached a radical message that impacted every aspect of their lives (Ac.4:32-37)
- There was minimal emphasis on the institution of the church and significant emphasis on the community of church

## Taking steps in the right direction

- O Motivate, Train & Equip
- O Develop 'gospel' focussed lives
- O Adopt a people centeredness not a programme centeredness



## Taking steps in the right direction

- OMake all church experience accessible not just 'special events'
- O Grow a 'share and prayer' culture
- O Nurture spiritual life in the context of the every day



## Taking steps in the right direction

- O Focus heavily on relationship building events
- O Making your home the front line

