



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'

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

Asking honest questions

Where are we?

analysis

What can we do?

solutions

How will we do it?

implementation

What are the big questions?

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

Going anywhere involves change!

Change of mind-set

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

Change of habits

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

Learning lessons...from the early church

- Few in number
- Little wealth, education or power
- Lacked organisational structure
- No 'facilities'
- Often on the run
- 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)**
- **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

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



Taking steps in the right direction

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



Taking steps in the right direction

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

