

## 1 DNA 6 Share our hope 2 (Value)

Do you remember those moments when the reality of who Jesus is burned brightly in our lives? It may be at your conversion, or sometime after that. And do you remember times when we have been dull? Well evangelism depends upon how brightly Jesus is a current reality in our life. 1 Peter 2:15-16 says that evangelism doesn't necessary mean just talking a lot about Jesus. Ephesians 4 says it is clear that evangelist's equip the church to maturity and helps us all share about Jesus. This can be a slight difference in what we think about evangelism - it's not just a role for one – it is relational – it relates to everyone. In 1 Peter 3 'have no fear ... in your heart ...Jesus is holy'. **Evangelism is less about what we do and more to do with who we are.**

### 1.1 Heart posture

- **Must start with a heart for Christ**, not a desire to win an argument or grow our numbers. Compassion and empathy can get lost. Do it with gentleness and respect. Loving others includes hard facts presented in love. Witness just tells his story out of real experience.
- **There is such power in a story** and stories are so important even now. People are persuaded more by a story than by a fact. Compelling stories overflow with meaning and are so much better than trying to present and learn arguments,
- **Evangelism is inviting people into our experience our story.** The bible is a great story. Invitation is a key word - come and see is a really free and positive call. Not keeping it to ourselves – the call to come and see is an invite. When I lack evangelistic motivation it's because my relationship has waned. The more time I spend in the Lord contemplating the story of Jesus the faster I come to see His glory. This ignites my passion in my hearts to say - Come and See.
- **Heart posture is one of honouring Jesus**

### 1.2 Life-style

- **Always be ready.** Not just through arranged appointments. This takes years of consistent work. We are sometimes sowing and sometimes reaping. Farmer sows seeds everywhere – scatters seeds everywhere. We are not responsible for the growth – but we can tender the seeds through prayer.
- **Talking to others about answers to prayer can be a big witness** – little and big.
- **A countenance of peace and security in times of travail can be a witness.**
- **Always be prepared to have a chat and live Jesus out loud** – telling a story and inviting people into the big story of Jesus.
- **Neighbours are people not projects** but they can be a rich field for sowing and reaping. Street parties, WhatsApp support groups, barbeques, invites at Christmas are all opportunities for us to show love with our neighbours and build relationships.
- **Need to be patient and do this over a long term.** There have been examples of people who have come to give their life to Jesus because they have desired what they saw in the Christians they have met with . I want what you have – is a great and real response to the invitation to Come and See.
- **Not for experts** – there is a grace for you to do it your way – God does all the hard work, Mission is not on pause – people are still lost – invite people to meet Jesus. Making disciples – mission has not stopped nor changed.