

Additional activities

1. Read the following verses aloud and give the group a few moments to think about them.

'You are like salt for everyone on earth. But if salt no longer tastes like salt, how can it make food salty? All it is good for is to be thrown out and walked on.

'You are like light for the whole world. A city built on top of a hill cannot be hidden, and no-one would light a lamp and put it under a clay pot! A lamp is placed on a lampstand, where it can give light to everyone in the house. Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do, and will praise your father in heaven.'

(Matthew 5:13-16 Poverty and Justice Bible)

What does this passage tell you about evangelism?

2. In the film, one of the ministers talks about identifying a possible target congregation for his church and how the church could go about achieving that target. What would be the target congregation for your church? What are the ways you use to would reach out to those people?

3. Ask the group members about the hymns which they think best describes the meaning of evangelism.

4. 'My great desire is to see a new chapter of evangelism ... full of enthusiasm, joy, generosity, bravery and unlimited love.'

Discuss this quote from Pope Francis.

Union of Welsh Independents *Y Ffordd/The Way*



Evangelism

Year 3, Part 2

Summer 2019

How to use the material

The film has four chapters, and we suggest that you divide the film as is appropriate for your group and the number of sessions you intend holding. The questions for each chapter can be found on pages 2 and 3, but please consider any other questions which you think might appeal to your group.

Chapter 1: *What is evangelism?*

Chapter 2: *Evangelism in Wales today*

Chapter 3: *The challenges of evangelism*

Chapter 4: *Means of evangelizing*

Page 4 of this leaflet contains some additional material to use in your sessions. Before concluding each session, please allow time to discuss the following question:

What can we do as a church, following this discussion?

Questions for discussion

Chapter 1: What is evangelism?

1. What is 'the good news' that the church has to share?
2. If someone asked you what does Jesus Christ mean for you, how would you answer?
3. Can you think of a recent example where your church took the gospel out into the community?
4. Does the life and worship of your church succeed in meeting people where they are?
5. Would you agree that there is a reticence to speak about Jesus outside the church? What is the reason for this?
6. How could our lives present Jesus to others?

Chapter 2: Evangelism in Wales today

1. What value is there in having a Christian presence e.g. Sunday School Council/CYTŪN at a National event? Does having a presence equate to evangelism or does it need something more than just a presence?
2. 'There is a generation growing up in Wales that knows very little about Christianity.' Do you agree? Who or what is responsible?
3. Would you agree that some forms of evangelism are harmful and depend on creating fear? How can we evangelize with love and by respecting other people's views?
4. Should churches evangelize in a multi-faith society?
5. Can you think of examples when a personal contact became an opportunity for you to share your faith?

6. Has your church ever held secular or non-religious events as a means of presenting the Christian faith? How successful were they?

2

Chapter 3: The challenges of evangelism

1. What is the greatest challenge facing evangelism in Wales today?
2. 'We need to make people feel comfortable in our company?' To what extent is this true about your church events? Do you think, for example, that people who don't usually go to church would feel comfortable in your church's Sunday service?
3. Has anyone ever asked you why you are a Christian? How did you respond? If you have never been asked why do you think that is?
4. How do people in your community/town/village see your church?
5. Has your church ever shown clearly what it stands for? If so, how did the community respond?
6. Is it a lack of faith in God that is responsible for an unwillingness to evangelize?

Chapter 4: Means of evangelizing

1. Has your church ever ministered to the needs of people who were marginalised? What did you learn from the experience?
2. How important is it to share experiences? Do you think that the worship in your church allows this to happen successfully?

3. How does your church show Christ's love in action?
4. 'Bad things will happen but faith in God and Jesus help us to understand them.' Would you agree?
5. It is often said that people outside the church have difficulty in understanding what the church is saying? Who is at fault for this?
6. 'Not having a building has allowed us to be church in a different way.' In what ways can buildings be a barrier to evangelism?
7. Does the worship in your church help you to better understand the question, 'Who is God for me?'