



REACH THE WORLD





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WHAT'S INSIDE

This study explores why we seek to reach the world through the workplace with the good news of Jesus by prayerfully seeking to help people meet Jesus in the pages of the Bible.

HOW TO USE THESE STUDIES



These EPT studies are short modules to help workers think more deeply about different areas of your workplace witness. They are designed to be used in Evangelistic Prayer Teams (EPTs), but can also be used in any small group setting.

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REACH THE WORLD THROUGH THE WORKPLACE

How would you reach our world with the good news about Jesus?

BIG IDEA

As we endeavour to reach the world through the workplace with the good news of Jesus, we aim to do this by prayerfully seeking to see 1000 people across Australia meeting Jesus in the pages of the Bible.



From the Bible

How do we come to a saving faith?

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes... **Romans 1:16**

...faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. **Romans 10:17**

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. **Titus 3:4-7**



Key Truths

There are many ways that we could reach the world through the workplace, so why do we seek to do so through reading the Bible one-to-one or in small groups? There are 3 reasons:

1. Theological

We know that God works to build his kingdom, by his life-saving word, through his life-giving Spirit. While God may speak in many different ways, we know he has spoken once for all in his Son, Jesus Christ, the Word of God. We have access to Jesus as we read the Bible and God's Spirit enlightens our minds and hearts to the call of the Gospel.

2. Culturally

As Baby Boomers retire, gone is the age where workers trust clergy or theological experts for matters of spiritual importance. Gen X and Y tend to look to practitioners and peers (respectively) for spiritual matters¹. They want to see that the Christian life works, and they prefer to listen to people they trust, rather than experts they no longer regard. Additionally, fewer people have read the Bible or are familiar with biblical concepts; people are starting further back than ever before – they don't necessarily know what they don't know about God.

3. Relationally

We have been thinking about our relationships in terms of the Coffee – Dinner – Gospel. Some people have a surface level relationship with us (Coffee), some people we're getting to know more personally (Dinner), and others we know at a very deep level – talking about the very things of God (Gospel). Relationally, inviting someone to read the Bible with us is a bit like asking someone out on a first date, whereas inviting someone to church is the relational equivalent of inviting that same person to meet the extended family at a reunion on the weekend!

Consider Rico Tice's words:

The days when you could go from zero to the gospel in a single conversation are not the norm—keep praying for it, but don't be discouraged by it not happening. [...] Research suggests that when people put their faith in Christ, on average it's taken two years from the point

¹ mccrindle.com.au/insights/blog/generation-next-meet-gen-z-alphas/

when they came into meaningful contact with a Christian who witnessed to them—and that time period is growing. Witnessing is a long-term commitment to invest in a relationship, to pray tirelessly, and to speak the gospel over and over again, patiently and persistently. It is a journey of gospel conversations. It really does take effort.

And

It's harder and harder to take people to hear the Bible taught; you need to take the Bible to them. People who would never consider stepping into a church will feel far less threatened reading and talking about the Bible with a friend.

Honest Evangelism, 2015, p87-88

Thoughts? Questions?



Application

Increasingly, instead of trying to find that knock-out argument, the perfect event, or amazing book to recommend, we're aiming to invite our colleagues to meet Jesus as they read a Gospel for themselves with us. We're finding that increasingly people aren't prepared to consider the bigger questions of life upfront. Instead, after reading the Bible for some time, that's when the questions start flowing and the gospel starts to make more sense. Who could you invite to read a Gospel with you?



Prayer

Take some time to write down three names of people you would like to invite to read through a Gospel with you – perhaps you could put them into an app like PrayerMate or the EPT app.

Share and pray for opportunities to read the Bible with those people.

Remember as you pray:



Coffee



Dinner



Gospel