

How to invite a friend to a Christian event in the best possible way

A common strategy in evangelism is to invite someone to an outreach event. But what are you like as an inviter? Could you do better? And even if your friend comes along, does it lead anywhere? Here are 3 Ps to help you be a better inviter.

1. Put yourself in their shoes

- a. Think What would persuade you to go to an event organised by a muslim or an atheist friend?
- b. A **personal invitation** (face to face or a phone call) is harder to say “no” to.
- c. My **fears allayed**. Knowing I’m not going to be ‘cornered’ or embarrassed.
- d. Demeanour of the inviter:
 - i. **Relaxed and calm**.
 - ii. **Confident and enthusiastic**.



2. Prepare well

- a. Write down a **list of people** you could invite. Think: who would enjoy hearing this topic? But also stretch yourself and don’t prejudge who will accept.
- b. Know exactly what you’re inviting them to. **Topic, speaker, format**. What will the speaker say?
- c. Write down the **selling points** ie. What might your friend enjoy about coming to the event? Eg. nice lunch, network, learn about .., help them with .. I’d really like you to.
- d. If your invitation is accepted, **remind** your guest on the day of the event.
- e. Have a **backup plan** ready in case they can’t come, e.g. “What about we have lunch and I’ll give you a summary?” “Can I send you a link to the video of the talk?”
- f. Work out a good **next step** to offer if they seem interested to know more after the event. What are the ‘selling points’ for this next step?

3. Pray

- a. For yourself, that God might give you:
 - i. **Courage** to get on the phone and do it. Not procrastinate.
 - ii. **Love**. For Jesus’ glory and that you will act in the best interests of your non Christian friends despite your fears. Also that you would ask them in a loving way.
 - iii. **Wisdom**. That you will know the best way to ask each friend given who they are. Ie. which selling points / best angle to emphasise for each friend.
- b. For your non Christian friend(s), that God might cause them to:
 - i. **Say “yes”** to your invitation and actually **turn up** to the event.
 - ii. Attend the event with **open ears** and an **open heart**.
 - iii. **Be interested to find out more** about Jesus and Christianity and take a ‘next step’.

Tools for one to one Bible reading

- [The Word one to one](#) (John’s gospel with study notes)
- [The Swedish method](#) (use with Mark’s gospel)