

Conversation Hour – Training

Ed Francis

We're going to be doing some training for Conversation Hour now. Before Cath Semple runs us through that, I wanted to say a few things.

Firstly, let me talk about the **Biblical principles** behind talking with strangers about God – walk up evangelism – doorknocking – whatever form it takes and whatever we want to call it.

- Paul writes in Rom 1 that the gospel is the power of God for salvation.
- 1 Tim 5 says that God wants all people to be saved
- Rom 10 asks the question: how will they hear unless they are told?
- We know that God wants all people to be saved, but we don't know whom he has chosen to be saved. So we talk with as many people as possible about the gospel and ask God to save some.
- so the whole thing must be covered with prayer – asking God to change people's hearts and minds.

Now here are some quick **practical observations**:

- often people think of it as scary
- What are some other ones?
- for some, they worry that it will be a turn-off against Christianity
- my Mum always taught me not to talk with strangers
- Most people find that although the thought of stranger evangelism is scary, once they've been out there and done it, they reckon it's one of the best parts of mission.

Ok, with those out of the way, here's the **strategy** of what we're wanting to do:

- we want everyone to be trained in how to have conversations about Jesus – and to have opportunities for putting that training into practice
- for doorknocking, we've paired up someone who's more experienced with someone who's less experienced
- we're wanting people in Annandale to hear the good news about Jesus – and so we're going into parks, to people's houses and to the streets just out here at the intersection

Here's some more **detail**:

- Craig Schwarze is the point person for out here on the conversation stall – out on the intersection of Johnston and Booth Sts. Craig will explain what to do when you get out there.
- For the parks, we've marked on the maps where a few parks are. You can try any of them, but probably the most popular will be down the road at Bicentennial – it's best to drive down there, as it's a 15 minute walk.

In your booklets on page 11, you'll see the way we've divided you up for each day and which group you're in now.

Oh and don't forget sunscreen! Over to you, Cath.