

***THOSE WHO WOULD CALL THEMSELVES 'NON-RELIGIOUS' & WOULD TICK 'NONE OF THE ABOVE' WHEN ASKED ABOUT RELIGION.**



Equipping the Church for Mission

GETTING TO KNOW SOME NONES*

With over half the UK population resisting any kind of 'religious' label, it's more important than ever that churches and individuals within them keep contact and build relationships with this growing demographic. But how can we do this and what should we do once we have made contact? Have a look at the five pointers below for some top tips.



BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT MAKING RELATIONSHIPS

Go out of your way to meet 'nones' in your neighbourhoods and networks. Not sure who they are? Have a look [here](#) at the research done by the Bible Society. Look out especially for those they describe as *Bible Indifferent* or *Bible Dismissive*. Enjoy their company, learn from them and avoid spending so much time in church meetings that you haven't the time to meet those with a different take on the world to you. Remember, Jesus often sought out the least-religious in any crowd.



TALK OPENLY OVER FOOD

Either at home or through church, invite non-religious friends to a meal and simply ask them more about their view of life, what matters to them and, if it seems appropriate, why God isn't on their radar. Don't shy away from the big topics (life, death, the environment, purpose...). We bet you'll learn lots and who knows, they might ask you some pretty meaty questions too.



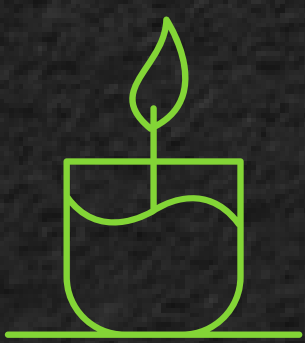
SHARE YOUR EVERY-DAY LIFE WITH OTHERS

For many non-religious people who later become Christians, it is their friendship with Christians who share their every-day lives with them that has the biggest influence in their journey to faith. So be real, be authentically *you*, do life together and talk freely about the things you believe, the things that inspire you and the impact they have on your life.



DON'T BE SHY ABOUT JESUS

For many 'nones' Jesus is very much a person of interest and yet not someone they necessarily know that much about. Helping someone know more about Jesus, telling them what inspires you about him and sharing his impact on your life and on the world is probably the single biggest thing you can do for another person. Don't be shy!



EMBRACE THE SPIRITUAL

As you probably know, many 'nones', though eschewing 'religion', would often call themselves 'spiritual'. So introduce them to some of the great spiritual practices of the Christian faith: meditation, prayer, the examen, silence, daily offices, fasting and so on. Recommend apps like [Lectio 365](#), [Pray-as-you-Go](#), [Bible-in-one-Year](#) and [Infinitum Life](#) and consider putting on a spiritual event just for them. Let us know how it goes!