



working together to combat homelessness in Bristol

in association with

*Crisis Centre
Ministries*

Bringing God's grace and healing love
to people with life-disrupting problems

present

Share Your Faith

the 2009 training seminar

part of the

Helping Vulnerable People

volunteer training programme 2008-2009

Introduction

You don't have to be an evangelist to be able to share what you believe with other people. Every Christian can do this in a way that is clear, simple and attractive; that is natural and comfortable for you; and is enjoyable for the people you talk with.

You might be surprised by how much your faith is strengthened when you are able to be honest about what you believe, when you can communicate it confidently and attractively, and when you are not worried about the questions people might ask you.

While the seminar is primarily aimed at Christians who wish to share their faith more effectively, it is also suitable for those who are not Christians (or are not sure whether they are or not), but who wish to understand more clearly what Christians believe, and when it is appropriate for Christians to talk about their faith – and when it is not!

What is on offer?

There are four main reasons why Christians do not share their faith:

- They don't understand **what to do**. Evangelism is *not* about forcing your beliefs onto unwilling people!
- They don't know **what to say**. If you can't summarise the gospel in one minute, you probably can't explain it clearly enough.
- They are afraid they will not be able to **answer the questions** that arise. What do you say about pain, other religions, evolution and the Crusades?
- They don't know how or where to **start talking** about their faith in a natural way. If you feel uncomfortable when talking about what you believe, you will never enjoy the experience, and neither will the people you are talking with.

This interactive seminar will address these basic problems. It will give you the opportunity to explore ways of talking about your faith that work for you, and to find answers to those questions you have always worried about. It will also provide you with a simple three-stage strategy which is natural, easy, and can be taken at your own pace.

It will enable you to talk with other people about what you believe, and to be confident that you are both telling them about a God of love and demonstrating God's love in the way you interact with them.

When can I come?

The seminar will be running twice this year. You can attend *either* the Saturday or three consecutive Wednesday evenings.

- Saturday 18 April 2009, Trinity Tabernacle, 9:45 am – 5:00 pm, *or*
- Wednesday 8, 15 & 22 April 2009, CCM Office, 7:30 – 9:30 pm

What are the benefits?

In every area of ministry, there are two key challenges: to get started, and to improve.

If you are not already sharing your faith, this seminar will help you get started: it will not tell you what to say, but will help you to discover what is appropriate – and what will be appreciated – in the different situations where you find yourself.

If you have started, this seminar will help you explore ways to be more effective, and how the whole process can be more enjoyable for yourself and for others.

What is the cost?

The seminar (both the Saturday and the three evenings) is part of the *Helping Vulnerable People* programme, so anyone who has enrolled for the whole 2008-2009 series has already paid.

For everyone else, we are asking for a donation of £6 in advance (using the booking form is overleaf) or £7 on the day. This provides a supply of tea, coffee and biscuits, and a comprehensive set of notes. If you come on the Saturday, please bring a packed lunch.

About us

This training is being arranged by BCAN (the Bristol Christian Action Network) in association with CCM (Crisis Centre Ministries). BCAN is sponsored by the Bristol Evangelical Alliance, but aims to serve the whole church and the wider community in and around Bristol.

The seminar will be led by Paul Hazelden, General Manager of CCM. Paul has been training people in different methods of evangelism since 1982, and has worked with a number of churches and evangelistic organisations. Much of the seminar material was developed while he was working for Open Air Campaigners.

For more information about CCM, visit the web site at:
<http://www.crisis-centre.org.uk>

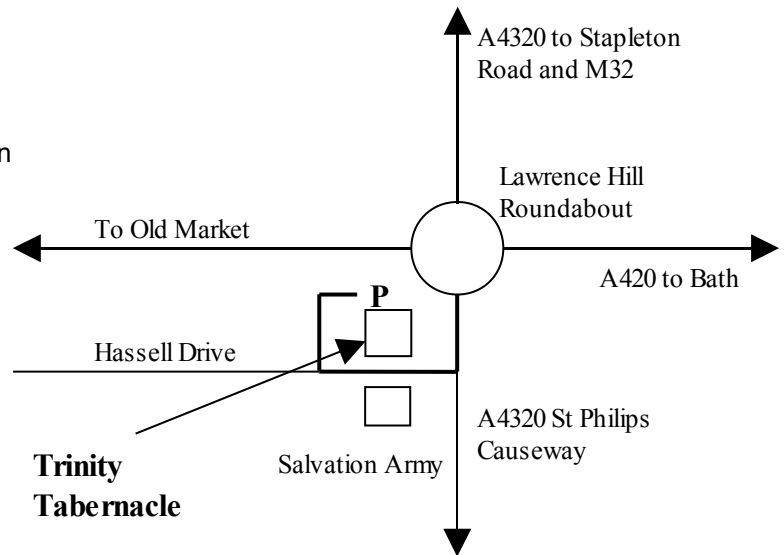
Directions

To get to Trinity Tabernacle:

From the Lawrence Hill roundabout, turn South onto St Philips Causeway (the A4320), taking care to be in the right hand lane. Immediately take the short slip road on your right, then across the other carriageway and into Hassell Drive.

Trinity Tabernacle is on your right, and the Salvation Army on your left.

Take the first right just past Trinity Tabernacle, then right again into the car park.



If you would like this document as a PDF file, or further directions to Trinity Tabernacle or to the CCM office, please visit the BCAN web site at <http://www.bcan.org.uk/bhf/training>

You can contact the CCM office for further directions or other information about the seminar at:

Crisis Centre Ministries, 12 City Road, Bristol, BS2 8TP

Telephone: (0117) 942 3088 Email: admin@crisis-centre.org.uk

Bookings

Please let us know by Wednesday 2 April if you plan to come. You can just turn up on the day, but there may not be enough spare training notes and handouts.

Please send the form below with your payment to the CCM office. Cheques should be made payable to 'Crisis Centre Ministries'. Feel free to photocopy this form as required; more copies are available from the CCM office.

Please book me in to *Share Your Faith 2009*. I plan to attend:

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() Wednesday 8, 15 & 22 April 2009, CCM Office, 7:30 – 9:30 pm

I enclose £6 for the seminar and a set of notes (provided on the day).

Name:

Address:

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