

Learning to share our faith in Jesus

discussion guide

based on **Colossians 4.2-6** (Linked to sermon of 15/1/23)
which can be accessed at <https://youtu.be/mbLcbtZsUaU?t=323>

Intro: How do you feel about the people who helped point you to faith in Jesus?
How do you feel about talking to people who aren't Christians about your faith in Jesus?

Keith focussed on 3 things: knowing, living and sharing the good news.

Knowing the good news:

Keith summarised the gospel message. What would you want to include in a summary of the gospel?

Keith also emphasised the historical basis for Jesus' resurrection as a key part of the confidence of our faith. If people said to you that Jesus didn't really rise from the dead, how would you respond?

Living the good news:

Read Colossians 4.2-3.

What role does prayer play for you in sharing the gospel? What role could it play? Where do you experience 'closed doors' for the gospel at the moment? What would encourage you to persevere in prayer for those doors to be opened?

Keith talked about the importance of love in living the good news.

Think of times when Jesus demonstrated love to the unlovely.

Who are the people you struggle to love? Pray afresh for Jesus' love for these people. Keith also talked about the importance of being prepared to share the good news (See 1 Peter 3.15-16).

Sharing the good news:

Read Colossians 4.4-6.

How can we be wise in the way we talk about Jesus? Give some examples you have seen of wise and foolish ways of talking about Jesus.

Read John 5.18

How can we be observant to see what Father God is doing in the lives of others?

Read Acts 17.22-23

Keith encouraged us to be relevant. What are some of the ways our current culture (films / TV / chart singles / news items etc) may intersect with the gospel message?

Keith finished by reminding us of the 3 words that God is saying to us as a church this season: to be courageous, whole-hearted and expectant.

How might those 3 words apply to you as you seek to share your faith in Jesus with others?

Spend some time praying for each other and for friends and family who aren't yet Christians.

Keith suggested the following homework: write down your story of coming to faith in Jesus and following him since then – as you would share it with someone who isn't a Christian (max 5 mins). Share that with another Christian, and ask for their feedback. Then ask someone who isn't a Christian if you can share it with them as part of your homework. See what conversation develops.