

## Care

### 20 Practical Pointers

Here are twenty practical ideas to get you started in sharing your faith with Jewish people based on the *Care* series of videos. These are 'how to' tips and suggestions. They have been divided up into three simple sections to help you find the right kind of idea. These ideas should be followed in a true spirit of genuine enquiry, demonstrating love and compassion for the individual and the Jewish community.

Remember, we are not seeking to convert Jewish people to Christianity but to lead them to completion in their Messiah – they still remain Jewish. Therefore, be prayerful and careful about how you approach Jewish people with the suggestions that follow.

We recommend that you view all of the Care section of videos and then watch the other videos before you engage Jewish people with the Gospel.

#### **Suggestions for Practical One-to-One Engagements**

Give practical help such as offering to collect shopping or helping with pets etc.

Create contexts for extending genuine listening e.g., an evening together, a walk, a lunch out or a conversation in the garden at summertime.

Think through how you would explain the Gospel. Perhaps write it out. Then read it aloud, editing it to make your message sound more natural and relevant to your Jewish friend. Is it clear? Does it sound caring? Have you tailored it to the Jewish person you'll be speaking to?

Make a list of questions you would ask. Pray that God would let you ask those questions in natural settings in a natural way over time.

At birthdays or anniversaries offer appropriate gifts e.g., flowers or a bottle of wine perhaps. Handwritten notes would be received well.

Write out your personal testimony. Maybe have it printed in a small leaflet. That way, you can give out 'your story' to people who ask you.

Incorporate 'natural evangelism' into your weekly rhythm e.g., in your work routine, when eating meals or unwinding etc.

Use the opportunities that come up for you to bless people – lovely surprises can demonstrate the generous love of God.

As you are enjoying life, invite your Jewish friend into that rhythm e.g., cooking / eating / exercising / learning or reading / fashion / enjoying music / languages or

history / arts and crafts etc. Pray that as you share life in this way, there may be opportunities to naturally share the love of Yeshua.

Phone or email people to tell them you are thinking of them – Perhaps share an encouraging Bible verse or mention something of God that has blessed you that week?

### **Suggestions for Practical Group Engagements**

Gather a small number of believers in your home to pray through 1 Corinthians 13 or Romans 9-11. Lift up local Jewish people by name to our Heavenly Father. Let Jewish people know you have been specifically praying for them and their needs.

Attend a Holocaust Memorial service. Charities and Jewish community groups publish details of these annually. Ensure that you register in advance. You may also be subject to security checks when you arrive.

Stand together against antisemitism or local crime. Speak up for the cause of the disabled or the poor. There are many Jewish charities to become involved with and this would be a good way to express love from the Christian community and open doors of communication.

### **Suggestions for Pastors/Leaders**

Look out for the elderly, infirm or lonely Jewish people that live in your area. Let them know that you and the church care for them. Over time, it may be possible to offer prayer for them. Be sensitive in this.

Visit special events and talks at your local synagogue and get to know people. Always phone up in advance and introduce yourself as a matter of courtesy and for security reasons.

Demonstrate love by your engagement in the Jewish festivals. The *Calendar* section of videos and resources has much more to say about that.

Send messages of care from your church to Jewish community leaders when they experience an antisemitic incident.

Demonstrate practical ways to show that you belong to a believing community rather than merely a 'nominal' church?

Visit Jewish areas often. Smile at Jewish families as they pass by. Wish them '*Shabbat Shalom*' on Fridays or Saturdays (which means 'may you have a peaceful sabbath'). If appropriate you might wish them '*Chag Sameach*' (*Hag Samay-ak*) which means 'have a happy festival') on appropriate Festivals.

Be gentle. Be genuine. Be generous in your loving witness.

And there's more! – be prayerful and creative and find appropriate ways to reach out!

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