

# Welcome!

## ■ Relationship Building

# Evening at a Glance

- 8:00 – 8:25 – Conversation – David and Elinor
- 8:25 – 8:45 – Visiting – David B
- 8:45 – 9:05 – Hilary's Mic.  
*Tonight's Panel: Clive and Anita, Sian, Juliet ,  
Chris and June*
- 9:05 – 9:15 – Open prayer
- 9:15 – 9:30 – Refreshments/Mingling

# Conversation



# **How do you feel about talking to people you don't know?**

- **Shy**
- **Confident**
- **Happy**
- **Relaxed**
- **Nervous**
- **Scared**

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**Be prayerful and intentional**

**Ask for God's help to speak for him in an appropriate way and for him to use you to build relationships for his Kingdom**

# **What do you appreciate when people talk to you?**

- **A welcoming smile**
- **A greeting**
- **Appropriate questions**
- **Not too many personal questions**
- **Eye contact**
- **Genuine interest**
- **Someone who is relaxed**
- **People who take the initiative and introduce themselves**

# **What about Internationals?**

- **Talk slowly and clearly. Simplify your English**
- **Give them time to answer your questions**
- **Ask them questions as they might not be able to ask you questions**
- **Tell them a little about yourself**
- **Ask them about their family**
- **Be aware of sensitive topics**
- **Humour?**
- **Choose neutral topics of conversation e.g. food, customs, places in UK to visit**

# What makes a conversation?

## Dialogue / Interaction



- Speaking
- Listening



# **Stages in a conversation**

**Creating the conversation**

**Continuing the conversation**

**Developing the conversation**

**Concluding the conversation**

**Following-up the conversation**

# Conversation starters



# Creating Conversations

**How would you start a conversation with someone you didn't know...**



- **Sitting in church before the service**
- **In the mingling area after the service**
- **Picking your child up from a YP group**
- **At the bus stop**

# Continuing Conversations

## Ask questions

- Not **closed questions** (beginning 'are' or 'do') which can be answered yes or no
- Questions starting with 'who' 'what', 'where', 'when' are **open questions**, which need fuller answers
- If you're looking to go a little deeper and develop the conversation further, then try some **probing questions** starting with words 'how', 'why' and 'in what way'

## Listen to the answers

# Developing Conversations



- **How might you ask someone if they are a Christian?**
- **How might you introduce into the conversation that you are a Christian?**
- **What might you ask someone to find out if they are experiencing any difficulties?**

# Concluding Conversations

- I've enjoyed meeting (visiting with) you
- It's been lovely to chat with you
- We must meet up and talk again
- Excuse me, I've got to go... I've another appointment in 5 minutes

# Following-up Conversations

- Remember details, names and what you have talked about
- Pray for the person you have talked to and for any concerns they may have shared with you
- Make an effort to talk again, picking up on details that have already been shared

# **Be prayerful and intentional**

- **Make the most of every opportunity**
- **Be willing to step out of your comfort zone (circle of comfort)**
- **Pray and ask God to give you greater love for others, increased boldness to initiate conversations, and the ability to encourage others and be a witness to Christ through your conversations.**



# VISITING

Biblical Basis

Practical Issues

Introducing The Gospel

Being a Facilitator

Importance of Prayer

Q. & A.

# Biblical Basis

● Can you remember/work out what the following texts teach without looking them up?

▣ Genesis 18

▣ Acts 17:26-27

▣ Hebrews 13:2/1 Peter 4:9

▣ Matthew 25:37-40

▣ Leviticus 19:33-34

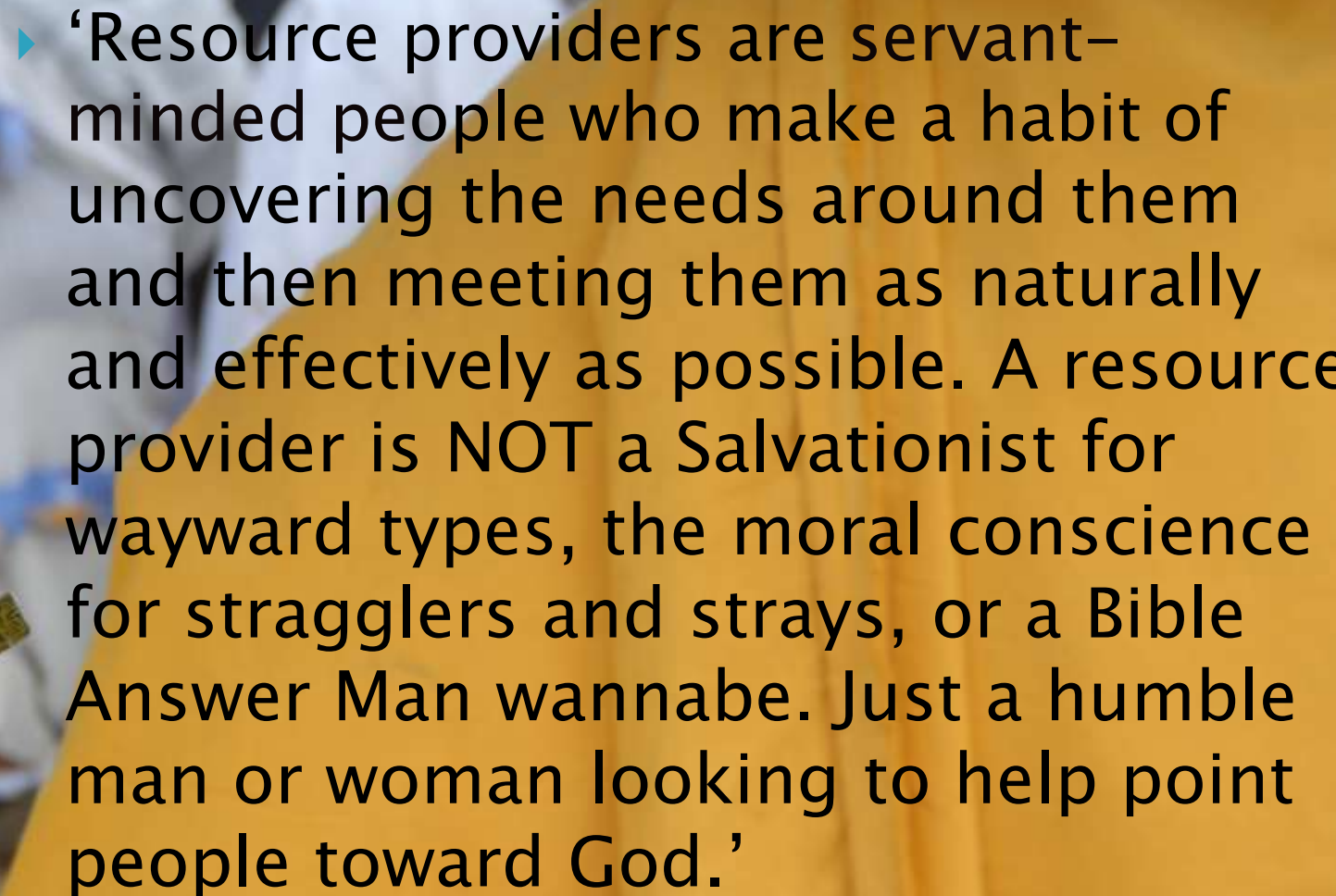
# Practical Issues

- ▣ 1. Invitations
- ▣ 2. Food
- ▣ 3. Involving others
- ▣ 4. Cultural issues
- ▣ 5. Gender issues
- ▣ 6. Leave taking
- ▣ 7. Flex

# Introducing The Gospel

- ▶ How do we know when it's time to share what we really want to share?
- ▶ Importance of good timing (John 7:6)
- ▶ Being Spirit led (Galatians 5:25)
- ▶ Knowing when to shut up (Ecc 3:7)
- ▶ Knowing when to give up (Matthew 7:6)
- ▶ Common Errors
  - too quick
  - too slow
  - too scared

# Being a Facilitator

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- A hand holding a small, ornate golden cross against a blurred background of people in white robes.
- ▶ ‘Resource providers are servant-minded people who make a habit of uncovering the needs around them and then meeting them as naturally and effectively as possible. A resource provider is NOT a Salvationist for wayward types, the moral conscience for stragglers and strays, or a Bible Answer Man wannabe. Just a humble man or woman looking to help point people toward God.’

- Bill Hybels

# Importance of Prayer

- ▶ No new teaching here .... Just a simple reminder.
  - ◉ When should we pray about our visit?
  - ◉ Before
  - ◉ During and
  - ◉ After
  - ◉ 1 Thessalonians 5:17,
  - ◉ '*pray continually*'
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