

## A Methodist Way of Life for July 2025

### Share “We share our faith”

#### Key themes:

God involves us in the task of bringing love and restoration.  
We get to work with God (1 Corinthians 3:9).

There are lots of ways to share our faith, not just using words, and not just on our own either. At Blandford we can take part in our Coffee Mornings and the Lunch Club to connect people with God’s love and provide natural ways to share our faith. This might be easier at times like Christmas and Easter when people are more likely to connect with Christian themes or stories.

#### Two bible passages on sharing our faith

##### 1 Corinthians Chapter verses 3 to 9

“You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.”

##### Colossians Chapter 4 verses 2 to 6

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

#### Reflections

The extract from the letter to the Colossians talks of sharing faith, but also of sharing life – it concerns behaviour as well as belief. This commitment to share is not necessarily about standing up in front of a crowd, but about sharing our faith with others, where we find ourselves, when it seems appropriate. Not about preaching at - but sharing with. About sharing our story, honestly, as someone who has discovered that Christian faith makes a difference to life.

How many people do we meet who have ‘never tried’ faith, or perhaps been put off by past experiences? According to the words from 1 Peter, we share our faith with others who are willing to engage, who are curious to hear the reason for the hope that we have.

Whether or not a person appears open to what we have to share may not be down to us. Sharing our faith is always invitational.

One reason people may have been put off is that they don't see that the words of Christians meet our actions. So it's important that our actions show God's love just as much as our words. We can use creative activities and gifts to show love – undertake acts of kindness; put on or join in a community event; and much more. How we live our lives, and how we serve others, can be important ways that we share our faith. But we should be careful not to suggest a hidden, ulterior motive – that we do these things only to 'make' people into Christians. Instead, we can explain that we love others with an ultimate hope that they will know God's love, but that our loving actions will remain the same regardless.

Ultimately, God is the active instigator in evangelism but God invites us into an exciting partnership. We need to practise depending on God's presence and power in evangelism and expecting God to work. We need to step out of our comfort zones and expect God to meet us there – this happens again and again in Scripture.

Both words and actions are important to share God's love with others. After Jesus preached to a large crowd of people, he fed them with bread and fish (Matthew 14:13-21). How are we feeding people today? How are we meeting practical needs?

To whom should we speak the love of God? Some of us may find it easier to speak with friends, others with strangers. Ultimately, it is a message for the entire world.

Methodists have long been persuaded that good works are a necessary outworking of Christian faith. They are necessarily works of grace, for "every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above" (James 1:17). Good works essentially provide practical evidence of the grace of God in our lives. Where good works are absent one might appropriately enquire how far God's grace has truly been experienced.

### Discussion questions

- How have you shared your faith recently?
- How have other people shared their faith with you?
- What opportunities to share faith are coming up?
- What does our Church do that helps people outside the Church to see something of God's love?

Source: "A Methodist Way Of Life" Abridged and amended for BMC  
[www.methodist.org.uk/faith/a-methodist-way-of-life/](http://www.methodist.org.uk/faith/a-methodist-way-of-life/) then search for "Share".

Prepared by:  
John Cornish