

How to use SHARE well

Welcome to SHARE! The purpose of this resource is to encourage and develop a culture of mission within a congregation around:

- **Building relationships** with those outside of church
- **Cultivating community** around church life that connects with unreached people
- **Inviting encounter** with the gospel through equipping people to share their story of faith and the gospel story, whilst also encouraging people to be more invitational.

Christians often carry real fears about sharing their faith. SHARE will encourage church members to approach God's mission with a sense of realism and greater confidence and expectation that God can work in and through them as part of the mission of the church.

When all is said and done, it is easier to talk about evangelism than to do it. SHARE will be most effective if participants discuss and understand how what they are learning relates to the activities in which they are already engaged, or in preparation for a particular venture in community witness or evangelism the congregation is planning. It will be worth carefully considering how it best fits into the existing rhythm and activities of your church year.

BOOKLET STRUCTURE

The participant booklet is structured around three **seasons**:

1. **Building Relationships**
2. **Cultivating Community**
3. **Inviting Encounter**

Each season includes three **episodes** that unpack that particular aspect further.

Participant booklets can be purchased from the webpage at www.presbyterianireland.org/share

EPISODE STRUCTURE

The episodes are designed for smaller group settings to encourage discussion of the material. Beginning in the booklet, each episode is accompanied by a film series that facilitates a group conversation including Bible study, followed by practical ideas and conversation starter questions.

The episodes last around 60 minutes but can be longer depending on the length of discussion.

The film series is available to download from the following link:

www.vimeo.com/showcase/6189737

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Whole Church Sessions

There are four **whole church sessions** that can be used at a Sunday service. These are a means of enabling the whole congregation to hear some of the content. This can also be an encouragement for people to attend the episodes to hear more.

The following resources will be available to download when you purchase a minimum of five participant booklets:

- Whole church session script [PDF download]
- Whole church session slides [PowerPoint download]

Stories

Each 'season' has a life story film illustrating the impact that particular aspect of the content can have on a person's journey to trusting in Christ. The stories could be used when introducing each season or as part of the relevant 'whole church session'.

The stories are available to download from the following link:

www.vimeo.com/showcase/6189737

Equipment/resources needed for episodes:

Resources required for each session usually include:

- Computer, projector/TV for video material
- Flipchart, markers, pens, paper for tables
- Bibles or a print-out of the Bible passage

Suggested order and timeline

The table outlines a suggestion for how SHARE could be delivered within a congregation in 12 weeks. However, the resource is flexible and may benefit from each season being delivered in a different church term depending on your context, needs and time available.

WEEK	CONTEXT	SESSION TITLE	RESOURCES
1	SUNDAY morning service	INTRODUCING SHARE: <i>whole church session</i> <i>Biblical Text:</i> 1 Thessalonians 2:7-13 <i>Main message:</i> Outreach for a church is about building relationships, cultivating community and inviting an encounter with Jesus.	- Sermon outline (PDF) - Slides (PPT) - Share Promo video
2	SUNDAY morning service	Building Relationship: <i>whole church session</i> <i>Biblical Text:</i> Luke 5:27-32 <i>Main message:</i> Outreach is relational.	- Sermon outline (PDF) - Slides (PPT) - Donna's story video
	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 1 // EPISODE 1 // Loving People: <i>Biblical Text:</i> Luke 5:27-32 <i>Main message:</i> Habits and ideas to help build a relational foundation for sharing your faith in Jesus.	- Participant booklet - Episode film
3	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 1 // EPISODE 2 // Journey with people: <i>Biblical Text:</i> John 4:1-26 <i>Main message:</i> Knowing the starting point of people to better accompany them on their journey of faith	- Participant booklet - Episode film
4	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 1 // EPISODE 3 // Know our mission field: <i>Biblical Text:</i> Acts 17:16-32 <i>Main message:</i> Understanding and responding to the needs in your community.	- Participant booklet - Episode film
5	Break to allow participants to reflect on season one and begin putting new habits into practice. This could be extended for longer than one week.		
6	SUNDAY morning service	Cultivating Community: <i>whole church session</i> <i>Biblical Text:</i> 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 <i>Main message:</i> We all have a part to play – and only a part – in the church's work of outreach.	- Sermon outline (PDF) - Slides (PPT) - Adele's story video
	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 2 // EPISODE 1 // Bringing our worlds together: <i>Biblical Text:</i> John 13:34-35 <i>Main message:</i> Extending the community of the church to unreached friends.	- Participant booklet - Episode film
7	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 2 // EPISODE 2 // My role: <i>Biblical Text:</i> Acts 2:42-47 <i>Main message:</i> Living as a witness with unreached friends every day.	- Participant booklet - Episode film
8	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 2 // EPISODE 3 // Our role: <i>Biblical Text:</i> 1 Corinthians 12:12-20 <i>Main message:</i> The church community responding to local needs.	- Participant booklet - Episode film
9	Break to allow participants to reflect on season two and begin putting new habits into practice. This could be extended for longer than one week.		
10	SUNDAY morning service	Inviting Encounter: <i>whole church session</i> <i>Biblical Text:</i> Matthew 13:44-46 <i>Main message:</i> A simple picture Jesus uses challenges our motivation and urgency in sharing the gospel giving us confidence to talk about our faith.	- Sermon outline (PDF) - Slides (PPT) - Noel's story video
	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 3 // EPISODE 1 // Telling your story: <i>Biblical Text:</i> Philippians 3:4-14 <i>Main message:</i> Equipping you to share your faith story with others.	- Participant booklet - Episode film

11	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 3 // EPISODE 2 // Telling the gospel story: <i>Biblical Text:</i> Matthew 13:44-46 <i>Main message:</i> Equipping you to share the gospel story with others.	- Participant booklet - Episode film
12	WEDNESDAY mid-week gathering	SEASON 3 // EPISODE 3 // Becoming invitational: <i>Biblical Text:</i> John 1:35-51 <i>Main message:</i> Generating a culture of invitation within church	- Participant booklet - Episode film