

Report December 2014/January 2015

Door-to-door visitation in Kilkenny and surrounding towns – Tom Dowling, Irish Mission Worker

Door-to-door visitation is a means which we find very useful in evangelism. There are many people in Kilkenny and the surrounding villages that will never set foot in a gospel preaching church, or come to a pre-evangelism event, without someone going out and speaking to them. One way we can reach these people is to call to their houses and speak of the Lord Jesus Christ. As we do this we run the risk of being misunderstood and associated with some cults, but we find it is a risk worth taking, as we get many opportunities to share the truth as it is in Jesus.

Recently I met a man who was very annoyed that I called to his door. He said it was offensive to him that I would ask him about life after death and his opinions on it. He said our approach was all wrong and he already knew what my message was. He said that being from the USA he had heard it all before, and that we should be involved in social projects instead, letting people come to us through them, if they wanted to. When I asked him what he thought our message was, he said “accept Jesus into your heart if you want to be forgiven.” I explained to him that that wasn’t a biblical message, that the message of the Bible is “repent and believe the good news.”

We ended up having a great conversation about the gospel, and God’s great love for us in sending a Saviour. I explained to him that while as a church we do run social projects, we also have to run the risk of being misunderstood, in order to try to bring the message of the gospel to those who otherwise wouldn’t come to us to hear it.

About 45 minutes later as I was leaving, he warmly shook my hand, took gospel literature, and thanked me for calling, asking what church I went to and saying he might drop in. I assured him of a warm welcome.

As well as the regular visitation, we have a team which visits the surrounding towns and villages on the first Saturday of each month. Pray that through this work, Jesus’ sheep will hear His voice and follow Him.