

STORIES OF CHURCH LIFE DONE DIFFERENTLY

Evangelism redefined by creativity in current circumstances – Gym virtual Bible study

Union Road congregation, Magherafelt

Rev David Leach of Union Road congregation, Magherafelt, shares an encouraging story of the courage and creativity of one church member in bringing the Bible into an unusual place. David shares how the opportunity came about.

"Just before Christmas one of the young men in Union Road, who runs a successful gym and has a great reputation as a personal trainer, invited me to plan a three week online evangelistic Bible study through the auspices of his gym. He has an all-round concern for the physical, mental and spiritual health of his clients and so he has given me this opportunity for three weeks online.

We are two weeks into the study using Mark's Gospel as our guide. The whole session is recorded and shared with gym members who may wish to watch in their own time in the private group section of the website and Facebook page. Gyms are not my thing, but we are already thinking about how we could develop this in the months to come on site when restrictions lift.

I have found the group, which has ranged in number between 12 and 20, engaged and excited about guided reading of the Bible and very open to discussion. It is amazing how God's Spirit enables people to 'see' things I have never seen before.

We are praying that this bold and enterprising step by one of members will grow and that he would be encouraged and given further opportunities to share his faith when he returns to one to one or group training.

