



BLESS

TRINITY
METHODIST
CHURCH

foreword

This year's 2017 church camp, entitled RELEVANT: As We Are Where We Are, seeks to help us to make daily sense of our faith and how we can worship and witness within the various spheres of influence God has assigned us.

In order for us to be relevant, we need to first know the questions people are asking. Jesus, in his first encounter with fishermen Peter and John, asked, "What are you seeking?" (Jn 1:38). Through this example, Jesus teaches us to understand the needs of the people we wish to reach out to.

B.L.E.S.S therefore

- B** - Begins with prayer for our unchurched friends
- L** - Listens to our friends
- E** - Eats and fellowships with our friends
- S** - Serves our friends and Serves with our friends
- S** - Shares our life stories

I pray that as we run the B.L.E.S.S initiative for the second year, these simple steps may become a natural part of our everyday life. And in learning to be a witness for Christ, "As We Are Where We Are", we may bring another "One Step Closer" to Christ.

pastor alvin chan

Who do I bless

Who do you meet often?

- Colleague
- Clerical officer
- A neighbour in the lift
- Family member
- Cleaning aunty in the food court

begin with a prayer

"PRAYER IS NOT AN INCESSANT BABBLING;
IT IS ATTENTIVE LISTENING TO THE SPIRIT'S VOICE".

- ANONYMOUS

Not just 10mins of set-aside time, but throughout the day, be mindful of God's presence and connect with Him continually in all you say and do.

**PRAY UNCEASINGLY
1 THESSALONIANS 5:17**

listen to a friend

"MOST PEOPLE DO NOT LISTEN WITH THE INTENT TO UNDERSTAND, THEY LISTEN WITH THE INTENT TO REPLY."

- STEPHEN R. COVEY

Learn how to listen:-

- Don't be quick to correct "wrong thinking" or "errant theology", or tell them what you think
- Try to go through the day speaking less (20%) and listening more (80%)
- Understand the mindset, the emotions, the needs, the desires underlying the words. Know the person.

eat with a friend

"EATING IS MISSIONAL HOSPITALITY."

- WESTWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH BLESS BOOKLET

When you eat and treat your friend, you share your possessions with them. You open your life and invite them in. Eating with a friend is *koinonia* (Gk.) - Christian fellowship.

**"WHETHER YOU EAT OR DRINK, OR
WHATEVER YOU DO, DO IT ALL FOR THE
GLORY OF GOD"
1 CORINTHIANS 10:31**

serve a friend; serve with a friend

"ONLY A LIFE LIVED FOR OTHERS IS
A LIFE WORTHWHILE."
ALBERT EINSTEIN

Find ways to show a little kindness and to go a second mile.

Going one step further, you could invite your unchurched friend to participate in a community project either planned by the church or your Small Group.

**"DO NOT USE YOUR FREEDOM AS AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FLESH, BUT
THROUGH LOVE SERVE ONE ANOTHER"**
GALATIANS 5:13

share your life stories

"IT'S NOT ABOUT TAKING ONE GREAT LEAP OF FAITH,
BUT USHERING SOMEONE 'ONE STEP CLOSER TO CHRIST'."
DAVID GEISLER

Don't feel pressurised to 'evangelise' or preach the theology of salvation to your pre-believing friend. Simply, at an appropriate point in your conversation, share a time when God came through for you.

**"GIVE A REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT IS
IN YOU, YET DO IT WITH GENTLENESS AND
RESPECT"**
1 PETER 3: 15

share your blessing experience

www.tmc.org.sg/witness.html

- Not in the spirit of boasting, but to spur each other onto good works
- Not about reporting a “success” story of conversion, but simply how you’ve ushered a friend one step closer to Christ

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Materials adapted from the BLESS booklet by Westwood Community Church, USA with permission.



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