

To use this resource as a **Local Arrangement** service we suggest:

Opening Worship: hymns, songs and prayers which could include (all numbers from *Singing the Faith*): 94: *To God be the Glory*, 407: *Hear the call of the Kingdom*, 418: *We have a Gospel to Proclaim*.

Bible Readings (chose from): Acts 1: 1-8, 1 Peter 3:13-17 and Matthew 9:37-38.

Song 673: *Will you come and follow me.*

Introduce and watch *Being Good News* film:

- from 3mins 25 secs to 9:04. Pause and invite people to discuss with a neighbour how following Jesus began for them.
- from 19:57 to 22:16. Pause and invite people to discuss with a neighbour how as a church we could make more of the opportunities when people visit us.
- from 30:40 to 36:14. Pause and invite people to reflect together on what they have seen and heard.

Song 404: *God's Spirit is in my heart.*

Prayer Time:

- Invite people in twos or quietly on their own to pray for those they know who need to know that God loves them. And/or
- Make simple wooden crosses from twigs or lolly sticks and invite people to place them in a box of soil praying for people as they do so.

Song 706: *Longing for Light*

Blessing



Discipleship & Ministries Learning Network

Bristol & West Midlands

Extra Resources:

- Patterns for crochet crosses can be found online e.g. <https://rainbowjunkiecorner.wordpress.com/cross-bookmark-pattern/>
- Wooden holding crosses can be purchased online e.g. www.eden.co.uk
- Booklets of bite sized thoughts which can be distributed purchased from soulfood.me

Being Good News

with Steven Wild

Worship

Together read: **Acts 1: 1-8** and **Matthew 9:37-38**.

Sometimes we can get a bit afraid of the word Evangelism but have you ever noticed that at the heart of the word Evangelism there is the word Angel. Now there is word we do like. Angels in the bible are God's messengers. And in the bible the word evangelist means to be a herald or bearer of glad tidings or good news. So what if we saw our calling to evangelism and to be evangelists as a calling to be angels or bearers of good news to others?

Steven Wild is a living, breathing, inspiring example of not only thinking about evangelism but living it; as an angel being and sharing Good News.

You may wish to sing or read through a hymn; we suggest:

*Will you come and follow me or
Will you use your voice or
Change my heart oh God*



So how can we live out our calling of being Angels?

Please watch as much of the recording as you wish, but for the purposes of this training guide, we suggest that you start to watch the clip from 3:25 and pause the recording at 9:04.

Then Discuss: How did your Christian journey start for you?



Re-start the recording, watch through to the end of the recording.

Then prayerfully consider these thoughts:

We are not all Steven Wild with an extrovert personality type; however we all have our own gifts and skills.

- How would you be Good News?
- Do you pray for opportunities to discuss the Gospel story?
- What could the equivalent of Steven's cross be for you? (please see extra resources).
- Would you join in a conversation and back up a person being Good News?
- Read **1 Peter 3:15**; consider how you can be alert to the opportunities the Holy Spirit provides.



If each person is on a journey;

Can you think of someone that you could help to take the next step along on their journey?



How could your church respond to the people who are on the fringes of our church?

- If your church put Mission first what might it look like?
- Who does your church engage with, where are there opportunities to be Good News?
- Could your church do more when baptism, weddings or funerals take place?
- Is there one thing that you have thought about today that you can put into action?