

# **“Follow me and I will make you fishers of men” - Jesus.**

Is your church seeing lots of new people starting to follow Jesus? No? Do you want to improve on that number.

It is possible.

Maybe a picture I saw in Facebook the other day may help us?

**A RECENT STUDY FOUND THAT  
PEOPLE WHO GO FISHING  
CATCH MORE FISH THAN THOSE  
WHO DON'T GO FISHING**



**Most of our people don't go fishing. They either don't like the idea of fishing or they don't feel they know enough about fishing to do a good job of it! So we don't see new people starting to follow Jesus.**

## **We can help.**

**For three years now we have been involved in training churches across New Zealand in how to reach out to the people around them in a simple, natural way. The results have been very encouraging.**

## **Here's what people are saying.**

Brian and Stephanie Bullen came and took a training course with members of our church community and other local churches in June 2023. It was practical, down to earth and easy to follow. Most of all they gave us practical resources and tools which we were able to practice between one another and then take away to share our story and the gospel story with people that we meet day to day.

They also shared very inspiring stories themselves of how they are sharing the gospel with the people they meet. This was inspiring to us as Brian and Stephanie are relatable as ordinary Kiwis who are passionate about Jesus and have so many good experiences of sharing the gospel with the people they meet.

Since doing this training a number of our church members are now reading the Bible one on one with others who have not read the Bible before. One is reading with a young dad who says he is an atheist but thanks to the Bible reading is now exploring faith.

I was inspired to begin reading the Bible at the end of a mum's play group with 6-7 mums as the children keep playing and one Mum who had never read the Bible before is now really engaged in the Bible reading and sharing it with her husband who has now joined a men's group at our church.

I would love to see every church in NZ hosting Brian and Stephanie and having their members empowered and inspired to share the gospel in their communities.

Raewyn Moodie, Regional Coach, Baptist Children & Family Ministries.

We recently had Brian and Stephanie take their Wayfinders workshop at Waikanae Baptist. I particularly like this workshop because it contains discipleship material that Brian has honed over the years for our New Zealand context, and it works! I can attest to that after recently using part of the material to lead a family member to Christ. This family member had been an enquirer for years but never quite got across the line – until now. I also like their practical approach. Rather than attending a seminar where you hear a lot of information but don't get to try it Brian and Stephanie have developed their workshop so that you practice each aspect as you go along. This immediate implementation of what you learn reinforces the material and is very helpful. I have no hesitation in recommending their 'Wayfinders' Workshop

Nigel Scott, Lead Pastor Waikanae Baptist Church.

### **Wayfinder Workshops**

Ever wanted to feel like leading people to Jesus and growing them in their faith was something you could actually do?

In this practical workshop with Brian and Stephanie - learn how to

- Naturally lead a conversation in a spiritual direction
- Share your God story simply and briefly
- Find the people who are interested
- Explain the good news of Jesus in language that resonates with people
- Disciple people by reading the bible with them

This is simple, relational, and you can be authentically you.

The content is kiwi and is working in the New Zealand context.

### **What to expect:**

Carve out a day (9am to 4pm). There will be up the front training, activities to do alone, exercises in small groups, practicing on each other, and if you're game - taking it to the outside world! (As well as breaks for morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea!) It is not threatening, it is all eminently do-able, and you will leave feeling this is something you can do, want to do, and are now equipped to do.

Adele Vannathy, Pastor, Hosanna Baptist Church.

## **But wait - there's more.**

As well as doing a workshop with your church we offer ongoing coaching for people, groups and churches. Here's a couple of comments from a church that we have been involved with for over a year now.

What I've really enjoyed about Brian is his passion for the simplicity of sharing the gospel and making disciples, and that God is more eager to draw people home to himself than we are eager to share. Brian so helpfully equips people in a natural way, bringing us back to the basics that the Bible has power to challenge and change lives, and that sharing our faith is actually very normal and natural. At times it has felt like I have been 'unlearning' complicated ways of thinking about evangelism and discipleship, and Brian's approach has been a breath of fresh air.

Nat Cary, Pastor, Kings Church, Porirua.

From our first zoom call, many subsequent zooms and some in person meetings, we discovered Brian & Stephanie's passion for sharing the gospel and making disciples compelling and challenging (in a good way!). Over several months we have benefitted enormously from Brian's coaching (via zoom). He modelled for us how to share the gospel with those who are open, through telling Bible stories (DBS) and asking simple (but purposeful) questions. Each session challenged us afresh and made us hungry for our own stories. From the get go, we were struck with the lack of hype, the simplicity, the gentleness, and also the challenge to 'go and do it'. Now, some months on, we have made our first tentative steps and are loving seeing the power of God's Word and the impact it's having on individual lives. We don't want to stop!

We also had the privilege of attending one of their workshops recently. Again, we were impacted by how Brian & Stephanie equip people in a way that is simple, natural and compelling, through sharing real life stories and modelling simple tools for people to practice and add to their 'armoury'. In many ways the content of the workshop was not new (we have a very similar program in our church to equip people), but I think the biggest impact for me was to keep the equipping simple, along with the urgency to equip God's people to actively share the gospel and to make disciples, drawing and helping people to trust and follow Jesus.

In many ways we feel we are at the start of our journey, and we are so grateful to Brian for his continuing encouragement and coaching.

Phil Haddow, Pastor, Kings Church, Porirua.

## **Want to find out more? Contact our National Trainers**

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