

Making More Disciples HOLY HABITS

Bible Study: Commissioning

16 Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

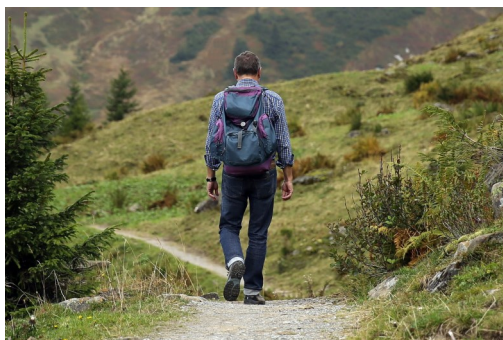
Matthew 28:16-20 (New Living Translation)



We may be familiar with Jesus' command to 'Go and make disciples', but I wonder how many of us hear that command for ourselves? Isn't that just for those who are good at 'talking the talk' – who are confident speaking to others about the gospel? Jesus said, 'Go and make disciples' to his disciples, but that command is for us too. None of us can guarantee that others will come to faith, but we are called to share our faith. But how do we do that at school, in our places of work and leisure, and in the communities in which we live?

How many people in our churches have come to faith because of some evangelistic event? How many people have come to know Jesus because they got to know someone who knew Jesus and then realised Jesus was someone worth knowing? We're called to 'make more disciples', but we do that by being disciples, by following and trying to be more like Jesus, and by living and breathing our faith. We may not all be great preachers, but we don't have to be. People will know when we're speaking with honesty and integrity about our faith. We just need to have the courage to try and to not be afraid to make mistakes.

- To whom do you sense a call to go?
- Do you feel a calling to work with any particular people groups in your community?
- Are there any particular challenges you might face in responding to this call?
- How might you offer the invitation to others to explore the call of Jesus to follow Him (noting the root meaning of the word disciple is one who learns as they follow)?

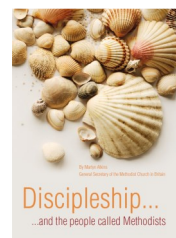


As we focus on 'Making more disciples', how will you make the most of the opportunity to make more disciples in your church, in your community and in your own personal discipleship?

Non-Fiction Books

- **Discipleship...and the people called Methodists**

Martyn Atkins



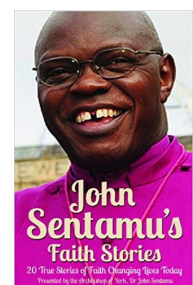
<http://tinyurl.com/y7253cxe>

This short book is about Christian discipleship from a Methodist perspective. It's a personal account and not an official statement. Martyn writes as a Methodist Christian for those who regard themselves Methodists, and the wider Christian family who cherish and own the 'Wesleyan tradition', but also for those many travellers in this ecumenical and post-denominational age who live out their Christian discipleship in the company of Methodists.

Deliberately set out in short sections, this book can be read by individuals or reflected upon in groups.

- **Faith Stories**

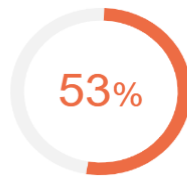
John Sentamu



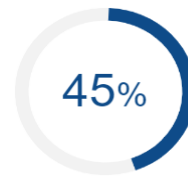
The most authentic stories of Christian faith in the 21st Century come from the experiences of ordinary people living ordinary lives. In this unique book by compiled by John Sentamu, the past Archbishop of York, 20 people with everyday lives, families and jobs explain what their faith means to them and how it makes an extra-ordinary difference. Sentamu has written an introduction to each story and to the book as a whole. Includes a photo of each subject.

Talking Jesus

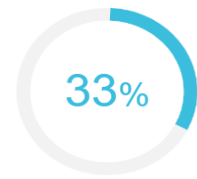
Discover what people think of Jesus, Christians, and evangelism in the UK today.



of non-Christians **know a practising Christian**



of the population **believe in the resurrection**



want to know more about Jesus – that's one in three

Talking Jesus is a project from a group of organisations. They have conducted research into the state of faith in the UK, how people come to faith in Jesus and how we, as the church, can talk about Jesus more effectively with our friends and in our community. This can all be found in the 2022 report. They also created a course.

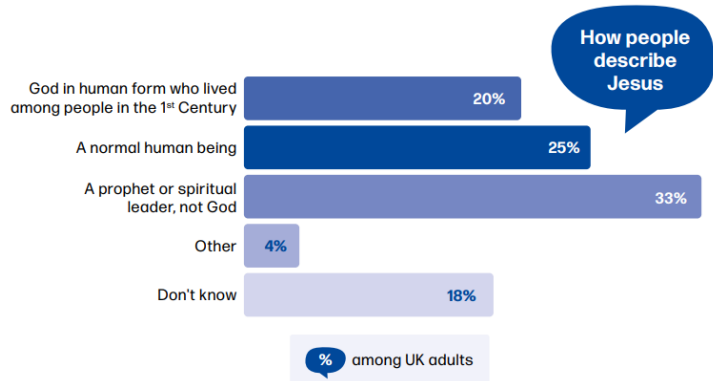
evangelical alliance
together making about known



The research found conversations with Christians are one of the most important influences in bringing people to faith. The Talking Jesus course will inspire you to share your faith and will give you practical suggestions to help you to be natural and relevant as you talk about Jesus with the people you meet.

There are six encouraging, video-based sessions with short films, inspirational, short testimonies, real-life examples from people who are talking Jesus, and a short, easy-to-follow course book.

After Holy Habits in 2018, a number of small groups used the “Talking Jesus” course and found it really valuable. We recommend small groups consider following this course again next year. If anyone would be interested in starting a group to complete the 6 sessions, please speak to someone from the leadership team.



Reflections from Andrew Roberts

Within the Great Commission there is the command to go (and make disciples).

To whom do you sense a call to go to be a blessing and share the invitation to explore the call of Jesus to follow?

Who do you / could you pray for regularly to come to faith in Jesus?

How could you blend the holy habits to offer a space in which people could explore the call of Jesus?