

Evangelism survey for church leaders

Welcome

Thank you for taking part in the Evangelical Alliance's online research.

In this survey we are asking church leaders about their church's approach to evangelism, and the challenges and opportunities for mission in your area. The views and experiences you share will help us shape a key new Evangelical Alliance project to resource the UK Church for evangelism.

All answers are anonymous. If you'd really rather not answer a particular question you can always leave it blank. People vary, but we estimate the survey shouldn't take longer than about 20 minutes, unless you choose to write a lot in open-ended comment boxes.

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About you

In every survey we need to ask everyone a few short background questions so that we can easily break down the responses from different groups of people. We apologise if you have completed this for a previous survey – unfortunately we cannot carry over your demographic data.

1. Are you a church leader or minister?

Tick all that apply

- Yes, with lone (or senior) responsibility for one (or more) congregation(s)
- Yes, as part of a team of leaders, elders or ministers
- No, I am not a recognised church leader

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About you

2. Your gender:

- Male Female

3. In which decade were you born?

- 1920s 1960s
 1930s 1970s
 1940s 1980s
 1950s 1990s

4. Do you consider yourself to be an evangelical Christian?

- Yes No Unsure

5. How would you describe your ethnic background?

- Black (African background)
 Black (Caribbean background)
 Chinese or other East Asian background
 South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri-Lankan background)
 White British
 White (but not British)
 A mixture of two or more of the above
 Prefer not to say
 Other background or preferred description (please specify below)

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Your church

6. How would you describe the church (congregation) you lead?

- Anglican (Church of England, Church in Wales, Episcopalian)
- Baptist
- Charismatic – independent or non-denominational (eg Vineyard, Pioneer, Newfrontiers or local community church)
- Pentecostal (eg Elim, Assemblies of God, New Testament Church of God, Redeemed Christian Church of God)
- Church of Scotland or other Presbyterian
- Free Church denomination (eg Methodist, URC, Salvation Army)
- Other evangelical church, denomination, assembly or fellowship
- Uncommitted to any church at present
- Other (please specify)

7. In which region or nation of the UK is the church (congregation) you lead?

- London (within M25)
- South-east England outside London (Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire)
- East Anglia (Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)
- East Midlands (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire)
- West Midlands (Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Birmingham & West Midlands conurbation, Worcestershire)
- South-west England (Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall)
- North-west England (Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire)
- North-east England (Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear, Teesside)
- Yorkshire and the Humber
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Elsewhere or outside UK

8. How large (approximately) is the main Sunday congregation or gathering of the church (including all children and adults)?

If you are responsible for more than one congregation, please give the average attendance.

Fewer than 25 people

121 to 250 people

26 to 75 people

251 to 500 people

76 to 120 people

More than 500 people

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Evangelism and your church

9. How far do you agree... ?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Our church has seen many people come to faith over the last few years	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We often share testimonies in our church of people coming to faith or encountering God for the first time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our congregation expects to see people coming to faith and joining the church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
When you look at the activities our church is involved in, evangelism is clearly one of our priorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We don't do any evangelism together as a church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our church often prays together for people to come to faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We often have non-Christians dropping in to ask for prayer/about issues related to faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our church values people with the gift of evangelism and seeks to use and develop their gifts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our evangelism as a church is done through occasional events rather than anything regular	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A new convert has come to our church, but we haven't known how to nurture and retain them successfully	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In our teaching as a church we regularly talk about the need to evangelise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our church regularly gives people practical tips and suggestions of how to share their faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Evangelism has definitely become a higher priority for our church in the last few years	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our church focuses on individual evangelism rather than doing evangelistic activities together	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to share in more detail about any of these issues, please do so below:

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Your church's priorities

10. In practice, what priority does your church give to each of the following?

Please tick one per row

	Very high	High	Medium	Low	Very low
Teaching and shaping disciples	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doing evangelistic activities as a church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talking about Jesus directly with those we come into contact with as a church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipping people to evangelise in their everyday lives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Praying for people to come to faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Running social action projects that bless the community practically	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regular meetings for worship and teaching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work with children and young people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Involvement in church unity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipping people to be leaders in wider society	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Sharing faith

11. How far do you agree... ?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I think people in my church are comfortable talking with non-Christians about Jesus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I suspect people in my church are afraid of causing offence when talking with non-Christians about Jesus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People in our church are much more likely to volunteer for social action projects rather than evangelism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People in our church seem happy to show God's love in actions, but hesitant or unsure how to speak to people directly about Jesus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People in our church are confident to share their faith story with others	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People in our church don't seem to have many non-Christian friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I personally have many non-Christian friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I personally find I am comfortable talking with non-Christians about Jesus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I personally am sometimes afraid of causing offence when talking with non-Christians about Jesus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to share in more detail about any of these issues, please do so below:

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Changes over time

12. Over the last two years, has your church seen any change in the number of...?

	Significant increase	Small increase	About the same	Small decrease	Significant decrease
Non-Christians who are enquiring about Jesus or asking for prayer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-Christians that your church is in contact with	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-Christians who are coming to faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People who are joining the church as new converts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christians who are sharing their faith with their friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christians who are inviting their friends to church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to share in any detail, please do so below:

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Stories to share

13. Do you have any stories to share of people who are coming to faith?

14. Would you be happy for us to contact you to find out more and possibly share these stories?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide your email address (we will not use the email provided here for any other purpose):

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How your church is talking about Jesus

We would love to hear how your church has been telling people about Jesus.

15. Please list below all the things your church has done in the last 12 months with the aim of evangelising (telling people about Jesus), or equipping Christians to do this better.

Please put each new point on a separate line.

16. How would you describe your church's approach to evangelism at the current time?

Please tick all that apply

- We've been really encouraged as we've seen people come to faith
- Although we've not seen anyone come to faith, we are encouraged that we've planted seeds
- We've been discouraged that no one seemed to come to faith
- We are encouraged to continue in our efforts
- We've been discouraged and considered giving up
- Lots of people in the church are involved
- We are able to build relationships with people in our community, but we find that it's hard to take the next step and share our faith with them

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Opportunities and challenges

17. What resources/initiatives/ideas have you seen really work in terms of evangelism in the local context?

18. What would you say is the purpose of evangelism?

19. What are the biggest opportunities in terms of evangelism in your area?

20. What are the biggest challenges in terms of evangelism in your area?

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Do you feel resourced?

21. As a church leader, do you feel resourced in terms of evangelism?

- Very well resourced - I'm aware of lots of good methods and tools
- Adequately resourced - I know where to find advice and help on evangelism
- Not very well resourced - I would value some guidance and help
- I haven't a clue about evangelism
- I'm not interested in evangelism

22. Where do you go if you're looking for ideas for how your church can reach out and evangelise?

Please tick the top two you would go to

- I tend to have my own ideas
- Word-of-mouth from others I know
- Initiatives I've heard of at conferences
- Initiatives from one or two specific organisations
- Initiatives from a wide range of organisations
- Initiatives from our stream/denomination
- Contacting para-church organisation such as the Evangelical Alliance
- Books
- Websites/search online
- Other (please detail below)

Other sources of help you use

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Resourcing you

23. Would any of the following be helpful to your church in terms of evangelism?

Please tick all that apply

- Ideas of ways we can evangelise as a whole church
- Ideas of how individuals can share their faith story with others
- Ideas for evangelistic events we can host
- Greater understanding of the faith context in the UK
- Greater knowledge of legislation regarding sharing faith at work in the UK
- Hearing stories of people coming to faith in the UK
- Hearing stories of how others are sharing their faith
- We don't really need any more resourcing
- Our church would not be interested as evangelism is not really a priority
- Other (please specify below)

If you would like to give any further details, please do so below:

24. In what ways could the Evangelical Alliance help your church to be confident and effective in evangelism?

'Talking Jesus'

Finally, we would like to know if you have seen or heard about the 'Talking Jesus' report, a piece of research on the UK's perceptions of Jesus, Christians and evangelism.

This research was released in September 2015 by the Evangelical Alliance, the Church of England and HOPE.

25. Have you read the 'Talking Jesus' report or heard anything about it?

- Yes, I've read it
- Yes, I've heard about it
- No, I'm not aware of it

If you have come across it, do you have any comments about the report?

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What would you guess?

* 26. Can you guess what proportion of the UK population believe in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead?

- 80-100%
- 60-79%
- 40-59%
- 20-39%
- 0-19%
- I have no idea

* 27. Can you guess what proportion of UK practising Christians has talked about Jesus with a non-Christian in the last month?

- 80-100%
- 60-79%
- 40-59%
- 20-39%
- 0-19%
- I have no idea

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Findings from 'Talking Jesus'

28. What is your reaction to the following findings from the 'Talking Jesus' research (available at www.talkingjesus.org)?

I thought it would be much higher I thought it would be slightly higher Unsurprised I thought it would be slightly lower I thought it would be much lower

43% of the UK population believe in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead

66% of practising Christians have talked about Jesus with a non-Christian in the last month

43% of non-Christians in the UK, after having a conversation with a Christian about their faith, felt glad that they did not share their faith

Four in 10 (39%) of the UK population are not sure if Jesus was a real person who actually lived

If you would like to share in more detail your thoughts on these findings, please do so below:

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Your email address

Thank you so much for taking part!

29. We would like to invite you to take part in future research.

To make sure we can reach you, please enter your current email address below:

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Thank you!

Thank you so much for completing this survey. The views and experiences you've shared will help us to shape a key new Evangelical Alliance resource to equip and empower the UK Church in evangelism.

Please do tell other Christian leaders about this survey and encourage them to go to the website www.eauk.org/snapshot and take part.

To find out more about the 'Talking Jesus' research, please visit www.talkingjesus.org.

To read our previous research reports, please visit www.eauk.org/snapshot.