



MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS

# 7 DAYS OF COURAGE



Orhan's Baptism – See story on page 5

**Steps to Building Evangelistic Courage**

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# Welcome to “7 Days of Courage.” This initiative is designed to foster spiritual growth, equipping you to effectively share your faith in Christ.

## THE STRUGGLE IS REAL

Evangelism can be daunting, so we want to focus on a number of areas where we can all take steps to be bolder about our faith. Some people are natural evangelists and have a natural boldness to share their faith with others, but many Christians aren't.

## WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM SHARING THEIR FAITH?

In the Jesus film projects' Multigenerational survey on Evangelism in 2020, 1600+ Christians were asked why they didn't share their faith, and the number one reason was fear (see graph below). Overcoming fear is the biggest challenge and there are ways you can gently build your courage and overcome your fear.

**FEAR = 22%**

**LACK OF OPPORTUNITY = 17%**

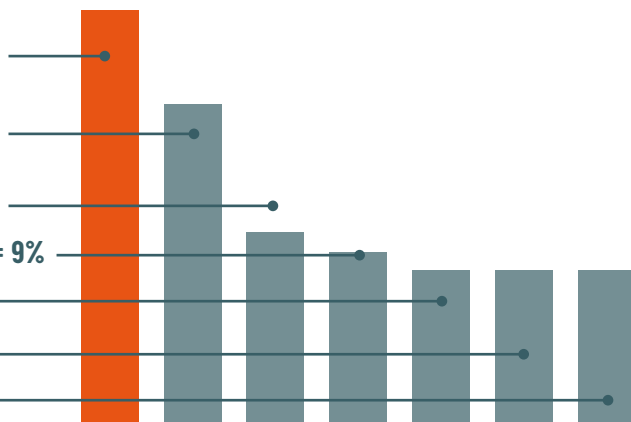
**UNEQUIPPED = 10%**

**LACK OF INTEREST = 9%**

**REJECTION = 8%**

**HOSTILITY = 8%**

**BUSY = 8%**



*Adapted from source: We Asked 1,600+ Christians Why They Don't Share Their Faith, <https://www.jesusfilm.org/blog/christian-evangelism-statistics>*



## **HOW TO COMPLETE 7 DAYS OF COURAGE**

We need to be intentional about sharing our faith, so we want to encourage you to take some steps to build your evangelistic courage.

### **MAKE A PLAN**

Choose six steps from the provided Steps of Courage list and fill out the Steps to Courage participation card. Look to complete these six steps over the week of your Church's event.

### **ALONG THE WAY**

Keep updating your Steps of Courage card as you complete the challenge. Keep a record of the challenges and outcomes of each step.

### **SHARE STORIES**

On Sunday we encourage you to share with your church your journey and some of the things God has done in your life during this time.

### **A FINAL STEP**

As a final step we encourage you to consider extending your evangelistic reach by Sponsoring a family with Mission Without Borders. Partner with us to reach people for Christ like Orhan's family (see story on page 5).

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### **MORE INFORMATION**

If you would like more information and resources for 7 Days of Courage, check out:  
[mwb.org.nz/get-involved/7-days-of-courage](http://mwb.org.nz/get-involved/7-days-of-courage)



# STEPS TO BUILD YOUR EVANGELISTIC COURAGE

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## SHARE A CHRISTIAN SOCIAL MEDIA POST

Even if you share your testimony or something God has done in your life, this can be a powerful seed you share with those who don't know Christ.

## FRIENDSHIP EVANGELISM

Develop a friendship with someone who is not a Christian. Having non-Christian friends provides the opportunity to shine the light of the Gospel into their lives.

## BE BRAVE AT WORK

Tell someone at work who doesn't know you're a Christian, that you're a Christian.

## SERVANT EVANGELISM

Do something to help someone in need that doesn't know Christ. Offer to do some gardening, mow a lawn or clean a car for a non-Christian neighbour.

## PRAYER WORKS

Offer to pray for an unsaved person who's sick.

## BAKING AND TREATS

Bake a cake or buy some treats for a neighbour who is not a Christian.

## HOSPITALITY

Invite a non-Christian neighbour over for dinner.

## WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Put a word of encouragement into a card and into the letterbox of a non-Christian neighbour.

## VISIT THE ELDERLY

Visit an elderly person you know, who doesn't know Christ.

## VOLUNTEER

Help at a Soup Kitchen at a local Church or homeless shelter.

## WORK WITH YOUR NETWORK

Share the good news of Jesus with a non-Christian family member or someone you have built a relationship with.

## DISPLAY YOUR FAITH

Wear a Christian t-shirt or Christian wristband to work or in a public place.

## CHRISTIAN DÉCOR

Decorate Your Home and Car with Christian decor. Like preaching the word through your clothes, you can also decorate your space to reflect your Christian faith.

## TRACT DISTRIBUTION

Hand out some tracts in a public place. You can get some from your local Christian bookstore.

## **BIBLE DISTRIBUTION**

Give away some free mini pocket-sized Bibles. You can get some from your local Christian bookstore.

## **INVITE**

Invite a non-Christian to Church or a Christian outreach event.

## **PRAYER WALK**

Walk around your neighbourhood and pray for your non-Christian neighbours.

## **INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

Develop a prayer list of non-Christians and pray for them regularly.

## **TESTIMONY**

Share your personal testimony with someone who doesn't know Jesus.

## **TALK ABOUT CHURCH**

Tell a friend at work your plans to attend Church on the weekend or how Church went on the weekend.

## **TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY**

Initiate a conversation about the Lord with someone next to you on public transport (bus, train, uber, plane etc.)

## **READ YOUR BIBLE IN PUBLIC**

Read your Bible on your lunch break or at a Café, many times this can be a conversation starter.

## **PRAYER CHALLENGE**

Gently challenge a non-Christian friend to pray with an open heart "God, if you are real, reveal yourself to me."

## **INVOLVE GOD IN YOUR CONVERSATIONS**

Whenever you compliment someone who isn't a Christian, thank God in the same sentence so instead of saying, "you're talented", say "God's blessed you with so much talent."

## **TEXT MESSAGE**

Text your non-Christian friend or associate a Bible verse to encourage them to overcome the problem they are going through.

## **CHRISTIAN BUSINESS BOOK**

Give your non-Christian business associate a business book based on Biblical principles.

## **REVELATION**

Ask God to show you something about a non-Christian person that you can share with them.

## **STREET OUTREACH**

Get involved in a street outreach with your local Church.

## **VISUALLY PRAY IN PUBLIC**

How powerful is it to see someone praying in public? You can do that, too. Silently bow your head and pray before meals, before tests, or anytime you feel inclined.

## **CREATE YOUR OWN STEP**

There are so many steps we can take to build evangelistic courage. Maybe you have one of your own steps you can create for yourself to add to your list!





## **ORHAN'S STORY**

### **THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP**

**A young man in Bosnia-Herzegovina becomes a Christian thanks to the witness of Mission Without Borders and our partner Church.**

#### **WHERE IT BEGAN**

Orhan's family struggled with poverty when he was growing up in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina. His mother, Marina, worked as a hairdresser and also as a cleaner for a local company. His father was unemployed but picked up any manual work he was offered.

Orhan grew up sharing a small house with 11 other family members: his parents, his sister who is five years younger, his grandparents, and his uncles, and aunts.

The house had a living room, bedroom, kitchenette and inside toilet (no bathroom). Orhan, his sister and parents slept in the bedroom at night, and the other family members in the living room.

Orhan's family were enrolled in Mission Without Borders' family sponsorship programme. As a result, Orhan had a childhood filled with MWB's Summer Camps, special children's events, and later on, youth meetings. His faith had its ups and downs, but Orhan always had a sense of God's hand on his life and was drawn to Christianity because of the people he knew.

Growing up in a Muslim community, Orhan would never have been exposed to the Bible and its truths were it not for the supporters that send our Mission Without Borders team.

As Orhan shared his testimony at the baptism, he said:

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**I've been thinking about baptism over the last two or three years and I'm glad that I'm doing it right now.”**

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## **HOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF STORIES LIKE ORHAN'S**

In Matthew 5:16 it says, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Thanks to the commitment of so many Christians – both in Mission Without Borders and in the local church – because of generous kiwi's like you, Orhan and his family now know Jesus for themselves.

Through family sponsorship, you can shine a light into people's lives – as they come to experience for themselves the love and faithfulness of God through the Christian witness of our staff and church partners. Become a family sponsor today and help us evangelise people across eastern Europe.



**Become a family sponsor, scan here!**

## A BIT OF BACKGROUND

At Mission Without Borders “we enable and encourage people to lift themselves out of poverty, always sharing the hope that is found in Jesus Christ.”

We started out over 60 years ago as Underground Evangelism smuggling Bibles behind the Iron Curtain. We now work across Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania and Ukraine to help people break the destructive cycle of poverty.

While the context where we work has changed significantly in the last 60 years, our Mission has stayed the same – reaching people for Christ.

We want to use our background, skills and experiences in the Mission field to encourage Churches in New Zealand to reach People for Christ as well.

# SUPPORT THE WORK OF MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS

[WWW.MWB.ORG.NZ/DONATE](http://WWW.MWB.ORG.NZ/DONATE)

GOT QUESTIONS?

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