



How to run your Invitation Cross Sunday

What you will need

For this exercise you will need –

- A large cross positioned at the front of the church
- Pens or pencils for everyone – hand out as people arrive or pass down the rows at the appropriate moment
- Post it notes – at the end of the rows. Check that they will stick to the cross!

You will also need to have planned an invitational event perhaps 3-4 weeks after your Invitation Cross Sunday

What you should do

This Invitation Cross activity follows a talk on mission which emphasises the three ways of thinking that are vital in the context of invitation. The video explaining them can be found here www.weekendofinvitation.com/the-opportunity/a-new-mind-set

Following the talk lead into the following response.

Say: *We are going to ask God if there is someone God is calling/prompting/nudging you to invite and then we are going keep a silence as we listen to what God might be saying to us.*

Make sure this is not rushed and then close with 'Amen'.

Say: *If you sense that God has prompted you to invite someone then that is wonderful. And if God hasn't prompted you to invite someone, then that is also wonderful. We only want to do that which God prompts us to do.*

You will find post it notes at the end of your row. Pass them along so everyone has one.

Now, if God has prompted you to invite someone please put their first name or initials on the post it note. And if God hasn't prompted you at this time just put a question mark on it. Perhaps that name will come when you are shopping on Tuesday or at the office water fountain on Wednesday.

Now please to turn in twos or threes – making sure no one is left out - and talk about what happened when you asked God who to invite.

Allow people time to talk as this activity helps people 'own' what God has said to them.

Say: *You may be wondering what this cross is at the front of church – and you are about to find out. As an act of worship, please bring your post it note and place it on the cross. (Demonstrate by placing yours there).*

In doing so you are bringing those God has prompted you to invite to the cross or continuing to ask God who to invite. Please come forward

Take time to marvel at the call of God as people come forward. Afterwards, lead a prayer for those called to invite and for those waiting for an invitation.

Say: *Next week we will make time to hear some of your invitation stories and what God has done as the result of today.*