



## Part 2

# The Zone of the Unknown

→ What's the first thought that comes into your head when someone says 'personal evangelism?' What feelings does it stir up and why?

### OUR OBJECTIVES

1. Encourage ENGAGEMENT
2. Fuel FAITH
3. Move us from OUGHT TO to CAN DO

→ Did you spot any opportunities to share your faith this week? What did you do about it? What signs / signals are you looking for? What approach do you take?

### OUR STRAPLINE

"EYES up, HEART open, FEET walking, HANDS outstretched, KNEES bent."

### OUR CHALLENGE

Are you prepared to enter the ZONE of the UNKNOWN?

- \* It's far easier to stick in FAMILIAR CONVERSATIONS & CLIQUES or to STAY where it's COMFORTABLE.
  - \* Is it possible that we could actually IMPACT someone's ETERNAL DESTINY? Could we CHANGE the COURSE of an ENTIRE FAMILY HISTORY?
  - \* Tantalising thought: Isn't it within this zone that God does His VERY BEST WORK? For sure, NOTHING will happen if you stay in your CIRCLE of COMFORT.
- Describe your 'circle of comfort.' How often do you leave it? Why is it so difficult to do so?
- Why is the 'zone of the unknown' so scary? Was Benjamin Mee right? ("You know, sometimes all you need is twenty seconds of insane courage. Just literally twenty seconds of just embarrassing bravery. And I promise you, something great will come of it.")
- Can your decision to 'walk across the room' really make a difference? Can you tell any stories of when you've done so and what happened?
- Who walked across the room for you? Did anyone take a noticeable risk to ask you, challenge you, invite you? Do you think it was easy for them? How did it change your life and what knock-on effect(s) has it had since?

### 3 FACTORS THAT HELP YOU WALK ACROSS ROOMS

1. COURAGE
2. CONVICTION
3. COMPASSION

→ Score yourself from 0-10 on courage, conviction and compassion. How bold are you or likely to be bold? How strong are your convictions that people need Jesus and that the Gospel can change their life? Are you compassionate? How much do you care or have you become dispassionate, complacent, even hardened? How often do you sense the Holy Spirit's longings for the lost?

### JESUS walked across the room FOR US (Romans 5:8, Luke 19:10)

- \* GOSPEL EXAMPLES: John 8:1-11, John 19:1-10, John 4:1-42
  - \* The Holy Spirit wants to turn all of us into 'WALK ACROSS THE ROOM' kind of people.
- How did Jesus model walking across the room? What exactly did He do in the three examples listed above? Who did He walk across a room for? What type of person and in what set of circumstances?
- Read the story of the Samaritan Woman at the Well in John 4:1-42. What do we learn about Jesus' approach / heart / methods? Why was this situation so unusual culturally? How did Jesus' response differ from that of His disciples and, more generally, the Pharisees and teachers of the law?
- What does a 'walk across the room' person look like / do? How do you become one?

### CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

- If you were serious about personal evangelism, how would that affect your daily prayer life?
- The single greatest gift we can give anyone is an introduction to the God of grace. Discuss!
- Do you know anyone who's really good at walking across the room? What do they have that you don't? What's stopping you from doing it more like them?
- When you've made it across the room, what do you do next?
- "If you're a Christian and you're stalled, not growing and not seeing fruit, could it be that you've become stuck in your CIRCLE OF COMFORT? Could it be that you've become so risk averse that it's been years since you took tentative step into the ZONE OF THE UNKNOWN? It's easy to get wrapped up in Circle of Comfort – snug in the warm glow of Christian fellowship, focusing all your energies and attention on people standing inside your circle, never looking up long enough to even notice all those people standing across the room who desperately need someone to care or a little injection of hope or their questions answered." Do you agree with this statement? Is our ability to bear fruit related to our willingness to step out of our comfort zone? Does our reluctance to step out hold us back, and, if so, how?