



DIY:

STARTING YOUR OWN PRAYER GROUP

Katy Collie tells us how she set up a Year 7 prayer group at her school...



IN THE BEGINNING

After Summer Under the Son in January, a group of us from my school decided to make a change . . . change how we were talking about our faith and work on how we were reacting to people when they asked about Christianity at school.

In the beginning we didn't have much of a plan. We just told people we were starting a Christian group, invited them along and chose a tree to meet under.

WHAT WE DID

We started off just talking and trying to do short Bible studies. We would pick a theme and use a Christian devotional book to build on that theme and talk about it.

This term we've been doing it a little differently. Instead of the themed studies we're just talking and praying.

TO SOMEONE WHO IS THINKING OF STARTING THEIR OWN GROUP

If you feel you should be doing something like this, God is probably calling you to take action. But it's always your choice to take the first step. So just do what God says and don't feel scared.

At my old school I was always scared to tell them that I was a Christian, but now that I think about it that's so stupid. I could have shared so much with them if I had just leaned on God!

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!

It's very important that you always have people supporting you and praying for you. And *you* have to keep praying too. You can't do it alone – you have to keep asking God to be with you. It's our human nature to try and do it all ourselves, but that's not the way God does it.

We knew that God wanted us to start up a group and I guess we've done that! But we have to keep building on it and *ask God to help us get more people into it, and speak to them through it.*

At the moment, it doesn't feel like our group is moving forward. That will probably happen with just about every prayer group anyone starts up. But again, it's not about what we think, because God is much wiser. He knows the bigger picture, and wants us to just trust him. That's when he will start working in us and the lives of others.

Katy Collie

You can find out about Katy and her family on page 5. Though she's a missionary kid, only since returning to Australia has she begun to realise her place in God's mission and the importance of sharing the gospel and praying.

Some Great Resources...

Book review

Just Walk Across the Room
Bill Hybels
(Zondervan, 2006)



This book explores the confronting idea that redirecting a person's life for eternity is as simple as walking across a room. Hybels explains that although it can be much easier to stay inside our own 'circle of comfort', as Christ's followers we're asked to move in circles that include people far from God . . . uncovering their stories with compassion and grace, then naturally and consistently making ourselves available when God opens a door of opportunity.

He points out that God doesn't need somebody altogether spectacular to achieve his purposes. Just somebody who is willing to get up each morning and say, "God, today I want to follow you and do what your spirit is prompting me to do."

Read this book if you'd like to be encouraged in sharing your faith with people in your world, and if you'd like to learn some simple steps to maximise your effectiveness in connecting with those who don't know Jesus.

Alexi Harper

Thanks, Alexi . . . and if you've read a book/seen a movie/been on a website you'd like to review, we're always interested in hearing from new authors.



Some additional resources to help you get 'scandalous' as a Christian . . .

www.desiringgod.org/
Interesting resources and aids for Christian faith and some excellent articles on mission by John Piper.

www.christianitytoday.com/iyf
Youth resources and articles.

www.cms.org.au
View missionary profiles, get news updates, and be inspired by what CMS is doing in your area. Includes youth resources for engaging in mission.

Register Now for CMS SUMMER CONFERENCES!

QNSW

Summer School 2011 God is Enough
When: 7 to 12 January 2011
Where: Mt Tamborine Convention Centre, Queensland

NSW/ACT

Summer School 8-14 January 2011 When church goes pear-shaped
Keeping Christ at the centre
Katoomba Christian Convention Centre, NSW

TAS

Summer Viewer 2011 Chosen by God
King Saul & the Sovereignty of God
13-16 January Camp Banksia, Port Sorell, Tasmania

SA/NT

summer ENCOUNTER 2011 A CROSS CULTURE
13-16 JANUARY VICTOR HARBOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VIC

Summer Under the Son 2011 All for Christ, Christ for All
14-19 January / at Adventure Resort / Phillip Island / Victoria

These sites are suggestions that may interest you, but the non-CMS sites do not necessarily have our endorsement.

JOIN BEYOND FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Church, school or uni you attend _____

P/C _____

Date of birth / /

I'm 18 or over – please tell me how to become a member of CMS.

I'm under 18 – please add me to the mailing list for *Beyond*.

Where did you find *Beyond*?

CMS church Koorong/Word concert friend camp other, where?

Email _____






Phone
 Mobile

Post this form or email your details to the CMS branch closest to you

www.cms.org.au



CMS has almost 200 missionaries and volunteers in over 35 countries, working in the following areas of ministry:

-  Development and caring
-  Leadership training
-  Church-based ministry
-  Student ministry
-  Mission in Muslim areas

By the year 2012, we pray that we will increase our missionary numbers by 100, and grow our membership by 5000.

Can you help us achieve these goals? Is God calling you to be part of his worldwide vision?

If you're 18 or over, why not join CMS today? Otherwise, why not sign up to keep receiving *Beyond* and stay up to date on youth mission?

Please fill out the JOIN FORM on the left and post it to the CMS branch closest to you – or send us an email.

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As a fellowship of Christian people, CMS (the Church Missionary Society) exists to glorify God through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world.

Our vision is to see God's Church growing in all the world as lives and communities are transformed by Christ.