



THE TURNING

THE TURNING by Prem Coutinho

In the past my attempts to evangelise resulted in much irritation in my listeners ... and frustration and disappointment for me. Because I had been trying, by discussion and argument, to convince friends and family members of the need to be in relationship with Jesus. I didn't have another approach so my frustration continued!

So I was apprehensive at the thought of street evangelising. Especially when I realised this would involve asking strangers for contact details, and offering support over several weeks before inviting them into a church.

However, the training day at Westminster Chapel broke down all barriers for me. Showing me how to evangelise – and (importantly) how NOT to! No one is brought to Christ through logical discussion and argument!!

The Turning script given to us uses God's heart language : He loves you – has an amazing plan for you – His FREE gift of eternal life - how do you wish to respond? The script works because it's anointed – the result of much prayer. And street conversations are an opportunity for His grace to work.

If met with refusal, we could (with permission) pray a blessing. A win-win situation is what I could see. And if response was positive, a prayer of acceptance of the Gospel of Christ. And contact details for follow up – if desired.

The training also removed my nervousness – we would be working in pairs – in the power and authority of Jesus Christ - He would be doing the work – we were His agents. No fear of rejection or frustration then. It sure took the pressure off !

I decided to try it. It got easier as I practised. The sharing of faith with strangers grew my own faith and was a joyful experience; I was being used by the Lord for His work – it filled me with elation and confidence.

This was reinforced when we reported back – and heard testimony from other returning team members – to loud cheering and applause.

I can't wait for the next round !!

