

EVERY CONTACT LEAVES A TRACE

| Discussion Notes

We know that at Christmas 34% of people in the UK will attend a carol service and 75% of those want to be reminded of the Christmas story. So, now is the easiest time of year to share the Gospel and invite our friends to church.

- Do you have any stories of when you have shared your faith (either good or bad!)?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable are you with sharing faith?
- What do you find difficult or challenging?

Toby Flint shared from Acts 4. Read Acts 4:11-20 together. From this story we can learn how 'every contact leaves a trace', that every contact we have with Jesus or other people leaves a trace on us or them.

First of all, every contact we have with Jesus leaves a trace on us.

- The disciples were 'unschooled and ordinary men', and yet the crowd 'took note that they had been with Jesus'. Those around the disciples could see that their time with Jesus had impacted them. Do you think your friends see a difference in you because of your contact with Jesus?
- How should it encourage us in our faith that every contact with Jesus leaves a trace on us?
- Does that change how you think about sharing your faith?

Reread the words of Peter in Acts: 'Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

- Do you have the same attitude to sharing your faith as Peter had?
- What can we change in our lives to have this boldness in sharing faith? Can we make any practical changes or put things in place to help us step out?

Finally, we know that every contact our friends have with Jesus, no matter how small, will leave a trace and impact them. Share in your groups who you want to share your faith with, especially in the run up to Metro Carols, and then pray for these people. Also pray for confidence and boldness for each member of the Hub.