

“Imagine a Person” Exercise

This exercise is designed to encourage the congregation to focus down on one individual that they know who lives in your neighbourhood and think about life through their eyes.

Time: It is best done while gathered together at a meeting rather than given out to be returned. It is also best explained by one of the church leaders, as it is amazing how people can think that it's actually about their preferences or about their Christian friends. It takes about 20 minutes, and is about 'gut response', not well thought out deliberation.

Imagine someone close to you who is not a Christian and lives in your community - a neighbour or a friend. Picture them in your mind. All the answers you give in this exercise should be from their perspective and what you imagine they would say. We do not need to know their name as we are not looking to contact them.

Personal Profile

Age – How old are they?

0-16 16-25 25-40 40-65 65+

Gender

Male Female

Marital Status

- Single and never married
- Living with partner
- Married and if so is it: 1st marriage or 2nd marriage
- Single parent with dependant children
- Divorced and not remarried
- Widowed

Family

Do they have children?

Yes

No

How many?

What ages?

Do their children live at home?

What would you say is the most important thing in their lives?

Employment Status

- At school
- Student
- Employed
- Unemployed
- Retired

General Interests

What is this person interested in, outside of work?

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If this person were to buy a newspaper, what would they read?

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If they were to go on holiday, where would they go?

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If they were to watch TV, what sort of programmes would interest them?

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Needs

What would you say was their chief practical need at the present time?

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What is the one thing we could do that would make the most dramatic difference to their lives?

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(Remember, you are not looking for your preferences or the changes that you would like to see.)