

crossingplaces

crossingplaces



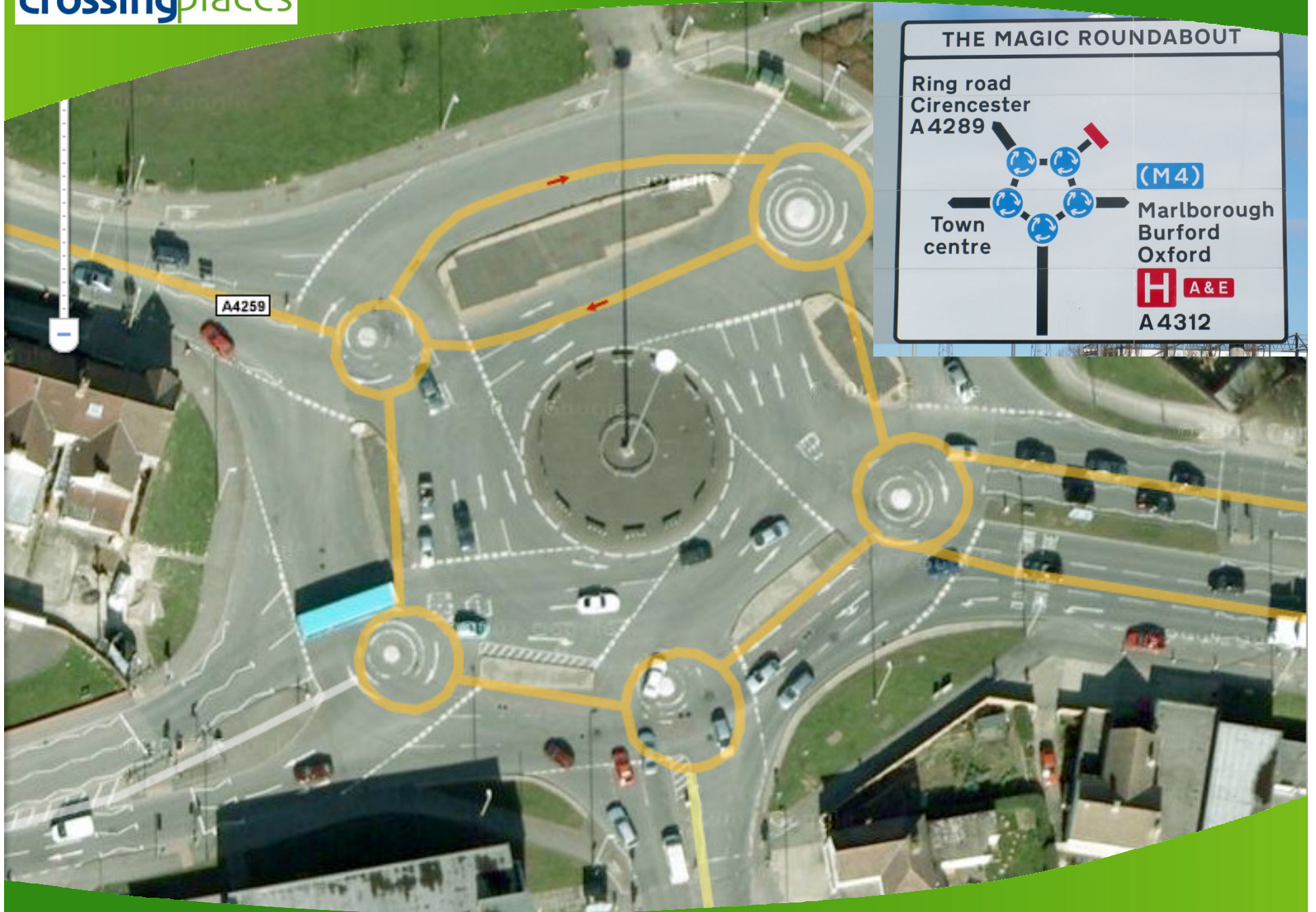
















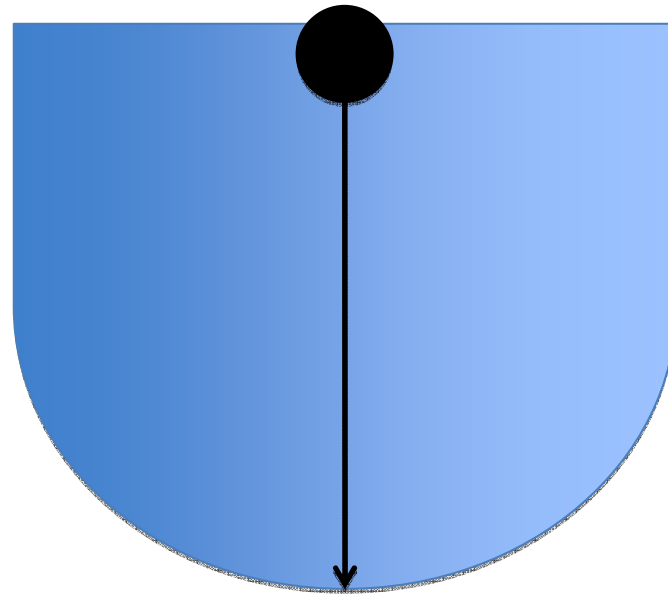
Crossingplaces are where we are

- with non-believers
- with the intent to be, to do, to say and to think as Christ would in the situation
- with an expectancy that something transformational will happen

A crossingplace may involve us as part of a whole church event, in a smaller group of which we are part, or on our own in our daily living.

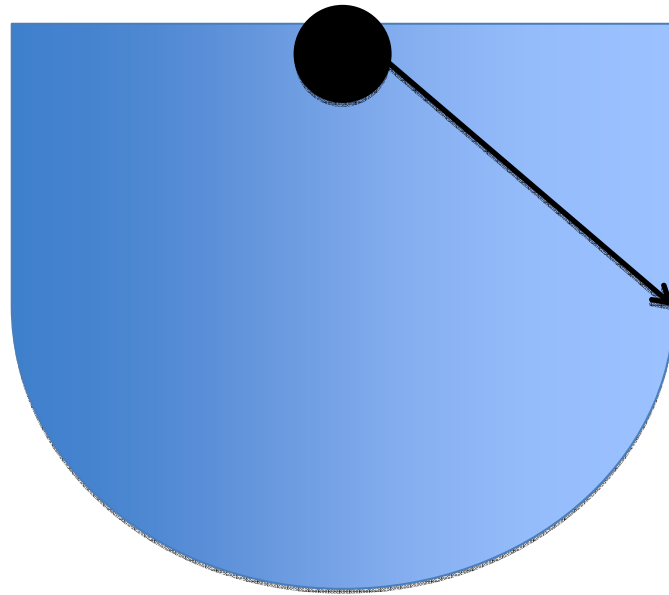


Action



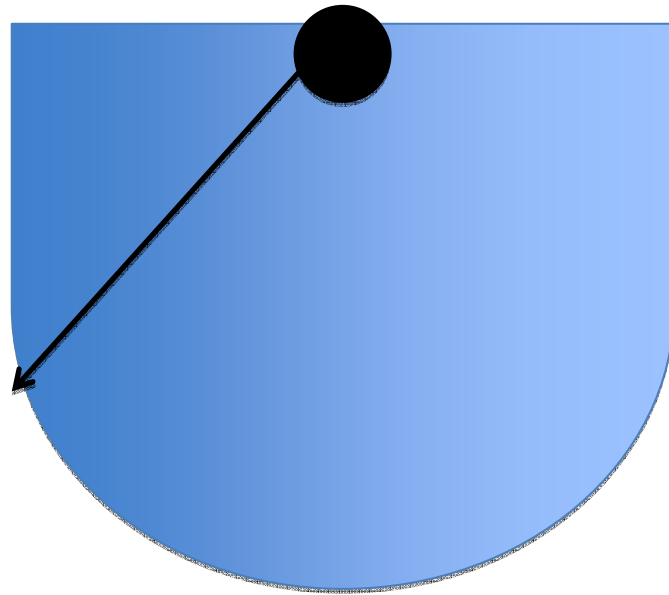
Word

Action



Word

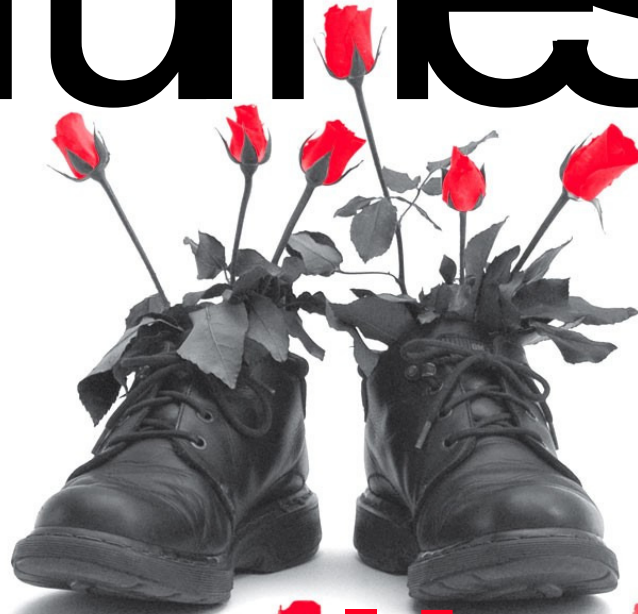
Action



Word

Fruitfulness

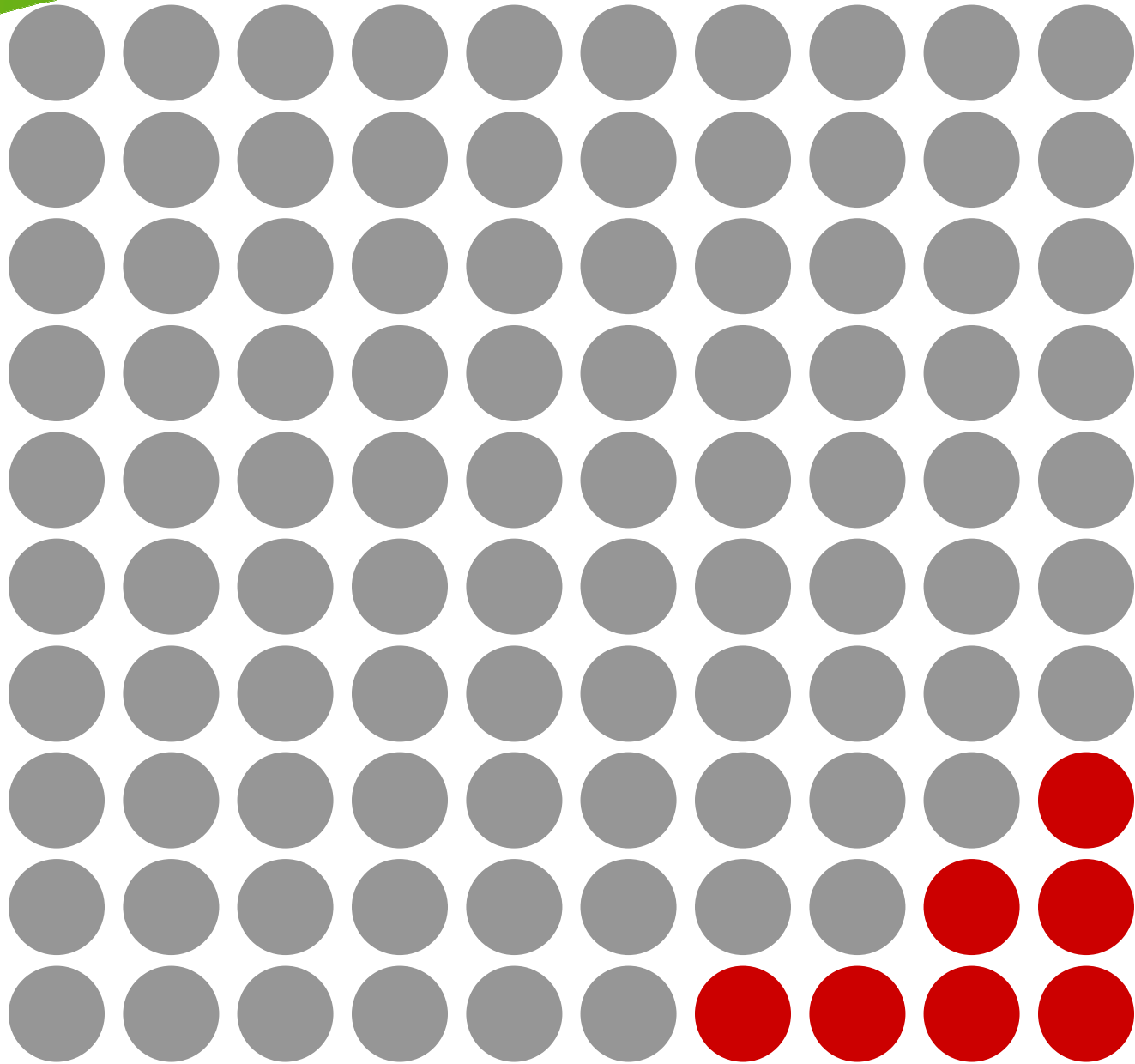
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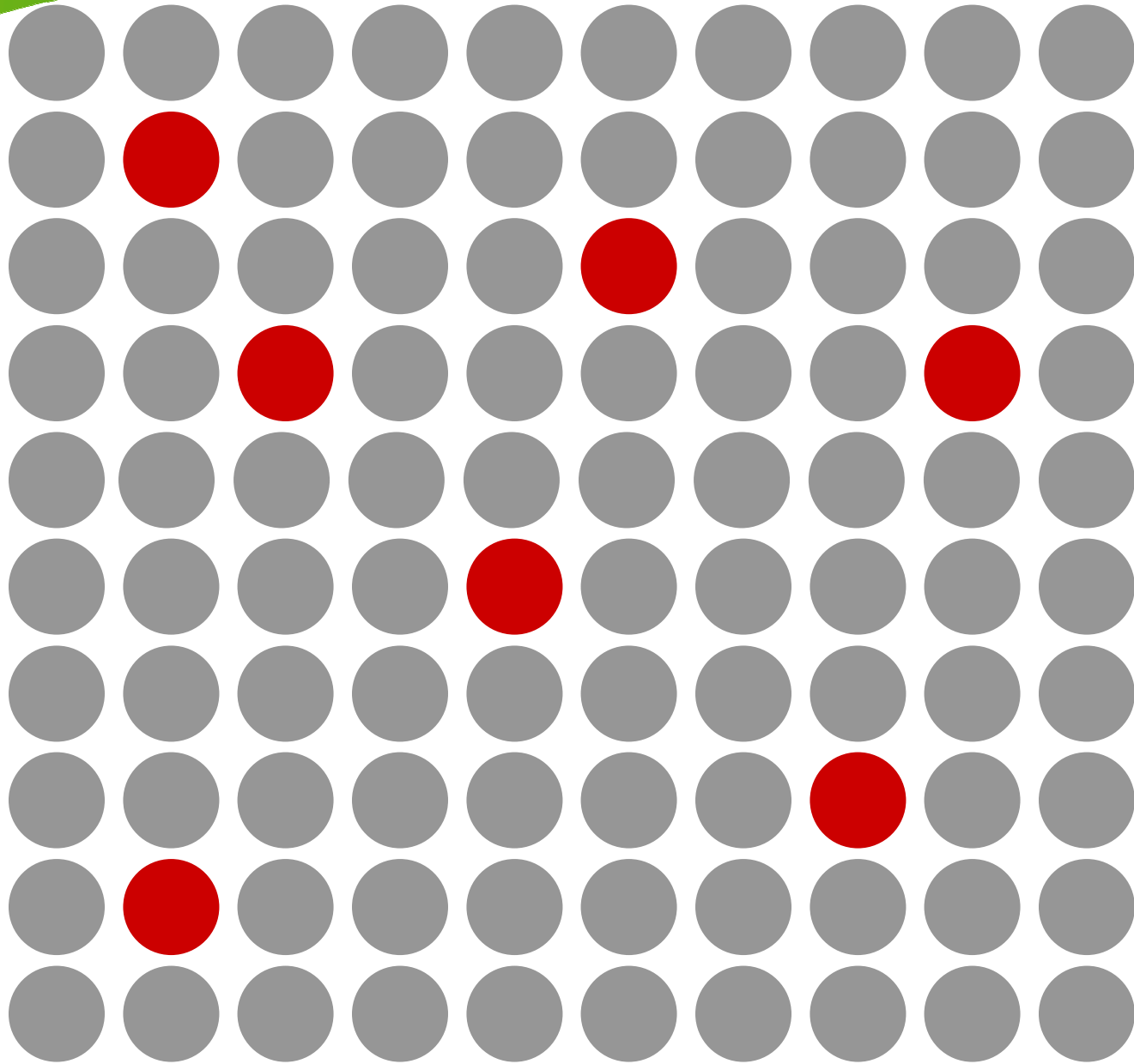


Frontline

pious hope, radical possibility?

Who will reach
the UK?







Crossingplace

- ✓ Go beyond the church
- ✓ Go out of the safety zone
- ✓ Seek to transform lives
- ✓ Grasp God-given opportunities

Jesus at the Crossingplaces

- ✓ Jesus and the Woman at the Well
- ✓ Jesus and Zacchaeus
- ✓ Jesus in the Temple
- ✓ Jesus at the Cross

Romans 12: 1

- Offer yourselves:
 - What do we offer?
 - How can God use it?

Where are you?

- 1 Where do you spend most of your time in an ordinary week?
- 2 What issues have you faced in that context in the last year?

Identifying our crossingplaces

Outer ring:

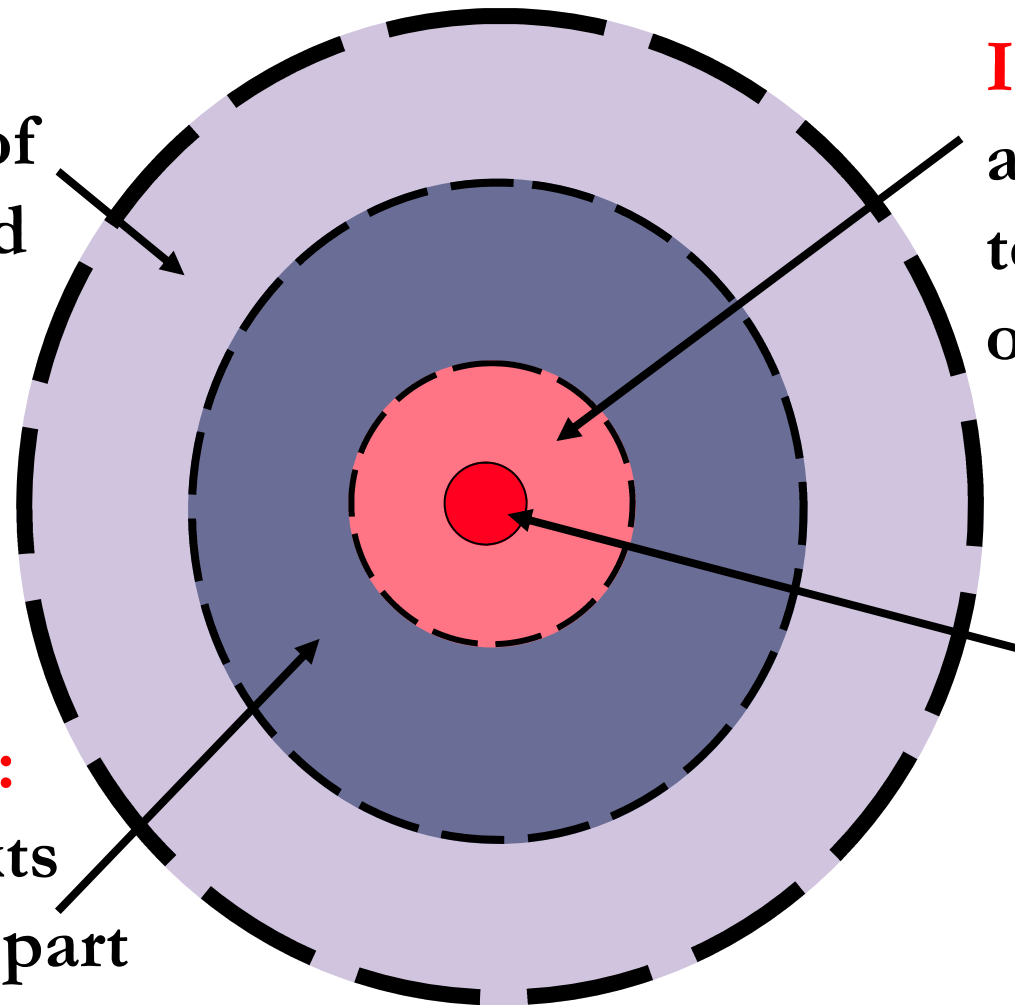
'big issues' of today's world

Inner ring:

activities close to the daily life of the church

Middle ring:

daily contexts that are not part of the daily life of the church



Church

(building and gathered activities)

Sowing Reaping Keeping



WHAT SRK IS NOT...

EVANGELISM IS NEVER EASY

“We put in a lot of effort for little fruit”

“We feel guilty about our failure to reach the lost for Christ”

“At the end of the week nobody had responded to Christ”

“We’re at a loss to understand why it worked for other churches but not for us”

All our training seemed to get us nowhere”

CONFUSION ABOUT EVANGELISM

“Presenting the Good News to non-believers and challenging them to make a decision to follow Christ”.

But this definition confuses a *part* of evangelism with the *whole*.

THE ENGEL SCALE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1

THE ENGEL SCALE

This plots someone's understanding of the Gospel and how close to becoming a Christian they may be.

- On brink **1**
- Quite close **2**
- Some grasp* **3**
- Just aware* **4**
- No idea* **5**
- 6**
- 7**
- 8**
- 9**
- 10**

TWO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

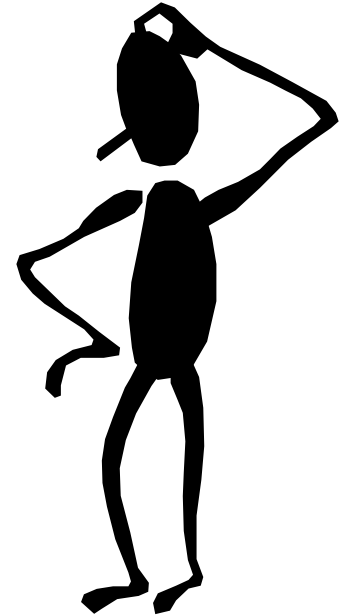
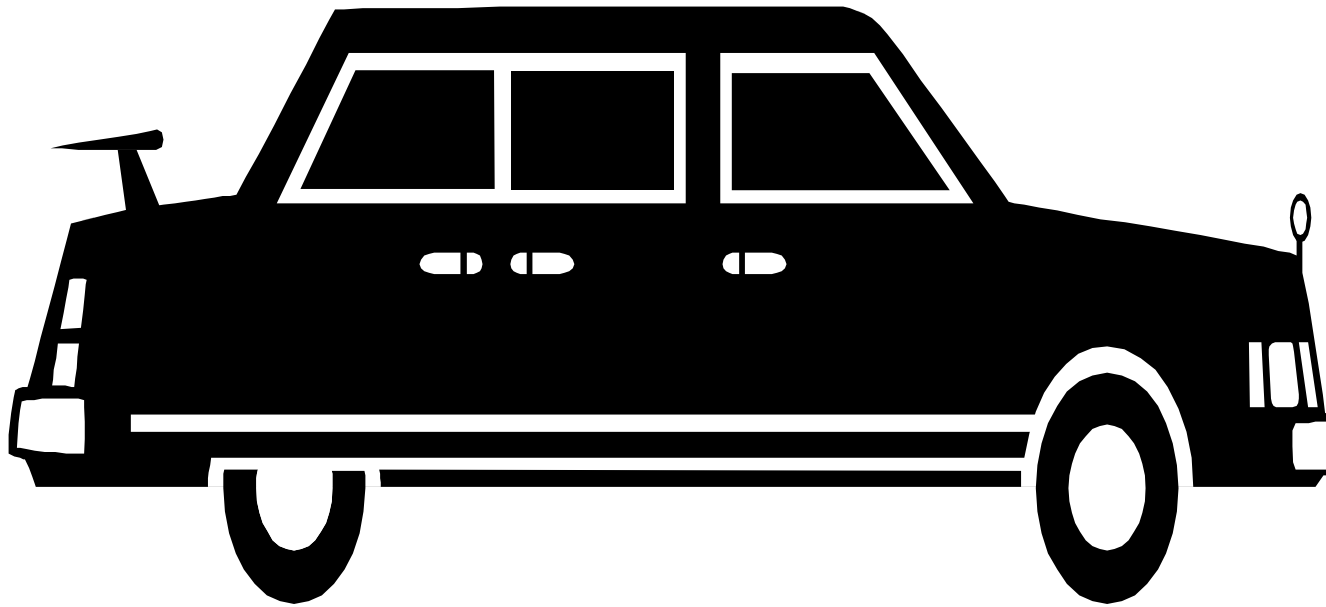
Where on the scale is the bulk of our population?

A: at the lower end

Where on the scale is most of our evangelism directed?

A: at the upper end

There is a mismatch because we don't meet people where they are spiritually!



THREE CONCLUSIONS

1. Present what people can take in
2. This varies with their place on the Scale.
3. When someone moves up the Scale,
evangelism is happening!

SOWING AND REAPING

John 4:34-38

Essential and complementary roles

Two opposite and frustrating errors:

1. Sowing activities not followed by reaping activities.
2. Reaping activities not preceded by sowing activities.

THE ENGEL SCALE AND SOWING AND REAPING

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THE ENGEL SCALE AND SOWING AND REAPING

REAPING (commitment)

The cost and the call

SOWING 2 (the message)

Content of the good
news

SOWING 1 (positive
signals). God is good
and we're OK

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SOWING ONE

NETWORKING

Working with existing friends and family

PIONEER EVANGELISM

Contact with people outside your circle

PIONEERING

CONTACTS

→ Networking

COHERENT STRATEGIES

...involves:

SOWING 1

SOWING 2

REAPING

Enable people to move from step to step

Be ready for a dropout
rate: more Gospel content,
fewer attenders.

KEEPING STRATEGIES

No droughts if all the leaks could be mended.

1500 people leave UK churches every week. All churches leak, even the growing ones!

What helps people to stay?

1. Being with people like themselves
2. Forming relationships

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**Do more, do it together,
do it in word and deed,**



The church in action on the streets.

www.streetpastors.co.uk



Parish Nursing Ministries UK



www.parishnursing.org.uk