



# WATCH PARTY ON YOUR STREET

Connecting to your  
community by hosting  
sport watch parties



**UNITED  
WE STAND**

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR EFFECTIVE MINISTRY DURING SOCCER WORLD CUP IS HERE



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Explore all the essential resources, courses, and strategies designed to help you serve effectively during the 2026 Soccer World Cup. Whether you're organizing events, leading teams, or just getting started, everything is gathered in one place to equip and empower you. Start now and make an eternal impact!

## YOUR STORY MATTERS — SHARE IT!

Have you used Nations United resources to serve during the World Cup? We want to hear about it! Your testimony can encourage others, help us improve, and reveal how God is moving through this global mission.

Fill out the quick form and let us know how your ministry made a difference.



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# INTRODUCTION

We all love big sports events, especially when athletes are competing for your nation. We feel inspired and proud! **How can believers use the excitement and energy of these big sports events for God's Kingdom?**

This guide will provide some simple ideas to get started.

We all need to be sensitive and wise with our neighbors, but there are some wonderful things we can do to spotlight Jesus's timeless message. Our greatest assets are prayer, hospitality, and generosity.

We hope these ideas will inspire households to be on a mission together. Our deepest goal is to draw our communities to our loving Savior, even as we have fun together.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Introduction
- 5 Long-term Thinking
- 5 Faith is a Journey
- 7 Preparation
- 10 Watch Sport Together
- 11 Conversation Starters
- 12 Building Bridges
- 14 Activities for Kids
- 15 Follow up



# LONG-TERM THINKING

## WHAT IS THE LONG-TERM GOAL OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

There is no doubt that we all want our communities to be safe and for everyone to flourish. Most people can unite around these two goals.

People have different backgrounds, and not everyone is ready to hear the Gospel of Jesus. We often need to clear rocks off the path that may cause stumbling (making it safe) before we can share about life with Jesus (helping people to flourish).

How do we help others move on a clear path towards Jesus?

# FAITH IS A JOURNEY

Here is a helpful way to look at people on a journey towards Jesus.



## THREE EARLY STEPS IN THE JOURNEY

In Acts 17:32-34 we see examples of the first three categories of the journey:

- 1 **No interest** – Those who are opposed or haven't considered God and faith.
- 2 **Seeker** – Those asking questions and searching for God in the scriptures.
- 3 **Ready to believe** – Those who have satisfied themselves that Jesus is Lord and understand that this requires a personal response.

## THREE LATER STEPS IN THE JOURNEY

The following categories merge on a continuum as a believer grows in Bible knowledge, intimacy with Jesus, and influence in leadership. There are many examples in scripture:

- 4 **New believer** – Growing as a disciple of Jesus and telling others (Acts 8:26-40).
- 5 **Growing believer** – Growing as a disciple-maker (Colossians 1:3-8, 1 Tim 6:11-21).
- 6 **Mature believer** – Growing as a maker of disciple-makers (2 Timothy 3:10-17).

## BUILDING TRUST AND FRIENDSHIP

Plan all gatherings recognizing that people are on a journey. Aim to build trust and openness. Consider an all-year plan spiced with many types of neighbor interactions. Approach any neighborhood gathering as part of this bigger strategy of bringing safety and trust to the community and, ultimately, introducing them to Jesus.

# PREPARATION

Colossians 4:2-6 is a helpful model for planning a community gathering.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Col 4:2-6 (NIV)

## FOUR STEPS IN THE PASSAGE

It can be summarized in these four parts:

### PRAY

Here is a helpful way to look at people on a journey towards Jesus.

### OPEN A DOOR

Take or make opportunities to connect

### WISE CONVERSATION

Make good conversations your goal

### PROCLAIM CLEARLY

# PRAY

## FIVE CREATIVE WAYS TO PRAY

- Think about the needs of your community. Pray about how you could respond.
- Draw a prayer map of your neighborhood and make notes about the people you want to reach (What do you know? How can you pray?)
- Go for prayer walks around the local streets – be intentional about greeting and engaging people on the walk.
- Ask your church family to pray for this strategy and invite them to try it at the same time in their local area.
- Pray at the same time every day for your neighbors.



# OPEN A DOOR

## FIVE WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Make your home a safe and welcoming place.
- Walk the streets to pray, chat, and see the needs.
- Play games and sports on the street if it's safe so others can join in.
- Organize ways for the community to connect well.
- Join community sports groups and be a good influence.

# CONVERSATIONS

## SIX WAYS TO BE WISE IN CONVERSATION

- Resist the urge to preach.
- Be a listener.
- Ask good, open-ended questions.
- Help people talk by saying, “Tell me about yourself” or “Can you tell me more about that?”
- Invite good conversations where you can share reasons for your hope.
- Make the conversations tasty and salty. (Colossians 4:5-6)

# PROCLAIM CLEARLY

## FIVE WAYS TO TALK ABOUT JESUS

- “Can I pray for you?” is a way to start a caring conversation of trust.
- You can proclaim Jesus by thinking carefully about the things you put around your house. Bible verses, kids’ projects, artwork, books, and decorations can all point people to Jesus and proclaim him. These items can start conversations as people are curious.
- As the Holy Spirit leads you, and as people ask, tell someone your own journey of discovering Jesus. Your own story cannot be disputed.
- Write people a thank you note after the event. Let them know that God has been generous to you in giving them as your neighbors.
- Wear a T-shirt that makes people curious and could start a conversation.

# WATCH SPORT TOGETHER

In big sports events, watching the TV alone can be easier and more convenient. However, consider inviting a few people to your place to watch the game together. It could be the final of the 100-meter race, the World Cup match, or the final of beach volleyball. Whatever sport you are interested in will work.



## FOUR IDEAS FOR WATCHING SPORT

- Invite a few people to your home to watch sports together. Make the space comfortable and relaxed.
- Provide some snacks and drinks. Ask people to bring something to eat to share with others.
- Do other activities before or after the TV event. You could play some fun games. Answer thought-provoking questions. Share stories of athletes' performances from the past. Share a Bible thought about sport.
- Ask people to dress in clothes that match their country of origin, bring their country's flag, or share a national dish or treat to eat together.

# CONVERSATION STARTERS

We live in a community with many differing ideas. For example, people have different thoughts on the value of sports or faith. It is helpful to approach conversations about faith in a marketplace of ideas.

The following conversation starters allow people to share their own experiences. Any believers in the conversation can share their faith stories within this marketplace of ideas.

## QUESTIONS

### FIVE WAYS TO START CONVERSATIONS

- What is your favorite moment in sports history, and why does it inspire you?
- If you could learn to play any sport, what would it be? Why?
- When have you been most surprised by an athlete? Both good and bad?
- Why is sport important to you?
- When have you needed a good talk at halftime in a sports game? If you are at halftime in your life, what message do you need to hear?
- Who first introduced you to sports, and what impact did they have on you?

“In Australia, Formula 1 is behind a paywall, so we have an open house for every race so that people can come and watch. There are over 25 people on the contact list to whom we email reminders. It provides a space for people to share a coffee, talk to whoever is sitting next to them, and/or shout at the television when Sauber is having a 16-second pit stop. Hospitality is a meaningful way to connect with people in the neighborhood, in this case, through a shared interest in sports”.

# BUILDING BRIDGES

Spiritual bridges – Work out some ‘spiritual bridges’ for friendly conversations. Decide the most common questions people ask. Work out how to move to a spiritual conversation. Discover more from the Bible wherever possible.

## BRIDGE TOOLS

### WAYS TO GUIDE A CONVERSATION

‘4S’ Tool – Practice moving the conversation from a simple conversation to a serious one in a natural way. Then, from serious reflections to spiritual, and then to a scriptural conversation using a Bible app on your phone. You may finish with an invitation, ‘When would you have 20 minutes for me to show how you can discover God in the Bible together with your family?’

**SIMPLE**

**SERIOUS**

**SCRIPTURAL**

**SPIRITUAL**

Remember: it’s okay to build trust with the first two steps of the bridge. Some people are not ready or curious about spiritual or scriptural conversations.

#### EXAMPLE OF SERIOUS QUESTIONS:

1. What's been one of the biggest challenges you've faced recently?
2. When life feels overwhelming, what helps you get through it?
3. What's something you're currently learning about yourself?
4. Who do you turn to when you need advice or perspective?
5. If life had a halftime, what message would you need to hear right now?

#### EXAMPLE OF SPIRITUAL QUESTIONS:

1. Do you ever think about your purpose or why you're here?
2. What role, if any, has faith or spirituality played in your life journey?
3. When you look at the world, do you think there's something (or someone) bigger behind it all?
4. Have you ever prayed? What was it like for you?
5. What do you believe happens after this life? Has that ever influenced how you live now?

## CONVERSATIONS AND BRIDGE-BUILDING

Roy and Wendy had a diverse group of neighbors and some friends around for a simple gathering.

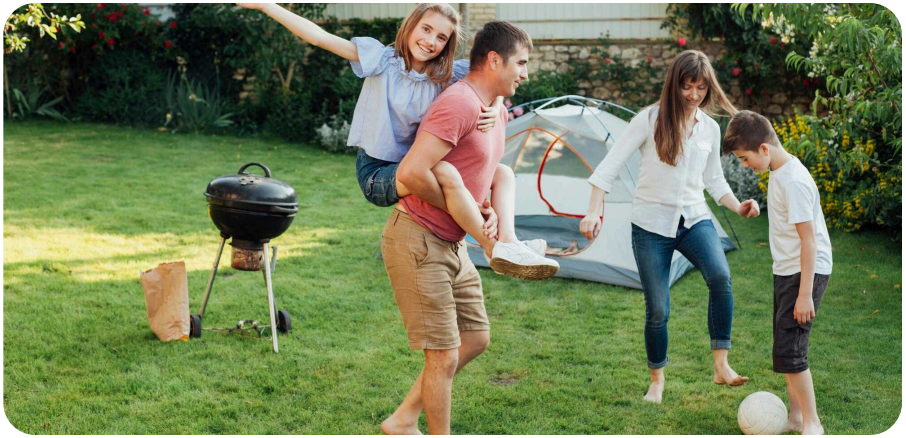
“Many were unbelievers. There were games in the backyard – volleyball and shuttlecock. Kids and adults played together. We cooked up a BBQ, and everyone brought a salad to share. As we were about to start the meal, I simply asked everyone to try and ask three different people this simple question sometime during the afternoon: ‘With the world the way it is, what gives you hope?’

“Everyone had a chance to have individual conversations. They were honest and free-flowing. People just wanted to keep talking and didn’t want to go home.

“Jesus turned up naturally in many conversations all over the place that afternoon along with other world views. He was relevant in the marketplace of ideas”.



# ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

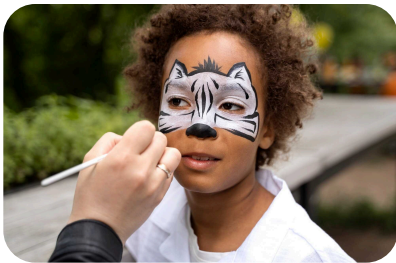


## PLAY SOME GAMES

Try a sport related to what you will be watching together. For example, play volleyball or do a relay together. Play simple fun games that everyone knows—adults and kids together. Adults can show everyone the games they played as children.

## MAKE A TREAT TOGETHER

Be prepared to cook a simple treat together to share. It could be a treat related to a country represented in the sports event.



# FOLLOW UP

When something positive comes from a neighborhood gathering, it's great to continue building on friendly foundations.

## HERE ARE SOME IDEAS:

- Before people leave, let them know what gathering is coming up next. Everyone has this to look forward to!
- Do you have contact details to stay in touch? Ask people privately so they can give what they feel comfortable sharing.
- Keep walking and praying, chatting and connecting.

## FIVE WAYS TO KEEP GOING

- Let the people who prayed for you know how it went. Pray and praise God together for his help and faithfulness.
- Drop a note from your family in your neighbors' letterboxes, thanking them for a fun time.
- Meet with your household and share observations, ideas, and challenges you would like to address for the next gathering.
- Adjust any future plans based on what you have learned.
- Expect that others may want to host in the future or have ideas about how to organize a neighborhood gathering. Be open to sharing responsibility with other households for future gatherings.



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