

GO FOR IT!

7 group discussions based on "THE FULL MONTY"

.....sharing stories and reflecting together on the Bible



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GO FOR IT!

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Unlocking real life stories of urban people.

Revealing Good News of the Down to

Earth Christ.

Releasing life changing skills and

Confidence.

Tailor made workshops and training events are led by our network of workers, and a variety of Bible studies, courses, games and audit packs are produced by us.

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Why “THE FULL MONTY”?!?

We’ve chosen to use this film /video to kick off discussions which lead towards the Bible because:

- **We believe the film portrays realistically the values and culture of some city communities and people.**
- **The film has evidently gained a lot of response from people all around the UK and internationally.**
- **People in the inner cities and housing estates easily identify with it.**

Our hope is that this pack will help the conversations continue, and as people in the church and on the edge of it continue to grapple with the issues the film symbolises, they will discover more of the relevance of the Bible today.

The Bible studies can be used in any order.
Each study stands on its own, so it’s not necessary to use the whole pack.
You can choose the discussions that suit your group, or involve them in the decision.
See pages 17 and 18 for information about the method, and hints for group leaders.

NB The video is classified 15.
It is suitable only for persons of 15 years and over .

If you’d like to find out more about **Unlock’s** approach to Bible study:
How the other half learn gives a comparison of the learning styles in a book” an “non-book” culture.
Learning without books outlines the method used in this pack in more detail.
Experience the Bible is a pack of **9** Bible studies, using the same method as this pack.
Unlock - more than you think! is a **starter** resource pack of Bible studies, games an activities to get you going on Unlock’s methods.

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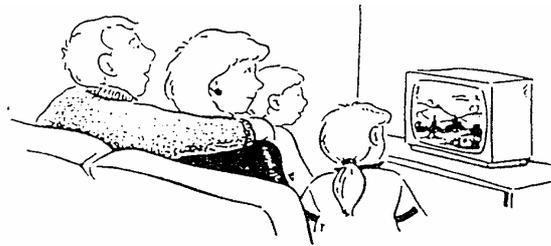


I'd do anything for you!

Mark 5 v21-43

Gaz was desperate. He wanted to see his son Nathe, but his ex-wife Mandy and her new partner Barry wanted to shut him out. Gaz was willing to do anything to make sure he could continue seeing his son, Nathe.

Suggested video clip: the scene where Mandy and Barry shut the door on Gaz, and he walks away.



- **Have you ever felt you'd do anything for someone you loved?**
- **Have you ever made great efforts for the sake of your family?**
- **Have you ever felt so desperate, you'd do anything?**
- **Did other people understand?**

Extra...

What kept Gaz going in his efforts to raise money, when he felt like giving up?



I'd do anything for you!

Mark 5 v21-43

Story teller: At the lakeside a large crowd gathered round Jesus. Jairus, an official of the local synagogue, arrived, and when he saw Jesus, he threw himself down at his feet and begged him earnestly,

Jairus: My little daughter is very ill. Please come and place your hands on her, so that she will get well and live!

Story teller: Then Jesus started off with him. So many people were going along with Jesus that they were crowding him from every side. There was a woman who had suffered terribly from severe bleeding for twelve years, even though she had been treated by many doctors. She had spent all her money, but instead of getting better she got worse all the time. She had heard about Jesus, so she came in the crowd behind him, saying to herself,

Woman: If I just touch his clothes, I will get well.

Story teller: She touched his cloak, and her bleeding stopped at once; and she had the feeling inside herself that she was healed of her trouble. At once Jesus knew that power had gone out of him, so he turned round in the crowd and asked,

Jesus: Who touched my clothes?

Disciples: You see how the people are crowding you; why do you ask who touched you? **Story teller:** But Jesus kept looking round to see who had done it. The woman realized what had happened to her, so she came, trembling with fear, knelt at his feet, and told him the whole truth. Jesus said to her,

Jesus: My daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your trouble.

Story teller: Some messengers came from Jairus' house and told him,

Messengers: Your daughter has died. Why bother the Teacher any longer'?"

Jesus: Don't be afraid, only believe.

Story teller: They arrived at Jairus' house, where Jesus saw the confusion and heard all the loud crying and wailing.

Jesus: Why all this confusion? Why are you crying? The child is not dead - she is only sleeping!

Story teller: They laughed at him, so he put them all out, took the child's father and mother and his three disciples, and went into the room where the child was lying. He took her by the hand and said to her,

Jesus: Little girl, I tell you to get up!

Storyteller: She got up at once and started walking around. When this happened, they were completely amazed.



Don't tell us we're not your mates!

Acts 2 v44-47

Near the beginning of the film, Gaz and Dave talk with Lomper, and say they'll be his mates.

Suggested video clip: Gaz, Dave and Lomper sitting on the grass; Gaz and Dave telling Lomper they'll be his mates.

- **Who are your mates?**
- **Who's been a good mate to you?**
- **What makes a good mate?**
- **Have you ever felt like Lomper, that you've got no mates?**



Extra...

What did Gaz and Dave do during the film to show that they were Lomper's mates?



Don't tell us we're not your mates!

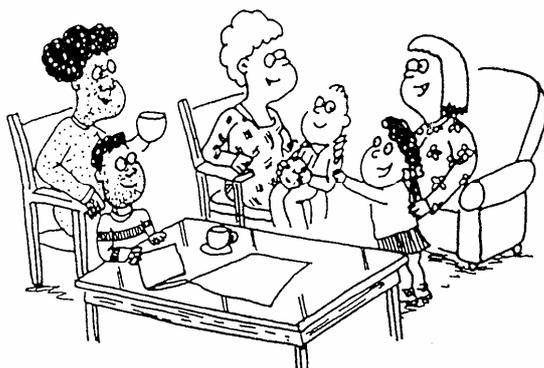
Acts 2 v44-47

Communal lifestyle

All the believers continued together in close fellowship and shared their belongings with one another.

Property owners sell up!

They would sell their property and possessions, and distribute the money among all, according to what each one needed.



Daily parties...

Day after day they met as a group in the Temple, and they had their meal

together in their homes, eating with glad and humble hearts, praising God, and enjoying the good will of all the people.

... and lives saved!

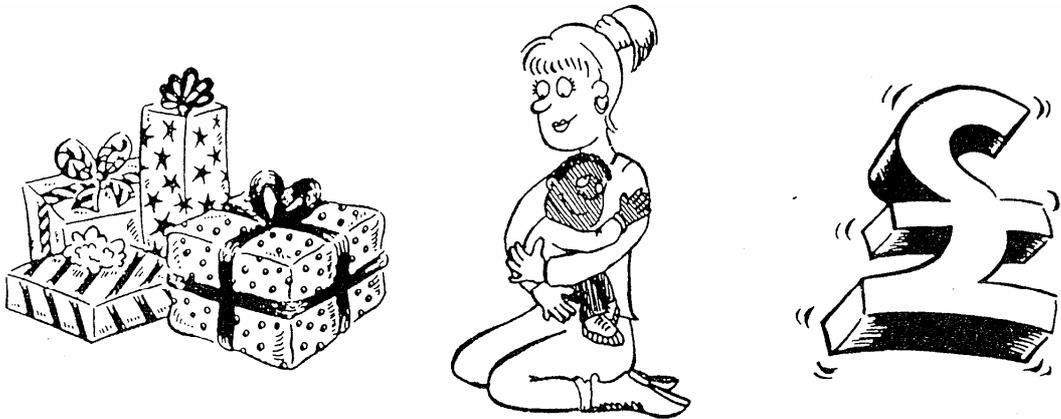
And every day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.

I'll give you all I've got.

Luke 21 v1-4

Gaz needed £100 to get his idea up and running His .~on, Nathe, gave him all his savings.

Suggested video clip: the scene in the Post Office where Nathe drew out all his savings for Gaz.



- **Has anyone ever given you something that was very precious to them?**
- **Have you ever trusted anyone with something of great value to you?**
- **What are you willing to trust God with?**

Extra...

What made Nathe give Gaz everything he'd got?



I'll give you all I've got

Luke 21 v1-4

Good news for the treasurer!

Jesus looked round and saw rich people dropping their gifts in the temple treasury,

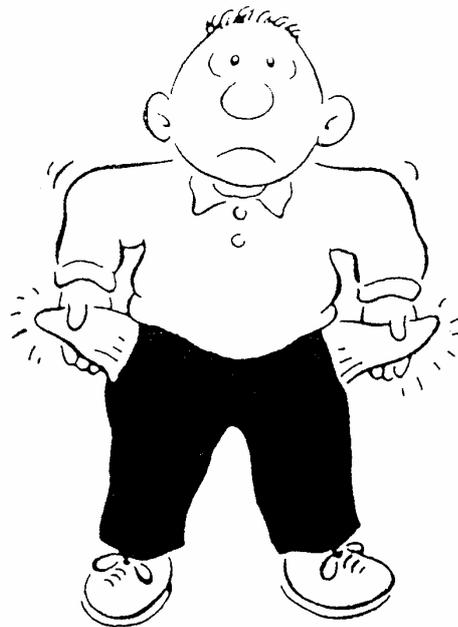
or is it?

and he also saw a very poor widow dropping in two little copper

God's economy Less is more!

He said, "I tell you that this poor widow put in more than all the others.

For the others offered their gifts from what they had to spare of their riches; but she, poor as she is, gave all she had to live on."



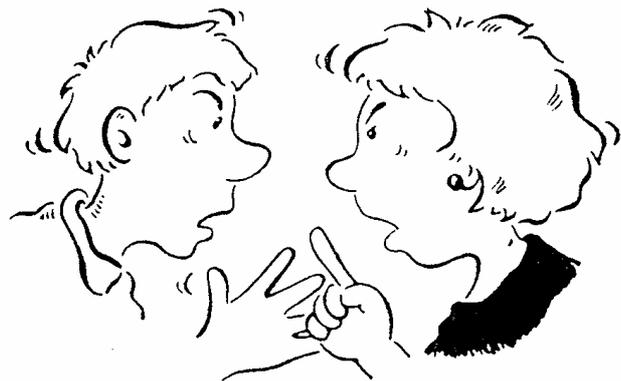
Don't let us down!

Exodus 4 v 10-16

Gaz offered two women "The Full Monty" much to the horror of the rest of the group but they went along with him.

Suggested video clip: The scene in the street where the group of men meet the women, and Gaz offers "The Full Monty".

- **Have you ever agreed to go along with something you weren't sure about? Why?**
- **Have you ever persuaded someone to do something when they were reluctant? What happened?**
- **What about church? Has anyone ever tried to get you to go? Have you ever tried to get others to go?**



Extra

Why did the men agree to go along with what Gaz had said?



Don't let us down!

Exodus 4 v 10-16

Moses: No, Lord, don't send me. I have never been a good speaker, and I haven't become one since you began to speak to me. I am a poor speaker, slow and hesitant.

The Lord: Who gives man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or dumb? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? It is I, the Lord. Now, go! I will help you to speak, and I will tell you what to say.

Moses: No, Lord, please send someone else.

Storyteller: At this the Lord became angry with Moses and said,

The Lord: What about your brother Aaron, the Levite I know that he can speak well. In fact, he is now coming to meet you and will be glad to see you. You can speak to him and tell him what to say. I will help both of you to speak, and I will tell you both what to do. He will be your spokesman and speak to the people for you. Then you will be like God, telling him what to say.



In the dole queue

Genesis 37 v 18~28

The video shows how being out of work affects people.

Suggested video clip: The queue in the benefit's office.



- **Have you been unemployed? What were the worst experiences for you? Were there some good times?**
- **Has anyone in your family been unemployed? What did it do to the rest of you?**
- **Have others tried to push you aside to get rid of you, as if you were of no value?**

Extra ...

What effect did unemployment have on the different characters in the story? (Think about the women as well as the men.)



In the dole queue

Genesis 37 v 18~28

Storyteller: The story so far ... Joseph's dad Jacob loved him more than his other brothers, so they were jealous. Joseph dreamed that his brothers would bow down to him - which made them even more jealous. Joseph's brothers were taking care of the flock, when Jacob sent Joseph to check they were OK....

They saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted against him and decided to kill him. They said to one another,

Brothers: Here comes that dreamer. Come on now, let's kill him and throw his body into one of the dry wells. We can say that a wild animal killed him. Then we will see what becomes of his dreams.

Storyteller: Reuben heard them and tried to save Joseph.

Reuben: Let's not kill him,. Just throw him into this well in the wilderness, but don't hurt him.

Storyteller: He said this, planning to save him from them and send him back to his father. When Joseph came up to his brothers, they ripped off his long robe with full sleeves. Then they took him and threw him into the well, which was dry. While they were eating, they suddenly saw a group of Ishmaelites travelling from Gilead to Egypt. Their camels were loaded with spices and resins. Judah said to his brothers,

Judah: What will we gain by killing our brother and covering up the murder? Let's sell him to these Ishmaelites. Then we won't have to hurt him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.

Storyteller: His brothers agreed, and when some Midianite traders came by, the brothers pulled Joseph out of the well and sold him for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.



They're not like me!

Luke 7 v36-50

Lomper and Guy developed a gay relationship, but they kept it quiet from the rest of the group.

Suggested video clip: the scene at the cemetery, where Gaz and Dave realise about Lomper and Guys relationship.



- **Has anyone ever turned their back on you because you're not like them?**
- **Have you ever excluded someone because they're different?**
- **Have you ever felt the need to keep something secret, and then discovered it was OK when people knew?**

Extra...

Why did Lomper and Guy feel the need to keep their relationship quiet?

How did the others react when they found out? Does that surprise you?



They're not like me!

Luke 7 v36-50

Storyteller: A Pharisee invited Jesus to have dinner with him, and Jesus went to his house and sat down to eat. In that town was a woman who lived a sinful life. She heard that Jesus was eating in the Pharisee's house, so she brought an alabaster jar full of perfume and stood behind Jesus, by his feet, crying and wetting his feet with her tears. Then she dried his feet with her hair, kissed them, and poured the perfume on them. When the Pharisee saw this, he said to himself,

Simon: If this man really were a prophet, he would know who this woman is who is touching him; he would know what kind of sinful life she lives!

Jesus: Simon, I have something to tell you.

Simon: Yes, Teacher, tell me.

Jesus: There were two men who owed money to a moneylender. One owed him five hundred silver coins, and the other owed him fifty. Neither of them could pay him back, so he cancelled the debts of both. Which one, then, will love him more?

Simon: I suppose that it would be the one who was forgiven more.

Jesus: You are right. Do you see this woman? I came into your home, and you gave me no water for my feet, but she has washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You did not welcome me with a kiss, but she has not stopped kissing my feet since I came. You provided no olive oil for my head, but she has covered my feet with perfume. I tell you, then, the great love she has shown proves that her many sins have been forgiven. But whoever has been forgiven little shows only a little love.

Storyteller: Then Jesus said to the woman

Jesus: Your sins are forgiven.

Storyteller: The others sitting at the table began to say to themselves,

Dinner guests: Who is this, who even forgives sins?



Sticking together

Corinthians 12 v12-21

In spite of everything, the whole group stuck together to put on their performance.

Suggested video clip. the last few minutes before the performance. Dave turns up, the performance starts and Nathe persuades Gary to join in.

- **Have you ever been part of a group that's stuck together?**
- **Have you ever been in a group where someone let you all down?**
- **What keeps this group together?**

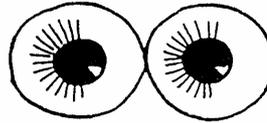


Extra...

What were the things that tried to pull the men away from sticking with the gang?



Sticking together



Corinthians 12 v12-21



Body beautiful

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts....

Armless?!

For the body itself is not made up of only one part, but of many parts.

If the foot were to say, "Because I am not a hand, I don't belong to the body," that would not keep it from being a part of the body....

If the whole body were just an eye, how could it hear? And if it were only an ear, how could it smell? As it is, however, God put every different part in the body just as he wanted it to be....

So then, the eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" Nor can the head say to the feet, "Well, I don't need you!"



Dare to be bare?!

On the contrary, we cannot do without the parts of the body that seem to be weaker; and those parts that we think aren't worth very much are the ones which we treat with greater care; while the parts of the body which don't look very nice are treated with special modesty, which the more beautiful parts do not need.

God himself has put the body together in such a way as to give greater honour to those parts that need it.

A place for everyone!

And so there is no division in the body, but all its different parts have the same concern for one another.

If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

All of you are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.



The traditional method of Bible study

The majority of Bible studies begin with a text

“There was once a man...”



And moves on to an analysis of the text, and the deduction of general principles

“The Good Samaritan helped his neighbour”



Finally, there is an encouragement to apply this

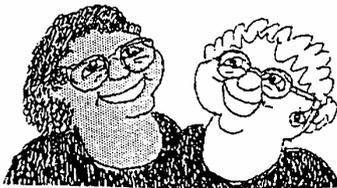
“We must help others”

This style provides a logical framework, within which the person can store, the information (in his/her mind, in note form or on disc) for retrieval when it is needed. This requires a way of thinking and communicating, which is based on book and lecture methods of learning; it is not the appropriate method for a vast number of people.

Unlock's method of Bible study

Unlocking real life stories of urban people

Unlock's methods begin with a group of people sharing their real life experiences. Unlock's materials suggest different things that will help this to happen - for example, a few questions, a game or a video clip.



...leading to more experiences to be unlocked!

Revealing Good News of the down to Earth Christ

These real life stories are compared with similar situations in the Bible. Unlock materials provide Bible passages on individual pages, that can be photocopied for use with a group.



Releasing life changing skills and confidence

Change happens as a result of linking real life experiences with the Bible -

“We learn it now and we learn it for life.”

The individuals and groups involved change, and there is often action among those around them.



GO FOR IT! *Hints for group leaders*

The 7 Bible studies can be used in any order, to suit the group. Each study stands on its own. It is not necessary' to use the whole pack.

Before the group meets, photocopy the Bible passage for each person you might also like to copy the questions.

It will help if everyone has seen "The Full Monty"!

As in all groups, help the group members to relax in a comfortable place - somewhere "ordinary" - not too churchy!

What to do:

- You might like to play the relevant video clip to start off each discussion. Or read the introductory sentence, and get people to recall the film.
- Ask a question, and encourage group members to talk about their own experiences,
- After quite a few stories, in response to a question, you may like to ask "What strikes you as important from these stories / experiences that we've shared?"
- The extra questions are just that! You might like to use them to dig into "The Full Monty" a bit more - but the most important thing is to encourage people to share their own stories.
- Ask for volunteers to read the Bible passage. Don't put anyone on the spot. Introduce the Bible passage as a story;. Some of the Bible passages are in a drama format: ask different people to read the different parts.
- Ask "In this Bible story, what is the same as and what is different from the film and the experiences of the group?"

NB "They're not like me" has been found to raise a lot of questions about a Christian attitude to homosexuality. Be ready for this, if you intend using this discussion.

Do

- Be well enough informed to answer any simple background questions.
- Accept all the stories / experiences that are offered.
- Be ready to learn from the group members
- Encourage a time of quiet / prayer at the end of the discussion.
- Choose a study that takes into account the amount of trust already built up in the group.

Don't

- Censor the stories/experiences
- Be too quick to explain the "right" interpretation of the passage (and don't let others do it either.)



GO FOR IT! 7 discussions

I'd do anything for you Pages 3 & 4

Suggested video clip: the scene where Mandy and Barry shut the door on Gaz, and he walks away. (12 minutes after the start of the video, 2 minute clip)

Mark 5 v21-43

Don't tell us we're not your mates! Pages 5 & 6

Suggested video clip: Gaz, Dave and Lomper sitting on the grass; Gaz and Dave telling Lomper they'll be his mates. (15 minutes after the start of the video, 2 minute clip)

Acts 2 v44-47

I'll give you all I've got Pages 7 & 8

Suggested video clip: the scene in the Post Office where Nathe drew out all his savings for Gaz. (45 minutes after the start of the video, 1 minute clip)

Luke 21 v1-4

Don't let us down! Pages 9 & 10

Suggested video clip: the scene in the street where the group of men meet two women, and Gaz offers "The Full Monty". (48 minutes after the start of the video, 2 minute clip)

Exodus 4 v10-16

In the dole queue Pages 11 & 12

Suggested video clip: the queue in the benefits office. (50 minutes after the start of the video, 2 minute clip)

Genesis 37 v18-28

They're not like me Pages 13 & 14

Suggested video clip: the scene at the cemetery, where Gaz and Dave realise about Lomper and Guy's relationship. (1 hour 10 minutes after the start of the video, 2 minute clip)

Luke 7 v36-50

Sticking together Pages 15 & 16

Suggested video clip: the last few minutes before the performance. Dave turns up, the performance starts and Nathe persuades Gaz to join in. (1 hour 18 minutes after the start of the video, 3 minute clip)

1 Corinthians 12 v12-27

