

***Jesus called us to be salt and light.  
What a better time to be this than on a traditionally dark night?***



## **“How To Impact Your Neighbourhood On October 31<sup>st</sup>.”**

We are called to be salt and light in a dark world. Why not share a bit of that when your neighbours come calling on your door on October 31st?

When you stop and think about it, Halloween allows us to "do evangelism in reverse." Those who need Jesus come to us and we have the freedom to put whatever spin we want on the whole Halloween thing. Here are some ideas on how to make an impact in your neighbourhood on this night. Here we share with you, ideas to do if you have kids and even if you don't!

***“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.” – Isaiah 40:8***

***“The chocolate bars are eaten and the suckers licked away but the Scripture’s impression will last forever.” (Adaptation).***



1. **Hand out homemade cards from your younger kids with the candy you give away.** The cards can start off with "I made this card for you". These cards are like glimpses of the Gospel. We are called to be salt and light in a dark world. Why not share a bit of that when your neighbours come calling on your door? In the card emphasize what light does to darkness using a scripture or two. Your purpose is to whet their appetite to learn more – not to hit them with the full Gospel. Allow this to prompt them to ask you questions in the future. Simply plant a seed. (See a free sample at [www.RossRoadKids.com](http://www.RossRoadKids.com))

2. If you walk around your street trick or treating with your kids, **strike up a conversation with your neighbours** as they walk with their kids. It's an opportunity to let the love of Christ shine. Show them that you care about them and their kids.

3. As you walk around your street from door to door trick or treating **say a prayer for each family** in each home. Wow, how powerful this can be! Remember what Joshua did for seven days? (Joshua 6) In a way, you are bringing walls down as you walk through your neighbourhood asking for protection and inviting His love to enter in.

4. If you live in the country and don't have trick or treaters, **invite another family over** who has children and have a kids' dress up party. You can play some games and enjoy a few goodies together. Start the night off in prayer for your city asking God to protect everyone on the streets.

5. If you live in the city and know a family at Ross Road who lives in the country, **invite them to join you in your family festivities** if it includes trick or treating. Choose some of the ideas above to do together. It's an opportunity to fellowship together and serve together showing love to their neighbourhood.

6. **Make up a big sign on your door** sharing a scripture verse. Everyone can't help but read it and you've just shared with them the timeless wisdom of God! You don't even have to put the reference, which may only confuse them. I wonder what kind of questions you would prompt if you had on your door... "For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." (Luke 11:10)

*"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever." – Isaiah 40:8*

*"The chocolate bars are eaten and the suckers licked away but the Scripture's impression will last forever." (Adaptation).*

## "What if you don't have kids?"

Adapt some of the suggestions above/on the other side. Do #6 (see other side).

Spend some time in prayer for all the young families of Ross Road – for safety and boldness.

Invite another family with no kids over for supper or dessert and spend time in fellowship and in prayer for the families of Abbotsford.

After spending a few nights in prayer beforehand, hand out Halloween tracts which the American Tract Society has published. The Halloween tracts share a few pieces of scripture along with what light does to the darkness. You can learn more at [www.atstracts.org](http://www.atstracts.org) House of James carries these too.

*Just in case you are not sure of the impact a tract may have, here is a testimony...*

### Light in the Night

Sam knew it was no use. He had persistently shared the gospel with Liz, a woman he knew, but she would not accept Christ, and she gave no real reason why. This conversation with her had a ring of finality to it, so he gave up, but he left her with a good gospel tract as they parted. The next morning at 6 a.m., Sam's phone rang. Sam wasn't an early riser, so he sleepily answered the phone. It was Liz.

"I hope I didn't wake you up," she said, "and I'm sorry to call you at this hour of the morning, but I couldn't wait any longer. I woke up at four a.m. this morning and couldn't go back to sleep. I got up and read the tract that you gave me-- three times. God opened my eyes and I got on my knees and prayed to receive the Lord Jesus as my Savior. I got saved this morning, and I almost called at four a.m. to tell you! I am so happy I don't know what to do!"

What a wonderful way to be awakened from a good night's sleep! Liz came to church the next Sunday and confessed Christ openly, and since then she has grown greatly in the Lord.

Later Liz told Tom, "I want to thank you for being patient with me, and for not trying to push me into being saved."

(Sometimes a gospel tract, considered in private by itself, can say far more than our words can ever say.)