

ALL OUT HALLOWE'EN 2021

As Christians, we are called to love our city. So let's take a moment to work out how we could use Hallowe'en, a night of the year where people of Edinburgh could be on the streets, to share the love of Jesus. Let's get creative!!

The spiritual battle is real, ill mental health and loneliness are all around us. Hallowe'en is a dark night and we want to pray Holy Spirit sweep in and through our streets to protect our city. We want to bring light into our city by showing people we have Hope.

As communities all over Edinburgh, we have the amazing opportunity of having our neighbours right on our doorsteps. What a great adventure ahead of us. The darkness that Hallowe'en can bring needs to be met with prayer! Prayer is so powerful. Our prayers bring so much light to the darkness.

Some steps for you and your family to follow on the adventure of bringing light to people all around us:

1. Could you gather and pair up people in your community to do some of the ideas below?
2. Could your community meet and go for a prayer walk?
3. Have a think about how your community could combat loneliness and sadness in your local area on the night of Hallowe'en?

How cool that Hallowe'en lands on our All Out Sunday Gathering, we have the whole day to spread the light of Jesus all over Edinburgh.

IDEAS

Use the following ideas as a community or as a family. Let's go into our city this Hallowe'en ready to share the life-changing light of Jesus.

STORY

Jesus is the light of the world. When he was born he brought God's presence to earth. Jesus lived loving and caring for those around him. BUT even from a tiny baby people knew that he was the light to light up the whole world. If you have a Jesus Story Book Bible, find the story called The Light of the whole world on page 184. You can also find this story in Luke 2. Get comfy and read this story. When you have read the story ask the following questions:

- If Jesus was on your street right now, who would Jesus want to talk to?
- Who would he spend time with?
- What would he do?
- What would it look like if Jesus shone through you, what would you do?

Then pray and ask God to give you the strength, courage and boldness to do what Jesus would do on your street. Just watch what God will do, through His Holy Spirit.

SHINE

What would it look like for your house to actually shine? Put up fairy lights. Turn on the lights. Do you have coloured lights? Draw or write on paper or greaseproof paper and put it in your window. How can you make your house visibly different from the outside? It gets dark so early now so it gives us the perfect opportunity to shine and share the light of God.

TREAT YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Go out and treat your Neighbours. Instead of trick or treating, why not go around treating your neighbours and bless them with your generosity! Now, you'll need to get your creative hats on here... are you ready for the mission and adventure ahead?? People all over Edinburgh are in great need of some JOY. You have that power to spread joy, here are some ideas? Maybe prepare some things to take with you (glow sticks, cards, treats, a bag of sweets, a little bar of chocolate, a plant, something you know they will love...). And if you're feeling bold, this is a great way to tell your neighbours that you are Christians. You could even tell them in a note or when you see them that you are praying for them (and then remember to pray for them) How many new people can you and your family meet? Can you remember all their names? Write their names down in a prayer journal and watch what God does. This is a great opportunity to meet neighbours you've never met before.

RINGS

Did you know, doughnuts are a traditional Christian Hallows Eve treat which represent eternity. HOW COOL!! Why not show some creativity with the ring idea. Use snack packs of party rings or a bag of Haribo rings and give them out to those who visit your home on Hallowe'en instead of a random selection of sweets? Then tell them the fun fact of the doughnuts and the significance of the circle! Could you post these sweetie packs through local house doors? Maybe even with a little card explaining why you have used circles.

GLOW STICKS

Another great thing to hand out on Halloween are glow sticks!

Tell people we believe that Jesus is the light of the world and so you'd like to give them a Glow Stick. Could you leave glow sticks outside your house and watch your street light up? Have a look at John 8:12!!

PUMPKINS

Carve pumpkins not with scary faces but with happy faces, good words or crosses. Put them at your door and light a candle inside. Make your light shine!



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PRAYER WALK

Go for a prayer walk on the streets around your home at some point on the 31st. Stop and talk to people as you go. Prayer walking is simple. You simply walk and pray! What do you see, pray for that? Do you pass someone's house, a shop, the park, a coffee shop, a hospital, a pharmacy.. pray for the people who may use these places? Why don't you also pray for loneliness as you walk around your street? Some people don't have people to talk to or be with. Why don't you ask God to highlight different people to pray for? You might pr

ay just in your head and heart or maybe you can actually go up to someone and pray for them.

PRAY

Whatever we do this Hallowe'en we need to pray. YOUR street has lonely people. YOUR street has sad people. YOUR street has people that need friends. YOUR street has people that need your encouragement. YOUR street has people that need your smiles and love. YOUR street has people who NEED Jesus.

So let's cover this whole city in prayer this Hallowe'en. The spiritual battle is real but it's not something we have to be afraid of. Here's an idea, get a cardboard box (a cereal box or card/paper could work too). Cut it into the shape of a sword. Take some time in your family to pray for the things in your street. Write and draw what you are praying for on your sword. Words like loneliness, sadness, worry, pain, fear etc.

Have you ever seen a movie with a battle in it? They hold their swords up in the sky as they go to fight. WELL... we serve a God who has already won. So hold your sword high in the sky as you pray as a family for God to take these things away in the powerful name of Jesus. Just imagine if every family and Community in Central was praying God's protection and power into their streets!!



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