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Using Uncover in your Christian Union

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uncover.org.uk/john/intro

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Why Uncover?

Jesus said "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life" John 5:24.

Imagine if there were Christians studying in every university and college in the UK.

Imagine them in every faculty and society across campus life.

The Uncover vision: **Pray for 3 Give to 3 Read with 3**

Imagine if they came together to encourage and help each other live and speak for Jesus.

Imagine if, this year, they each asked three friends to uncover the evidence about Jesus for themselves from John's Gospel.

Imagine what God may do in answering their prayers for their friends!

You and your CU are entering into a momentous year! 120,000 copies of Uncover John Gospels are about to be unleashed. Videos, websites, study guides and even a drama production are ready to go.

And the vision is simple: **Pray for 3 | Give to 3 | Read with 3**. Imagine it, every CU member introducing three friends to Jesus using John's Gospel.

That's Uncover. It's a movement to see the good news of Jesus in the hands of over 45,000 non-Christians across the UK. And it begins with one step;

one CU member prays for three friends and invites them to look at who Jesus is and then sits alongside them and helps them understand what they are reading.

'Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the **words** of eternal life.' John 6:68

Will you be part of this?

'The person I was doing Uncover John with became a Christian between studies Cc and Ee.'

7 reasons to read John with non-Christians

1. The Gospels were written to bring people to Jesus.

Jesus taught, rightly understood, the whole Bible 'witnesses to him'

and that hearing and responding to his word brings life (John 5:24, 39). John wrote his book to help people believe in Jesus (John 20:31).

'These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.' John 20:31

- 2. God speaks through his Word. Our conviction is that God speaks by His Spirit, through His Word about His Son.The Holy Spirit breathed-out the Bible, and hasn't abandoned it (2 Tim 3:16). This is not a dry book! As your friends read John, the same Spirit who wrote the Gospel will speak it into their hearts (John 3:34; 6:63). Jesus says His Words are Spirit and Life.
- **3. This is God's word, not just your opinion.** 'Faith' has come to mean something unreliable, unchallengeable, and deeply personal. But show your friends John's Gospel and they'll see that faith in Jesus is historical, reasonable, evidential and life-changing.

'Looking at this, Jesus seems more like a real person than like a ghostly, magical character.'

4. God uses ordinary people.

The Bible was not written for professionals. You don't need an expert or to act like a 'guru' who has all the answers. However long you've been a Christian, you can come alongside your friends and, through John, help them see who you've seen.

5. Jesus is amazing.

Non-Christians can be disillusioned with religion or by their perception of 'Christianity', yet captivated by the person of Jesus. In reading John, they will meet him face-to-face for themselves.

6. Friends matter.

God sometimes touches the lives of strangers, but most students come to Jesus because they see how much he means to a friend. Close friends know how you tick and that you're not perfect. They also see that knowing Jesus is about a real relationship. That's a great place to start! It makes reading John over a beer or a coffee the most natural thing to do together.

7. It takes time.

Most students know almost nothing about Jesus; most will need time to read through John and talk it through to understand who Jesus is and why he died. That's why we have some great Uncover Seeker Bible Studies, helping you to take your friends through six key passages.



A Leeds CU student was woken at 4am by one of her flatmates who said, "Hey, I've been reading this book you left on the table - its great and I have loads of questions!"

What is Uncover?

Uncover centres around John's Gospel, but also has lots of extra material available to help make the vision of reading it with three friends a reality. Here's the full round up:

For non-Christians

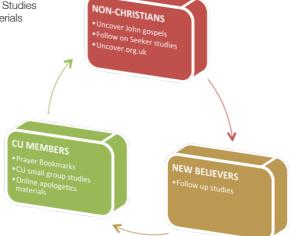
- » Uncover John Gospels
- » Uncover Follow-on Seeker Studies
- » www.uncover.org.uk

For new believers

» Uncover New Believer Follow-up Studies

For Christians

- » Uncover Prayer Bookmark
- » Uncover CU Small Group Studies
- » Uncover Apologetics Materials



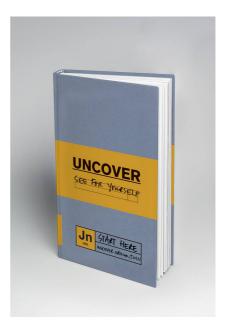


'I've been wanting to share Jesus with my friends for a long time now, and this is it.'

Gospels

Uncover John Gospels

- These resources are **creative**. The care that has gone into creating them reflects the creative God we worship who does all things well. They are meant to look desirable and intrigue your friends to open them.
- They are **interactive**. Stuffed with URL links to excellent online videos and notes to draw them into the text, there are also pages included for your friends to scribble questions on, make comments, draw pictures or doodle.
- They contain **six seeker studies** to help your friends uncover the heart of the gospel for themselves.



By God's grace, last year, these studies have already helped hundreds of students come to know Jesus, before copies of the Uncover John Gospels were even printed!

Uncover Follow-on Seeker Studies

- Six follow-on Studies for non-Christians who have finished the Uncover John Seeker Studies in the Gospel take them further into six sections of John's Gospel.
- These studies will be downloadable from www.uccf.org.uk/uncover.

Uncover.org.uk

• The website specifically designed and created for seekers, including Luke and John.



'She got to the point of praying that if Jesus was real and He really did rise from the dead that He would reveal Himself to her. A few days later she came to believe it to be true and committed her life to Jesus.'

For new believers

Uncover new believer follow-up studies

- When your friends become Christians they will need a church family. But, as they settle into a church, they'll also need immediate help in their early days as a believer from a Christian friend. These studies are built on the same principles as the seeker studies: that God speaks through his Word and uses ordinary people.
- Download these from www.uccf.org.uk/uncover.

For Christians

Uncover Prayer Bookmark

- A vital daily tool to help all CU members pray daily for three non-Christian friends. Keep them in your Bible and use them to pray.
- Will be available to order at www.uccf.org.uk/uncover.

Uncover CU Small Group Studies

- Ten studies written to help CU members be more confident in John. Talk with your Staff Worker about using them in hall or faculty groups.
- These are downloadable from www.uccf.org.uk/uncover.

Other resources

'Darkness Falls'

- A top quality 90-minute presentation of the Gospel of John by the Saltmine Theatre Company, entitled 'Darkness Falls'. Three years ago, Saltmine produced 'Three Witnesses', a dramatization of Luke to support Uncover Luke. They played to twenty-six universities, and audiences were stunned by the quality and storytelling of their production. So we asked them to partner with us again! Book them to come to your CU, or team up with other CUs to bring them to your city.
- There are also supporting resources to help CUs stage the drama production that will be available to download from www.uccf.org.uk/uncover.





How do we motivate our CU?

Just because you're excited about something, that doesn't mean others will also be equally as bothered. But a motivated CU will act, live, and speak boldly, no matter what the cost or effort.



What motivates people?

Example

It makes a tremendous difference when the person recommending something is following their own advice. And it's a proven fact that the CUs most likely to use Uncover widely are those whose leaders are having a go themselves.

Enthusiasm

Seen a great film recently? Found a new band? If you're passionate about them, others will catch on. Be passionate as leaders about reaching friends using Uncover John and your CU are as good as motivated already.

Convictions

What you believe about God drives how you behave. So behind all you say, seek to move people's hearts by what matters. Speak these truths to yourselves and to others:

- That God loves your friends and desires they come to know him
- That his word is not chained and able to change the hardest hearts
- That your inadequacy is not a weakness to overcome but God's normal method of working

Confidence

Don't be embarrassed about what you're offering. Base your confidence on your convictions, and also in the materials which have been carefully designed and crafted. The Seeker Bible studies have a track record of bringing students to Jesus and changing lives

Stories

Through the Uncover Luke and Uncover John Seeker Studies, God has done amazing things. Sharing stories (from your CU and others) helps motivate people by encouraging them to believe that 'God can use me, too'.

Motivate through an excellent Uncover launch

(This is so important it has its own section! See pages 15-19.)

How do we keep motivating for Uncover, week-on-week?

Once you've launched Uncover, it is so important to keep it in the hearts and prayers of your CU members. Here's how:

Vision leaks

Just because you've said something once, don't assume everyone's got it. Vision leaks like water through a sieve. The vision to get every CU member to **pray | give | read** with three friends is easy to grasp but hard to keep fresh. You need to keep saying it and saying it in a broad range of ways. Different approaches will appeal to the different personalities who make up the CU.

Little but often

Find a way every week to put Uncover in front of people, verbally as well as visually. After your launch night, keep dripping in the convictions, stories and details out to people week in, week out. Why not include an 'Uncover Slot' at each main meeting or small group gathering for encouragement, stories, training and prayer?

Use stories

Stories get past our defences, appeal to our imaginations and get into our hearts. So find a way in which CU members can share their stories and Uncover experiences with everyone. Give air time to Uncover champions – individuals and groups within your CU who are having a go – and encourage them to tell their honest stories of how it's been going. Or ask your Staff Worker to share stories of Uncover's use in other CUs.

Make it easy

Many good intentions are never put into action because the leaders haven't made it easy for others to take the next step. How can you make it as easy as possible for CU members to get going with friends? Having Gospels available weekly at small group and central gatherings and offering for more experienced CU members to lead alongside those who are less confident might be enough to get some going.

Make it normal

By regular prayer, stories and practicalities just make it seem utterly normal that the CU is reading through John's Gospel with friends. People will soon catch on. Then Freshers who have never known anything different will be on board from the beginning.



'I think I may have been brought to uni just to have this conversation about God with you.'

How to launch Uncover

If you've just skipped here, you should first read the previous section 'How do we motivate our CU?'

A good launch event will ultimately pull the CU together, saying, 'Yes, this is what we're going to do together. Together we will do better than each of us on our own.' It will communicate why and how. And it'll lay out what to do next.

With anything new, psychologists will tell you that 20% of people in a group will be enthusiastic and quick to jump on board, 20% will be hard to budge, and the middle 60% can be influenced either way. So don't be surprised or dampened by negative comments. Don't give them airtime. Instead, seek to move the majority of the group forwards positively.

'Through Uncover I discovered that God had taken human form in Jesus Christ then died on the cross and beaten death as punishment for our sins, so that we didn't have to bear the punishment ourselves. It is amazing that God would do that for me!'

When should we launch Uncover?

Since the vision for Uncover is to get every CU member reading John with three friends, this is not something to launch just for your mission/events week or in second semester. It needs to run through the year and therefore you need to get your CU on board soon after freshers' week.

Talk with your Staff Worker, but you could consider launching Uncover:

- In week three or four of term.
- At your house party in October.

Remember, you need enough time for CU members to pray about friends, offer them Uncover, and do six weeks of studies... and not have this clash with exams or deadlines in the run up to Christmas.

You will also want to plan a 'refresher' re-launch in January, particularly so you can explain how Uncover will mesh with your mission/events week.

How should we launch Uncover?

Before the launch night:

- Make sure you have ordered enough Uncover Gospels and Prayer Bookmarks.
- Make sure you have the Uncover videos downloaded and ready to run.
- Prepare what you want to get across. Remember you can't say everything, so decide what you will leave for the following week(s).
- If you also have a speaker that night, explain what you're doing and make sure what they're speaking on will reinforce what you're saying.

At the launch

- Put a gospel and Prayer Bookmark on every seat.
- Play a launch video (there are a few great options at www.uccf.org.uk/ uncover).
- Explain the heart of Uncover
 - Keep repeating the simple vision: Pray for 3 | Give to 3
 | Read with 3
 - o Say why this is worthwhile focus on the core conviction that God speaks by His Spirit through His Word about His Son.
 - Tell stories and give examples that illustrate that Uncover is possible and it works. Uncover John Seeker Bible Studies have already been running for a year in most CUs and there will be stories from across your region. You can also use stories from Uncover Luke, your Staff Worker will have many examples if you don't.
 - Show how the quality and design of the Uncover John Gospels makes them attractive to non-Christians.
 - Help CU members 'experience' the gospels and the interactive content; show how the videos bring an extra dimension to the text.
- Help people see how they can be part of this
 - o This is for everyone in the CU, yourself included!
 - o Explain this is something we will do together: praying, encouraging, being accountable, and the flexibility of doing the Uncover John Seeker Bible Studies with a group of friends as well as one-to-one.
 - o Address unspoken objections ('I'm inadequate; I don't have close friends'). See training later in this guide for help here.
 - o Remind them that the CU is studying John (e.g. in hall groups, faculty groups or main meetings) to also help you to personally gain confidence in the gospel.
- On-the-spot training: depending on how much time you have, do some or all of these:
 - o Who are my three friends?
 - o How do I invite them?

- You might want to explain some of the other Uncover resources listed at the beginning of this guide. You need to decide how much to say at this point because too much detail can quickly send everyone to sleep. You could explain all this at a later meeting.
 - It is worth pointing out that for those who have already done the Uncover John Seeker Bible Studies that there are now six more Uncover Follow-on Seeker Studies available. You could also get them to talk to the rest of the group about their experiences.
- Pray; don't just talk about praying and how important it is!
 - o Pray in threes, each person naming one friend they'll put on their Prayer Bookmark.
 - o Pray that together you will commit to this and that our ever-gracious God would bring many students to know Him this year.
- As you conclude, repeat the **pray | give | read** vision and the vital importance of praying using the prayer bookmark.
- Explain how you will help the CU through the year
 - o Tell the CU there will be 5-minute slots at the rest of the year's CU meetings to keep talking about Uncover and going over the details.
 - o Organise with your Staff Worker extra training and announce when/ where it will be.

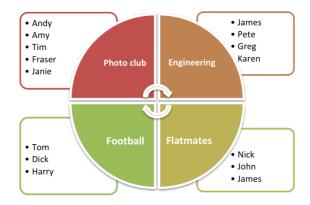
Training ideas

Use one or two of these methods at your launch event, save the others for use in the next few weeks.

Who are my three Uncover friends?

Either during the launch or in a subsequent meeting you will need to help CU members identify non-Christians they could invite to study Uncover. You may think this is too obvious to be worth doing, but you'll be surprised about how many appreciate this help. Here are two different ways of approaching this that many CUs have found really helpful. Talk with your Staff Worker about which is best for your CU, or do them both on separate nights.

These are not techniques to build artificial 'friendships-with-an-agenda'. God has placed students in their places of study so that, through Christian friends, they might reach out and find Him (Acts 17:27). Made in the image of God, we have so much in common with other not-yet-Christian image-bearers that He also made and loves.

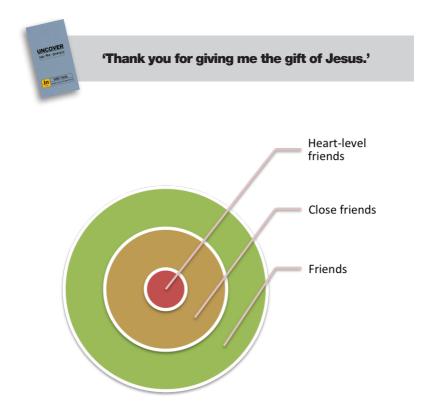


Who has God put in my life?

» Give everyone a few minutes to draw a circle with 'me' at the centre, then divide it up between the main parts of their week or things they get involved in. This example only has four segments; you probably have more

» Who has God put in my life? What friends do I already have who are similar to me? Who shares my interests?

» Challenge: How can I deepen those friendships? Who should I pray for? To whom could I give an Uncover John Gospel to next?



How close are my friendships?

» Give everyone a few minutes to draw three circles and put initials of friends in each circle. Facebook 'acquaintances' shouldn't make it onto this piece of paper.

» Heart-level friends are the ones who really know your hopes and fears, who can often tell how you're doing without being told.

» Now underline initials of non-Christians; often there will be few in the inner circle(s).

» Challenge: how can I build deeper, real relationships with non-Christians so that they feel what I care most about? How can I pray for, open up more to and enjoy spending time with specific non-Christian friends?

How do I ask my friends?

Having named three friends to focus on, the thought of actually inviting them to study John can be a major mental block. Here are a few light-hearted ways to clear the way:

- Do a sketch of how not to ask someone. In pairs, give everyone different scenarios (in a lecture, in a bar, watching football) and ask them to do a role play.
- Have someone share how he or she asked, perhaps clumsily, but got a 'yes' from his or her friend.
- Help CU members see that real friends are interested in what you're interested in.
- Talk through the flexibility of the Uncover John Seeker Bible Studies. Have small groups come up with how they could run these studies (e.g. one CU member with their rugby mates; a hall group asking neighbours on their floor; two CU medics meeting over lunch with course mates).
- Give people a form suggesting words to use, something like:
 'Hey, you know I am a Christian well in the CU we are giving people the opportunity to think about Christianity for themselves by looking at the original texts. Would you like to look through it with me?'

'By the end of our time together (in study Aa), she was seriously considering the claims of Jesus.'

Using Uncover at lunchbars, mission weeks, carol services etc.

By now you will be mumbling the vision for Uncover John in your sleep: Pray for 3 | Give to 3 | Read with 3. How then does this work with lunchbars or mission events where one of the major goals is to invite strangers to hear the gospel?

We don't want to water down the vision by spamming everyone on campus with Uncover John Gospels. This will devalue the gospel as a valuable gift for a friend and may overwhelm some people. But we do want copies to be given out at any point where there is a meaningful encounter with the gospel. Here are some ideas:

- Do make the Uncover John Gospels easily available wherever there is an opportunity to hear and encounter the gospel.
- Do put one on every seat at a lunchbar or carol service.
- Do make sure the speaker refers to the Uncover John Gospels and explains what they're about.
- Do invite visitors to take the Uncover John Gospels away and read them.
- Do offer the opportunity to investigate it together with a CU member or in a small group.
- Do use a feedback form (see next page) to keep in touch with people.

This is all about relationships!

The gospel is about a loving relationship with Jesus. Make sure your events reflect this. Many CUs are not too good at welcoming visitors. Be intentional: talk with CU members beforehand about ways to be welcoming:

- Be interested in newcomers. Smile and ask questions.
- As you read John, notice how often Jesus is at a meal. His first miracle is at a wedding feast. Meals are something we share with friends. Use good quality food or snacks at your events.
- Follow-up always works best where there is relationship. It's brilliant when a CU member brings a friend to an event. You may need to sit with this CU member and help them take the next steps with the person they brought along. Ask, 'Have you offered to do the seeker studies in the gospel with them? What help do you need? How can we pray for your friend?'

Following-up people who are interested

Year-after-year following-up people who are interested in Christianity is one of the worst-run parts of any CU event or mission. Now's your chance to learn from everyone else's mistakes.

Feedback forms

- Put a feedback form and a pen/ pencil on every seat for every event.
- Keep your form brief and simple. Use the example included in this handbook.
- Use two tick-boxes to indicate how people might respond to what they've heard.
- Make sure your speaker knows about these forms so that they can directly refer to them. They should get everyone to pick one up and explain it, including what the tickboxes are about:

Feedback form:

Thank you for coming today! We'd love to know what you thought:

Name:

Mobile: _

I came with: ____

[] Count me in!

[] Tell me more!

Comments:

'Count me in' for those who want to follow Jesus.

'Tell me more' for those who want to discover more about Jesus.

- Appoint someone/a few people in the CU to be responsible for following up these forms.
- Promise to make contact within 24 hours.
- Get mobile numbers, not email addresses. Emails are usually seen as cold and formal and you won't get many replies. If the visitor has taken the effort to come and write on a form, they'll be happy for you to phone them. So be friendly, speak to them.
- Only send a text message if you can't get through.
- Get the name of the CU member they came with (if any) as that friend will usually be the best person to follow up or do an Uncover John Seeker Bible Study with them.
- Be patient and persistent.
- Pray by name for those who have responded.

Follow-up courses must strike while the iron is hot, e.g. on the Monday after the mission/events week if not before!

That's why some CU members must be responsible for follow-up and not over-committed during the mission/events week itself.

- Do not offer too many follow-up tick box options because it can become confusing and easier for people to opt out:
 - Offer one central course, it could be Uncover John, Alpha, Christianity Explored, The World We All Want – but make sure you do offer one, whatever it may be.
 - o Encourage one-to-one follow-ups with friends using the Uncover John studies in the gospel. If the original Uncover John studies have already been used, there are six more available on the UCCF website.
- CUs have found it useful to make a simple video to explain what the follow-up course is, where it meets and what people can expect.



'They met throughout this term and last Friday the student put his trust in Christ.'

Praying for Uncover

You will only pray well when you know who God is and who you are.

Motivating by guilt or increasingly frenetic notices is easy, and it works. You will get a brief flurry of activity. However, it makes God look desperate for friends and the results never last.

Your CU will most effectively pray when they have the right convictions about **who God is and who they are.** Once you help your CU see who their God is, prayer becomes natural and attractive, not a duty or guilt trip.

Our main problem with prayer is that we don't know **who God is**. We think that every time we fail to pray God isn't really surprised, but still shakes his head, disappointed. He's the taskmaster you have to keep pleasing, the One noticing where you slip up, the One who favours the obedient, righteous people.

But that's not the God of the Bible. He knows our sins and secrets, but still loves us and welcomes us in Jesus. Take a peek at John 16:27: 'The father himself loves you.' Why? Because we have performed well? No. Jesus is our best picture of true humanity in the Bible, but even He lived a life of absolute and total dependence on God. (See John 5:19,;30; 7:16; 8:28--29; 10:18; 12:49; 14:10)

'Because you have loved me and believed that I came from God.'

God doesn't tick off attendance lists or award gold stars to those who turn up, but loves to hear from His children. So we delight to pray because God is gracious, kind, loving, merciful, and generous. We pray because we want to be with this generous God.

But even after knowing **who God is**, you need to motivate your CU to pray because we very quickly forget **who we are**.

We think we can get through most of life okay and only need to pray when things get desperate. But, in fact we need to 'The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you can live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.' (Romans 8:15--16)

give thanks because our next breath is in God's hands. We pray because we are helpless creatures, dependent every moment on our good God.

God is God and we are not.

Help your CU come to God as dependent children, simply asking their loving Father. How exciting to come to the One who is our life, breath and everything; who has more resources than we possibly need and is abundantly generous to those who just ask!

Prayer is relational. It brings together a loving, heavenly Father with the forgiven sinner who has been adopted as His child. A child speaking to their dad is a world away from an employee speaking to their boss.

You and your CU will pray the more effectively, the more you know who your God is and how you stand in relation to Him.

When will you pray?

Prayer is an expression of our moment-by-moment relationship, not an emergency call. Remember the key is an attitude of humble, thankful dependence and for as many of the CU as possible to be gripped by this, not merely the quantity of prayers being uttered (see Matthew 6:7).

Here are a few examples of when to pray:

- **Main meetings:** encourage prayer at the one point in the week most CU members are together. The following points contain ideas on how to do this with variety.
- **Regular prayer meetings:** whether weekly prayer breakfasts, Tuesday nights or daily through the mission/events week.
- **Dedicated days or times:** set aside a day to pray for Uncover. Or have a half-night of prayer (from 6pm-midnight) once per semester. You could do this as a 'flat-crawl' where you pray for different aspects of Uncover as you spend an hour in different member's flats and then finish with pizza.
- **Small groups:** these are key for Uncover. This is where you meet with the same group every week in your hall or faculty groups. Help each other be accountable for the names on your Uncover Prayer Bookmark. 'As we prayed last week, did you manage to give Sam a gospel? How did that conversation go? How can we pray this week?'
- **Pray with three for three:** promote prayer triplets, three friends together who meet each week to pray for each other and for Uncover.
- **On your own:** encourage every CU member to keep their Uncover Prayer Bookmark in their Bible and another copy placed near their bed. Pray short prayers as you're filing into a lecture or pulling on your rugby shirt.



'I have no doubt that Jesus is the greatest man who ever lived, and I have no doubts now that to follow him is truly good; I just didn't know that he was actually alive. Now I do, and I want to follow him.'

Your CU will pray when they are well-led

Make sure the convictions mentioned at the start of this section on who God is and who you are, drive your prayer times. But also plan well about what you will pray for. Use variety to keep your prayer requests fresh and personal week-by-week.

For example, here are a dozen bite-size topics you could use over the course of a semester. This way your prayers will cover a range of areas vital to helping the vision of Uncover resulting in new believers!

- 1. Pray that your CU would be confident in God's Word.
- 2. Pray that your CU would have hearts melted by the gospel so that we would long to share Jesus with our friends.
- 3. Pray that your CU would be willing to open up John's Gospel with a friend and have boldness to take opportunities to do so.
- 4. Pray that God would bring to mind specific people who we could ask to read John with us, either as a group or one-to-one.
- 5. Pray for receptive hearts around campus and for people to have a desire to want to know more of Jesus.
- 6. Pray for specific friends by name, asking that they would be willing to take an Uncover John Gospel.
- 7. Pray that God would remove any practical obstacles in the way of people being able to read an Uncover John Gospel.
- 8. Pray that as people open John's Gospel they will understand who Jesus is, understand what He came to do, and respond to His call.
- 9. Pray that your CU lives and speaks for Jesus.

10. Pray that your CU is willing to suffer for Jesus.

For many more pages of teaching, creative ideas and help to get your CU to pray, go to: www.uccf.org.uk/culeader/prayercoordinator.htm

- 11. Pray for hearts to respond with joy to God's Word.
- 12. Pray that those who have read through John would come to mission/ events week, and that the people who do come would want to read John if they have not already. Pray that they would see Jesus for who He is and trust Him.

How to pay for Uncover

Prayer supporters of CUs have already given incredibly generously to create and print the Uncover John Gospels and the other Uncover John resources.

They want CUs to be unhindered in using them to reach lost students. They believe in the vision of Uncover and of the potential of God's Word when unleashed on campus. They are praying for you.

For many more pages of ideas and help on how to fund your vision for mission, go to: www.uccf.org.uk/cu-leader/treasurer.htm

So be bold! Seek to raise the money you need to make this project fly, so that every CU member is helped to **pray | give | read** with three non-Christian friends.

What do you need to pay for?

- When you order Uncover John Gospels, there will be a suggested donation. This will be made clear at Forum, where you will be able to order your gospels online.
- Everything else is free!
 - o This includes: Bible study downloads, bookmarks, the Bible reading app and all of the other interactive content.
 - o The one exception is the Saltmine 'Darkness Falls' drama production, cost details of this will also be available from September 2015. Saltmine's previous production 'Three Witnesses' was available to CUs at a heavily subsidised price of £390, which CUs recouped from ticket sales and gifts from local churches. At the time of writing, 'Darkness Falls' is unlikely to cost any more than this.

Ambiance, food and content matters

Non-Christians can tell the kind of God you know before you open your mouth. Here are two scenarios for an evening event:

• Create a feeling of celebration with tasty snacks, sit around tables so you can chat, use soft lighting, and have a band from a neighbouring CU playing before the talk.

At any event, you should be able to say to non-Christians, 'Even if you disagree with everything we've said, we hope you've had a brilliant evening!'

These are not tricks to hook people, but they should make for a warm and enjoyable evening that flows from the creative, generous God we know. • Remember, if you just use a lecture theatre with plastic cups of squash and a dry talk, you will end up saying something about the greyness of the God you worship.



Which event do you think will help your friends know a good God? Which would you rather be at?

None of this needs to cost much, particularly if you use your imagination.

Where will the money come from?

Share the vision

- People will donate when they catch on to the vision of what you're doing and your convictions about the God who speaks.
- Share the vision, build convictions, and tell stories.

Many CUs find local churches very willing to supply excellent homemade food for events. Talk to them in good time so they can plan. They will also pray for you because they're involved. They are an excellent source of support, especially in mission weeks.

CU members

- Those in the CU whose hearts are on fire with the vision will not find it difficult to give £3 so they can **pray | give | read** with three friends after all, it's only the price of a cappuccino.
- You are not asking CU members to increase their student loans. If necessary, challenge them to give up something and donate the money they have saved (e.g. a coffee or to fast for one meal).
- Share the vision for attractive events and mission weeks that they would want to be at with their friends.

Churches, parents, graduates

• Write a prayer letter to the churches in your city explaining what your CU are doing and asking whether they would like to help support this financially. Ask CU members to send similar letters to their parents and home churches. You could also send copies to recent graduates. During the past three years, many parents and churches across the UK have used Uncover Luke Seeker Bible Studies as a result of CU members going back to their homes with testimonies of how God has worked through His Word and this resource!

- Lead with the vision for what you're doing, the convictions about why, and some stories of how God has been at work.
- Ask primarily for prayer, not merely money.
- Don't leave these requests until the last minute. Write them now for the year ahead. Follow up with more letters and feedback during the year, and definitely write a good time before the mission/events week.
- Remember, churches will pray for you when they are captured by the vision and kept informed.
- Don't assume the churches will write the cheques if you as a CU are not prepared to give or pray in return.



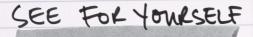
How to order copies of Uncover

Talk with your Staff Worker now!

- **Gospels:** will be available to order from Forum. Your Staff Worker can help you to work out how many gospels to order. Remember you will need four per CU member (one for them and three to give to friends) plus stock to use at events (lunchbars, carol services, missions, etc).
- **Other resources:** bookmarks, Bible studies for Christians and other Uncover resources will become available as we build towards Forum. Your Staff Worker will keep you informed.

Notes

Notes



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making disciples of Jesus Christ in the student world

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