

## Some suggestions for future meetings

- 1 Where do we see the Holy Spirit at work today? Share your experience.
- 2 A Bible Study on Matthew 13.44-46 (the treasure hidden in a field, and the pearl of great price).
- 3 A session looking at the meaning of words such as faith, spirituality, mission, prayer, witness to help each other explore and deepen our relationship with God.
- 4 Spend time together in prayer, silence or a Quiet Day.
- 5 How has *Sharing our Spiritual Treasures* deepened your understanding of a faith which embraces the whole of life?

*Sharing our Spiritual Treasures* is offered to local churches as a way of encouraging their members to share and grow in the faith. It has been prepared by the Churches Spirituality Co-ordinating Group, which exists to encourage member churches to explore, discover, affirm and share their spiritual traditions and current practices.

*Sharing our Spiritual Treasures* and its sister leaflet *Gifts from the Treasure Trove* are free to download from [www.cte.org.uk/receptive-ecumenism](http://www.cte.org.uk/receptive-ecumenism). Printed copies of *Sharing Our Spiritual Treasures* are available from CTE on request. If you want one, send us a C5 sae. If you want several, ring us. We'll ask for a donation if you want a lot of copies! (Any cheques should be made payable to *Churches Together in England*.)



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# Sharing our Spiritual Treasures

An opportunity for Christians meeting together to:

- ❖ *Share stories and experience*
- ❖ *Appreciate our different traditions*
- ❖ *Find nourishment for our faith*
- ❖ *Seek God in all things*

# Sharing our Spiritual Treasures

**Bring** to the meeting something which is significant for you, and which you want to share. It may be:

- ❖ An actual object – important for itself or for the memories it evokes
- ❖ A verse or two from the Bible
- ❖ A hymn, a poem, or a piece of music
- ❖ A photograph or picture
- ❖ A memory of a person or event

**Say** why the contribution you have brought is important to you. (Share only what you want to.)

**Listen** to other people without comment.

**Reflect** on the spiritual treasures that people have shared. Have any of them chimed with your experiences, or have they been different?

**Consider**, as a group, whether you would like to meet again for other opportunities to share your faith journeys. Some suggestions are given on the back page.

*Note to facilitators: When inviting people to the group, you may find it helpful to photocopy or adapt the material on this page.*

## Guidelines

**Note to facilitators: As this touches on personal experiences, it is essential that the group understands and accepts the guidelines.**

- Create a warm, friendly, expectant atmosphere. A focal point may be helpful – perhaps the objects brought by the group.
- Agree together the timing and length of the meeting. Ensure each person has time to speak.
- Encourage people to contribute as and when they feel appropriate and agree to keep confidentiality.
- Let the group listen and receive what is said in silence: remind people that this is not a discussion.
- After everyone has spoken, there may be silent or shared reflection.
- Allow time for the group to consider whether it would like to meet again.

## Who?

*Sharing our Spiritual Treasures*, although intended for ecumenical groups, may also be used by groups from a particular church. You may wish to invite others who would value this way of sharing.

The group, ideally of six to eight people, could meet regularly but need not.

## Why?

To share the rich variety of spiritual experiences within and beyond the churches.