



Share your faith in Jesus with others

When Jesus returned to heaven, he gave his disciples one last instruction: “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). When he said that, he meant for his followers (like you and me) to share their faith with everyone they meet wherever they (we) are — on the playground, in the halls at school, or at a friend’s house.

Do you know what sharing your faith means? It’s like when grown-ups ask you to share a toy with one of your brothers or sisters or a friend. When you share a toy, the person you’re sharing it with gets to enjoy it and have fun, too. Sharing your faith is just like that. When you share how much you love Jesus with others, it helps them to learn to love Jesus, too!

In Argentina, a country in South America, people in the Mennonite churches get excited about sharing their faith with others! In fact, they’ve been doing it for more than 100 years now. That might be longer than your church has been around!

Argentines drink a tea called *mate* (MAH-tay) that is made by pouring hot water over tea leaves. This tea is made in a special cup with a metal straw and it is passed around to share with everyone.

Travelers in Argentina can stop and ask people they don’t know for water for their *mate*. While the water is heating up is a time when Christians will share their faith and maybe even ask others if they want to go to church!

Followers of Jesus tell the story of driving a bus from town to town. They named the bus Lazarus, because it broke down many times and would be fixed and brought back to life — just like Jesus’ friend, Lazarus. When it broke down, they stayed longer in the towns to wait for repairs, and they shared their faith while waiting.

Through the years, new churches developed in some of the towns in which Lazarus, the bus, broke down. Those followers of Jesus helped other people want to share their

faith because of the kindness given and received while waiting for the bus repairs.

You can share your faith by being helpful: If you see that someone forgot their lunch at school or is out of lunch money, you can share your lunch with them. Even if they just forgot their pencil in math class, sharing a pencil with them can go a long way to showing them your faith.

You can also share your faith by asking others for help, too. It seems strange, but asking someone for help can give you the chance to make new friends that you can share your faith with. If you had to move to a new school, asking someone for help (like to borrow a pencil!) can put you on the right track to making new friends.

Or if you’re searching for your lost pet (*ask the children what the names of their pets are*), you ask around the neighborhood if people have seen them. They can keep an eye out for your pet, and you might just make a new friend, too — and, hopefully, you’ll find your old one (good boy!). Just remember, always make sure you are with a grown-up and ask for permission before talking to people you do not know.

What are some creative ways you can share your faith in Jesus with the people you meet at school or other places? Remember, it doesn’t have to be hard. Even just being kind in small ways is enough to share your faith in Jesus.

Since we don’t drink much *mate* here in _____, what can we ask people for to start a conversation? Directions? Time? Tissues?

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for all the things you do for us. Help us to be able to share our faith with people we meet wherever we are. Help us to show kindness to others, just like you would. When it feels hard to share our faith, help us find the little ways that we can help others so that they can see your love in us. Amen.



Photo by Camilla Senise

Mennonite youth Florencia Bianchi and Carolina López enjoy mate together as is common throughout Argentina.

Our gifts can help support mission in Argentina.

Mission Network partners with the *Iglesia Evangélica Menonita Argentina* (IEMA) and with indigenous evangelical churches in the Argentine Chaco. These churches work to spread the peace of Christ throughout Argentina.

Did you know?

\$25 can help volunteers travel to different communities where they share God’s love.

\$50 can help children and youth participate in church camp.

\$100 will help Argentine Mennonites work together to build churches and support other ministries.

Gift designation. All gifts to support ministries in Argentina should be sent to Mennonite Mission Network, PO Box 370, Elkhart, IN 46515-0370. Please indicate that the funds are for “**Mission Bank–Argentina**” or “**Project #2015.**”

▶ For more activities and stories, visit www.MennoniteMission.net/ArgentinaMissionBank.

ARGENTINA

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