

Innovate

WITH ALPHA

Designing
Your Custom Alpha — P.3

NEW
"Made in Canada"
YOUTH ALPHA — P.6

Reaching A
Multicultural
CANADA — P.7

Getting Started:
10 STEPS TO RUNNING
ALPHA — P.13

More innovative, inspired
and relevant than ever!

CREATIVE APPLICATIONS
DEMONSTRATE WHY CHURCHES
CONTINUE TO VOUCH FOR
ALPHA AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE
OUTREACH TOOL AVAILABLE

— P.10



ALPHA
CANADA

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is for everyone who wants to explore life's big questions in a way that is

real, RELEVANT, *engaging*, **OPEN**, *relaxed*, fresh, **FUN!**

ALPHA IS RUN BY
CHURCHES OF
EVERY MAJOR
DENOMINATION IN



CHURCHES



PUBS



COFFEE SHOPS



BOARDROOMS



HOMES

MORE THAN **533,000 people** IN CANADA HAVE ATTENDED
ALPHA, AND OVER **19.6 million** AROUND THE WORLD.

TYPICALLY, ALPHA INCLUDES:



GREAT FOOD



SHORT TALK ABOUT
THE CHRISTIAN FAITH



SMALL GROUP
DISCUSSION



*We invite you to discover how
Alpha can be used to answer the call
God has placed on your heart.*

THE IMPACT?

78%

*of non-churchgoers
who take Alpha
begin or restore
a relationship
with Jesus Christ!*

1

I had built scales over my eyes about what the church and Christianity were about.
When we went to Alpha, it took away the scales. – BRUCE

"I don't know of a better Kingdom-centred, gospel-rich, culturally appropriate effort to introduce new folk to the good news of Christ."

JAMEY MCDONALD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE OF CANADA

"So many of our brothers and sisters have not yet encountered Jesus Christ or have not had the opportunity to look at the big questions in life. The Alpha course can open the door to a new life!"

GÉRALD C. LACROIX, ARCHBISHOP OF QUEBEC

"The new creative expressions of Alpha have multiplied our effectiveness in engaging spiritual seekers."

KEITH TAYLOR, LEAD PASTOR, BEULAH ALLIANCE



Equipping you for your calling.

Most church leaders want their buildings to be inviting and a place where it's easy to have conversations about Jesus. But sometimes we don't know how, and the walls of our churches can look pretty intimidating.

At the heart of Alpha we want to be real, relevant, and engaging to a generation that does not know Jesus. The result? Vibrant, growing churches. Countless church leaders are calling the **new and rejuvenated Alpha materials** the most effective and well-proven evangelistic tools available.

We are leaving no stone unturned to create spaces for people to explore the meaning of life in an innovative way. Ultimately, we want to see all people—from students and seniors to your colleagues and the incarcerated—encounter Jesus through you, the local church.

At Alpha Canada, we are here to serve you.

Visit alphaischanging.ca to learn more.

A big storm hit my life, and for the first time I felt out of control.
I got involved in Alpha. It's literally saved me. — MICHAEL

Your Custom Alpha

WHOM HAS GOD PLACED ON YOUR HEART?

God often places a burden on our hearts for certain groups at specific times. Who are the people God is calling you to minister to? Whether they hang out at the local coffee shop, are students at a near-by school or immigrants making a new life in Canada, **Alpha's new customized course materials allow you to focus your time and energy more effectively.** Ask your Regional Director which course would be best to engage those you are called to reach with the gospel.



UNCHURCHED



YOUTH



MARRIED COUPLES
+ FAMILIES



SENIORS



UNIVERSITY +
COLLEGE STUDENTS



MARGINALIZED OR
DISADVANTAGED



WORKING
PROFESSIONALS



ETHNIC
COMMUNITIES

WHERE CAN YOU REACH THEM?

Alpha has been run in thousands of churches across the country, but that's not the only place you can host the course. Get creative and think about where the people you are called to reach spend their time. Where would **they** be comfortable exploring the big questions of life?



SENIORS HOMES



PUBS



COFFEE SHOPS



HOMES



BOARDROOMS



COMMUNITY
CENTRES



SCHOOLS/
CAMPUSES



PRISONS

HOW DO YOU WANT TO PRESENT THE ALPHA TALKS?

Choose from three simple delivery options to present the Alpha talks: DVD, downloaded videos, or live talks. Our Alpha Talk Transcripts give you the opportunity to add your own stories and personal experiences to create a truly custom presentation.



DVD



ONLINE



LIVE

'I love Alpha because it helps me share the gospel with my friends in a non-threatening way—it's professional, it's thorough, and it presents Christianity in a way that is accessible.'

CHRISTY

What does a typical Alpha course look like?

The Alpha course teaches only the basic biblical teachings on which most Christians agree. Courses generally run for 7-10 weeks, including a weekend or day away part-way through the course. An introductory event at the beginning or celebration party at the end provides guests an opportunity to invite friends and family to come and see what Alpha is all about.

THE 7 WEEK ALPHA COURSE STRUCTURE

Launch Party	Is this it?
Week 1	Who is Jesus?
Week 2	Why did Jesus die?
Week 3	How can I have faith?
Week 4	Why and how do I pray?
Week 5	Why and how do I read the Bible?
Weekend Talk 1	Who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do?
Weekend Talk 2	How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?
Weekend Talk 3	How does God guide me to make the most of my life?
Week 6	What about evil and does God heal today?
Week 7	What about the church and telling others?

A TYPICAL EVENING ON THE ALPHA COURSE:

10 minutes

Welcome and introduction.

40 minutes

Each gathering begins with a meal, snack, or refreshments. This is a time to relax and make friends. Some groups ask for a voluntary donation toward the cost of the meal.

30 minutes

Then there is a talk that looks at a different aspect of the Christian faith each week.

15 minutes

Next, a break for snacks and refreshments.

45 minutes

The evening ends with a time of discussion in small groups where everyone is welcome to contribute opinions and ask questions. People usually stay in the same small groups for the duration of the course so they can get to know one another, continue discussions, and deepen friendships. This time emphasizes exploration and discovery in a relaxed and non-judgmental environment.

Alpha was a complete change from the negativity that I was so used to living with every day. After the night on healing, I felt free. — MICHAEL

Choosing the Right Alpha

Our experienced and trained Regional and Specialty Alpha Directors will meet with you, listen to your vision, and help you choose the right Alpha course and format for your specific context. Call us for a consultation at 1-800-743-0899 or visit us online at alphacanada.org/team. For a full listing of available resources, visit alphacanada.org/bookstore.



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Our friend's invitation to Alpha opened the door to a new experience for us. Our kids came, then brought their friends. It changed our lives. – MARVIN + TERRI

NEWEST ADDITIONS

CAMPUS ALPHA a.k.a. 7 WEEK ALPHA

7 WEEKS

Launched in 2010, this course features the same proven content as the original Alpha—only, squeezed into seven weeks, squashed into thirty minute talks, and spiced up with multimedia ingredients. These videos are hosted by Jamie Haith, former International Director of Campus and Youth Alpha. Campus Alpha is being used not only on university campuses across Canada, but also by groups of all ages in churches, coffee shops, homes, and community centres. The shorter format allows for greater flexibility as you customize Alpha to work in your context.

FOR ANY
CONTEXT

“7 Week Alpha works because it’s ready to go! It is so much easier to equip people with the resources to run the 7 Week Alpha course because it’s all available online.” — JESSICA

“We have run 4 Campus Alpha programs. Young adults love the multimedia and the way Jamie presents the material. It gets them thinking. Mark and I also love the Campus Alpha format. We have suggested Campus Alpha to people who currently run regular Alpha in their church and are looking for ways to reach the young adults in their communities.” — TERRI + MARK



USB DRIVE



ONLINE



LIVE

YOUTH ALPHA

10 WEEKS

The **Youth Alpha Film Series** is a brand new, 100% Canadian developed and produced Alpha for the next generation, launched in the fall of 2013. It consists of 12 high-energy sessions designed to engage junior and senior high school students in conversations about life’s biggest questions. Each 25-minute session covers an important aspect of the Christian faith: Why did Jesus die? Why and how do I read the Bible? and many more. Presenting the gospel in a clear, interactive, relevant, and fun way, the Youth Alpha Film Series bridges the gap between thousands of unchurched students and the message of Jesus. Visit youthalpha.ca to learn more.

FALL 2013
LAUNCH



DVD



ONLINE

Campus Alpha is amazing! I didn’t feel judged. I recommend this course to anyone who has questions about faith and purpose in life. — CARMEN

TRIED + TRUE

CLASSIC ALPHA + ALPHA EXPRESS

10 WEEKS



Classic Alpha is the full-length Alpha course featuring 45-minute talks presented by Nicky Gumbel. Thousands of people's lives have been changed by God through the message contained in these videos.



Alpha Express features the same presentations by Nicky Gumbel but with talks shortened to 20-25 minutes.

"In my 36 years of pastoring, Alpha has been one of the most effective and refreshing instruments of evangelization that I've encountered. It has also brought me personally into contact with many wonderful people from all Christian denominations and provided a common base for all of us to share and celebrate our faith together."

— REV. JOHN WECKEND, ST. CECILIA PARISH, REGINA, SK



DVD



LIVE

REACHING A MULTICULTURAL CANADA

ALPHA FOR ESOL

10 or 20 WEEKS

One in five of Canada's population – or nearly 6.6 million people – speak a language other than English or French at home (2011 stats). Churches are reaching immigrants and students from overseas using Classic Alpha (with subtitles) and Alpha Express.



Alpha for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) provides a slower-paced version of the course using simplified dialogue designed for people whose first language is not English. Resources for leaders, such as speaker notes, guest handouts, and interactive games, are available for free download at www.alphacanada.org/run.

Tony, the owner of Empire Chinese Restaurant in Richmond, BC, came to know Jesus through Alpha. Having committed his family and business to Jesus, Tony agreed to open his restaurant for a church plant. Eighteen men and women came together for the first Alpha course held in Cantonese. Two years later, 60 people gathered at this new church in a restaurant to have their first communion and celebrate the baptism of four adults and one child.

Alpha has also been translated into 112 languages worldwide. Visit alphacanada.org/bookstore to order materials in French, Chinese, Korean, Italian, German, Punjabi, Spanish, and other languages.



DVD



LIVE

7

To sum up the Alpha course in two words: "Life changing."
There is absolutely no other way to describe it. – TIM

SPECIFIC TO YOUR SETTING

Specialized training resources and tailored course materials have been developed to use Classic Alpha, Alpha Express or Campus Alpha (7 Week Alpha) in a number of different settings.



Alpha in the Workplace

Studies show there is a growing spiritual hunger in the workplace. Alpha in the Workplace presents an opportunity for co-workers to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed and non-threatening atmosphere. Because these are often run during lunch hours, workplace groups typically use the shorter Alpha Express talks.



Alpha for Seniors

Did you know that there are nearly 5 million people over the age of 65 in Canada? Our cultural landscape has changed as the baby boom generation has aged and made seniors the largest population in the world. We want to help you reach this untapped demographic with the good news about Jesus. Whether the seniors in your community are active and independent or in assisted living or care homes, Alpha for Seniors provides a tool you can tailor to meet the specific needs of those 65 and over in your area.

The current versions of the Alpha Course Manual and the Alpha Course Leader's Guide have been republished with larger print.



Alpha in Prisons and Caring for Ex-Offenders

There are currently 115 Alpha courses running in nearly 50 prisons and detention centres across Canada. Lives are being radically changed as inmates are given the opportunity to meet Jesus.

Caring for Ex-Offenders (CFEO) is a collaborative effort that links prisoners who have completed the Alpha course with a supportive church prior to their release. Ex-offenders are reintegrated into the life of the community and provided with social support, basic needs, and spiritual guidance.

Volunteer Jerry Kozak saw God overcome impossible hurdles to gain permission, for the first time, to run Alpha in the Surrey Pretrial Centre. After seeing the incredible impact the course had on the inmates, the Deputy Warden asked Kozak's team to not only continue running the course, but also add another course for women.

One inmate describes his experience: "All I had desired was just a few fleeting moments off the unit, away from the noise, clutter, and confusion! Now when I look at the 'scenery' I still see red... not what I'm viewing outside of me, but what I see on the inside. The colour of my heart has transformed from black to red. My thoughts have shifted gears—low to high, negative to positive—which has in fact made a humongous impact on everybody I'm in contact with."

RELATIONSHIP CENTRAL

Alpha's Relationship Central branch offers four courses dealing with marriage and parenting. These courses are an effective and inviting tool to welcome those who wouldn't ordinarily look to the church for support.

MARRIAGE + PARENTING

5-10 WEEKS



The Marriage Course (7 sessions) and **The Marriage Preparation Course** (5 sessions) are designed for couples who want to build strong foundations for a healthy relationship that will last a lifetime. These courses have been run in restaurants, homes, churches, and even malls.



The Parenting Children Course and **The Parenting Teenagers Course** (each 5 or 10 sessions) are relevant and helpful for any parent with or without a Christian faith or church background.

Pastor Lawrence Yuen and his wife were taken aback by the painful marriage break-ups in their community, including the parents of some of their kids' friends at the local elementary school. "Let's not just watch the shipwrecks happen or ignore the hurt in kids' eyes. Let's do something positive and proactive to bless our community," they decided.

A committed core team of volunteers birthed the idea of bringing The Marriage Course to the local mall. Each autumn, for 8 weeks in October and November, the team runs The Marriage Course in Oakridge Mall in Vancouver. They rent the Seniors Centre there and transform it into a romantic restaurant-like setting with elegant tablecloths, fresh-cut flowers, hot beverages, warm smiles, and genuine welcomes. "The Marriage Course has indeed been a proactive tool for building relationships... the best way of keeping families together that we have seen," says Yuen. Some of the course alumni were so inspired by the experience that they are now hosting the course in a trendy coffee shop in downtown Vancouver.



DVD



LIVE

Innovate

WITH ALPHA

More innovative, inspired and relevant than ever!
May the following examples fuel your creativity.

Tips from a veteran:

"When I'm taking a newbie out on a mountain bike, I often tell them to let the bike handle the trail. Alpha can be the same way—you shouldn't try to over-steer or control things but let the course work itself out. The Holy Spirit does the work in people's hearts. We see life and faith changes every course."

REV. MIKE WILKINS



ALPHA IN THE PUB

"How could you say no to a burger and a beer?" Rev. Mike Wilkins is sold on the Alpha course and he's been running it in a Toronto pub for over seven years.

"The first night is always free, so that people can come and check it out," says Mike. Guests pay a flat fee for their food and beverage for the rest of the course.

"We run Alpha at the pub specifically for people who find it difficult to enter a church building," says Mike. "We've seen many of those people cross over to becoming members of our community, we've baptized some, and some are even in leadership positions now."

I went to Alpha the first night not expecting anything. It was like someone was finally speaking truth into my life for the first time. — JENNIFER



ALPHA IN THE FITNESS CENTRE

Clarenda Price runs Alpha at a fitness centre in Fredericton, NB. Participants spin (bike) while watching the talks, and clipboards are supplied for taking notes. After the talk there is a stretching session followed by a break featuring discussion and healthy snacks.

When Clarenda advertised the first course, she hoped for a full class of 20. Forty-three people registered, leaving many on a waiting list. When Clarenda emailed an invitation for the next course, it took a mere 24 hours to fill the course and put five more people on a waiting list.

People have questions about God, but don't have the luxury of time. "We're so busy. If someone is invited to an Alpha course, but they're really committed to the gym, they don't want to take an extra night to go out," says Clarenda. Her desire is to bring Jesus to where people are already spending their time.



BRINGING ALPHA HOME

With more Canadians dismissing the relevance of traditional Christianity and church attendance in their lives, those wanting to reach out to neighbours and friends must often do so outside of a regular church setting. The relaxing atmosphere of a warm, loving home often removes any obstacles the guests may have.

Bill and Joy Bonikowsky of Surrey, BC, decided to run an Alpha course in their townhouse, sending invitations to each family in the complex. "All find the home setting 'cozy and non-threatening,'" says Bill. "Age does not appear to be a factor. All express an appreciation of the food, of being together, and of 'being able to hear the basic simple truths about Christianity,' as one put it."

Sally Start, Alpha Ambassador in Canada, thinks running Alpha in a home has distinct benefits. "The dinner party atmosphere of a home-based Alpha course is hard to beat," says Sally. "I think that people may feel more commitment to their hosts when Alpha is being run in a home setting. We had virtually 100% attendance in our fall course."



A NEW COMMUNITY IN WINNIPEG

Knowing that many people will never set foot in a church, Harry Vanderwees and his team in Winnipeg decided to host the first week of their Alpha course in a local hotel. They ran the evening like a typical Alpha night, and then invited guests to continue the course at the church. "It made us more courageous to step outside the walls of the church," says Harry of the positive response to the evening.

Harry also found that guests who graduated from the course often wanted to continue to explore Christianity but weren't ready to attend a Sunday church service. The team decided to begin a post-Alpha group called New Community that meets parallel to the Alpha course in another room. More than 25 people are regularly coming to New Community, studying material appropriate for new believers such as Nicky Gumbel's *A Life Worth Living*. The New Community members even bring dessert for the Alpha course guests, forging relationships between the two groups.

"It's been unbelievable to see what God is doing in people's lives," exclaims Harry. "Our team of five couples is delighted to keep serving year after year. God can use ordinary lay people to further the gospel."

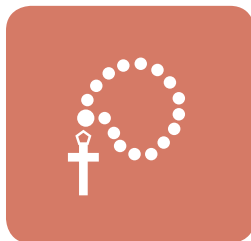


PLANTING CHURCHES

As a church planter with New Frontiers International, Chris McLean saw Alpha as fitting hand-in-glove with New Frontiers' fivefold mission: restoring the church, making disciples, training leaders, planting churches, and reaching the nations. His first three church plants in the UK and his fourth, in Oakville, ON, have one thing in common: They all used the Alpha course as their main method of evangelism and church growth.

"I used to work as a regional evangelist as part of a team overseeing churches. All of our churches ran Alpha. It's probably the biggest fruit-bearing harvest tool we've used," says Chris.

People ask why Alpha works, why this British guy talking on a video has such an impact. He responds, "Because it's the gospel, and the gospel is the power of God to salvation. And we're presenting the gospel with honesty in an environment where people eat together, build friendships, and enjoy being in a group where they can ask any question. That can only be good. I haven't found anything better."



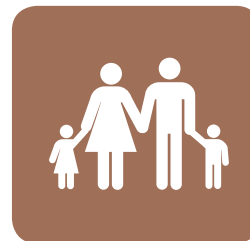
ALPHA IN THE CATHOLIC CONTEXT

Father James Mallon is the pastor of Saint Benedict Parish in Halifax, NS. He describes his experience with Alpha:

"Since running the Alpha program in my parish, I have seen lukewarm Catholics come alive, non-believers come to Christ, and committed Christians become more committed leaders. I consider Alpha not to be just another program that can be put on by a church, but the program at the heart of renewal in the local church.

"In terms of basic evangelization, in terms of a program to rejuvenate the faith of those who are already involved in church, to bring in new people who have no connection with church at all, it's the best program that I've found. I think every parish should be doing it.

"One of the successes of Alpha is that it walks an incredible theological tightrope. In order for it to be theologically acceptable to Baptists, Catholics, Pentecostals, etc., the Alpha course focuses on the things that all churches hold in common. I believe that there's nothing in Alpha that is irreconcilable with the Catholic faith."



REACHING FAMILIES IN MARKHAM

Pastors David Tin and Mavis Fung had a vision to see Alpha and the Relationship Central courses reach their local community, but not necessarily by bringing people into the church. Instead, they converted their old house into a safe haven for those with broken and tired relationships and called it "Relationship Central Markham." They set up four cozy and inviting rooms for running The Marriage Course, The Marriage Preparation Course, and The Parenting Courses, including a state-of-the-art kitchen. Over 30 people signed up for the first series of courses.

Recently, parents indicated they would like to have the courses hosted in the school, a more familiar space for them. David and Mavis asked the school, who welcomed the idea and agreed to open up the space for the courses. A total of 49 people signed up for courses in both English and Cantonese!

Getting Started

10 STEPS TO RUNNING ALPHA

You've answered three important questions so far: Who are the people that God has placed on your heart? Where can you reach them? How do you want to present the Alpha talks? Now it's time to start preparing your course. Here's how to get started:

01



REGISTER

alphacanada.org/register

This crucial step puts you in our online directory, which helps people find your course. It also gives you access to weekly Realtime Training emails, promotional materials, Course Coaches, and video downloads. **Be sure to register every course you run so that we can support you effectively.**



02

PHONE A FRIEND

Talk to your Regional or Specialty Alpha Director if you'd like a Course Coach to support you in prayer, offer helpful advice, and connect you with other leaders in your area. See the list of Alpha Canada staff members online at alphacanada.org/team or phone the Alpha Canada National Office at **1-800-743-0899**.



03

ORDER EARLY

Browse and shop for our products online or check with your local Christian bookstore for Alpha products and seasonal sales. To order from David C. Cook Distribution, phone **1-800-263-2664** or visit alphacanada.org/bookstore.

Don't miss these important resources:

How to Run the Alpha Course: Director's Handbook

Explains how to pick team members, the priority of prayer, setting a start date, budgets, promotion, training, and what to do after Alpha.
(Item 9781934564394, approx. \$16.99)

Alpha Guest Manuals

Square Format, 6x6 size
(Item 15204, approx. \$4.75 each)

Small Group Team Manual

Group Leaders' Guide
(Item 15389, approx. \$5.25 each)

04



SAVE THE DATES

Book your Alpha weekend/day away date and venue now. 25% of the Alpha material is presented at the Alpha retreat, resulting in significant transformations and lasting friendships. Visit www.alphacanada.org/tools for a helpful planning checklist, brochure samples, sign-up forms, ideas to promote your retreat, and more.

05

BUILD YOUR TEAM

Running Alpha is a team sport, and success largely depends on filling some key roles:

**Alpha Course Administrator (CA)**

This person carries the overall responsibility for running the course, leading the team, and delegating tasks. A great administrator is well organized, detail oriented, and friendly.

Alpha Small Group Hosts + Helpers

These people act as facilitators, ensuring the small groups are a safe place for guests to share openly. They may also introduce each session (or present the sessions live), and are prepared to take on pastoral responsibility for guests on the course.

The Alpha Task Force

This fun, servant-hearted crew of volunteers cook meals, take care of logistics, greet people, and provide administrative support.

Full descriptions of the various team roles are available at alphacanada.org/tools.

06

TRAIN YOUR TEAM

Training is absolutely essential. Meeting with your team for training helps everyone understand the Alpha DNA, learn relevant small group skills, and build unity.

We recommend training on these three topics before each course:

Before Alpha begins:

“Leading Small Groups”
and “Pastoral Care”

Before the weekend away:

“Praying for Others”
(or “Prayer Ministry”)

**DVD**

Item 25606 – \$41.99
alphacanada.org/bookstore

**ONLINE**

alphacanada.org/tools

**LIVE**

PowerPoint slides
with speaker notes
alphacanada.org/tools



07

SET YOUR BUDGET

Many courses take place in homes or churches and therefore don't cost much to run. However, here are some costs to consider:

Logistics: the celebration or launch party, weekend/day away, each Alpha session, training sessions



Food: the celebration, weekend/day away, each Alpha session

Course resources: DVDs, manuals for guests and team

Publicity: posters, invites, banners

Download a sample budget at alphacanada.org/tools.



08

PROMOTE YOUR ALPHA COURSE

Promoting your course is a lot of fun! Designate a media-savvy team to put together an action plan for inviting people to the course. The Alpha website provides creative ideas on how to inspire your church to invite their friends and family and promote your course to the local community.

Download FREE Alpha posters, business cards, guest invitations, video clips, and so much more at alphacanada.org/tools.

10

DO IT AGAIN!

The course works best when it's run two or three times a year. If each course ends with a party, guests can invite family and friends who are then invited to the next course.



09

PERSONALLY INVITE GUESTS

86% of Alpha guests come because of a personal invitation.



BEYOND THE CHURCH WALLS

With a little bit of dreaming and a whole lot of energy, Sunset Church in Fredericton, NB, ran 25 Alpha courses in the past year with over 300 people in attendance. The sheer number of courses catches your attention, but more remarkable still are the locations they used. Church members were encouraged to think creatively about how to **reach their natural circles of influence**, and soon the Alpha course found its way into homes, cafes, workplaces, a hockey arena, a fitness centre, and a pool hall. One Alpha course ran in a music store that hosted guitar lessons after the store closed. Students stayed after their lessons to jam and then watch the videos with host Jamie Haith.

"Pastor Joe Beesley gives people the freedom to introduce new ideas for where we can take Alpha," explains Elwood Mean, Director of Alpha on Campus, who attends Sunset Church. "Joe shares vision and this causes people to be bold and creative. At the heart is Jesus' call in Matthew 28:19 to 'go and make disciples.'"

Training and equipping has played a significant role in the outburst of personal evangelism. The church developed "Alpha To Go" kits with Alpha videos, invitations, guides, and other resources so that church members would have everything they needed to start their own course. They also held well-attended training evenings.

"We were surprised by who came forward to lead a course," says Elwood, "We have seen new Christians and people new to the church instantly get involved and share their faith by leading an Alpha course." Elwood and the team at Sunset Church feel that 25 courses in one year is just the beginning. The congregation of approximately 750 members is aiming to host 50 courses next year, most of them taking place in homes and workplaces.

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*No Stone
Unturned.*

