

Supporting Chatnow

Everything you need to know to support the work of Chatnow can be found at Chatnow.org/give

On our website you can make an online gift and you will find all of our bank details to enable you to make a direct payment or set up a regular gift. There are also details about how to leave a gift to us in your Will.

If you support us and are able to give with Gift Aid, we have an online form you could use - thank you!

Newsletters

If you would like to regularly receive our newsletter then fill in the form on our website Chatnow.org/newsletter or use the details below to contact us.

Partnerships




CONTACT DETAILS

Chatnow.org
office@chatnow.org

Or write to us at...
Chatnow
London
WC1N 3XX

UK registered charity: 1092215

Global Praise!



Adnan is from Yemen rejected Islam earlier this year and has been investigating Christianity for the last 7 months. He thought he needed to memorize the Bible before he could become a Christian. After learning the truth, he said he was ready to be forgiven and place his faith in Jesus alone. What a blessing to see this heart change. Thank you God!



Praise the Lord. Tiffany from Belize has been going through all the motions of being a Christian but has finally placed her faith and trust in Jesus alone for her salvation. Please pray for her new journey as a daughter of Christ.



Praise God for a new child coming into his kingdom. Abinash from India has come to know the true identity of Jesus Christ and has prayed to place his faith in Jesus over his Hindu roots. May God bring him Christian community and grow his faith even deeper.



Praise the Lord for a new brother in Christ. Anirudh is from a Hindu family but then had a dream about Jesus and so came online to find out more about Him. After hearing the Gospel he put His trust in Jesus.

Chatnow.org

NEWSLETTER 98



Are conversations different?

With a name like ours, it will be no surprise to you that our focus is always on the conversation. We want people to not just visit our website and read it's pages but to also click on the "Chat Now" button and come and talk with us.

People regularly ask me, "What are the differences between an offline and an online conversation about Jesus?" In this newsletter, I will use an acrostic of the word CHATNOW to help explain some of the ways that our conversations are unique and like no other.

C - Coming to us
H - Home working
A - Access to resources
T - Telling us plainly
N - No visual clues
O - Others alongside
W - Worldwide reach

C - Coming to us

One of the big differences is that all of the conversations 'come to us'. We don't go out searching for someone to start talking to about Jesus - rather people who are searching online come to us. Last month, 30% of visitors to our website chose to click on a button to chat with us. We don't initiate the conversation; they decide that they want to chat with someone and then click "Chat with a Christian" or "Chatnow - discover how Jesus can help".

People looking for help and hope come to us, and then we make them feel welcome and ask what is going on in their life so we can find the right way to share the hope and help of Jesus with them. They've already taken the first step by deciding to chat on a Christian website, so it is easy for us to then point them to Jesus.

1.8 Million Website Visitors



H - Home working

Another big difference is that we are talking to people about Jesus from the comfort and safety of our own homes. There is no bad weather to get in the way of us going, no fear of physical attack and no travelling required. We simply make ourselves comfortable, grab a warm drink and log on. When we are relaxed and comfortable, we

are probably more likely to represent the love, grace and compassion of the Lord Jesus in a better way to those who are lost and struggling.

A - Access to resources

Maybe you've experienced a time when a friend or neighbour asked you questions about the Bible, and you've gulped and thought, "if only I could remember that explanation someone told me." When we are chatting online, we have the advantage of being able to quickly and easily look things up, search the Bible for that elusive verse, or share a helpful webpage with the chatter.

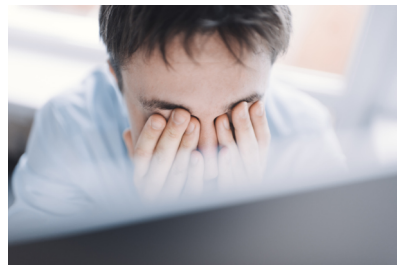
T - Telling us plainly

An often heard complaint about online interactions is that people can be brutal and cruel because the anonymity of being online makes them feel free to express what's really in their hearts and minds. When it comes to the Gospel, we need honesty and openness, and for people to tell us what they really believe. Many times, we've experienced someone saying; "I don't know why, but I have just shared with you in ten minutes something I've kept hidden for years".



N - No visual clues

One of the key challenges we have to overcome online is the lack of visual clues. We only see words on a screen, so it can be really hard to discern tone or emotions. We also have to take extra care to ensure that our typed words are not misread with an unintended emotional tone. We need to take on the role of a "caring detective" and ask the chatter many exploring and clarifying questions to better understand their perspective, their feelings and why the issue they have come to talk about is so important to them.



374,000 Online Chats

O - Others alongside

All of our conversations with people are kept within our specialist chat software. This is to keep us all accountable and also allows us to benefit from being part of a team. In the middle of a difficult conversation, we can ask other volunteers for assistance or share a request for prayer. Even though we are all sitting at home in different countries, we are definitely not alone.

W - Worldwide reach

One particularly exciting aspect of Chatnow evangelism is that the website brings in worldwide conversations with people from different cultural and faith backgrounds. Each month, people from more than 200 countries come and chat with us. One minute you could be speaking to someone in Coventry, the next in Croatia, then China, followed by someone in Chile, and then Canada! Our global reach means we regularly have the privilege of encountering people who are discovering how wonderful Jesus is for the very first time. We always need to be aware of how someone's cultural understanding of Jesus will affect how they perceive what we type to them. As we chat and get to know them better, we can grasp more of their background and culture and then present the Gospel in a way that is more likely to resonate with them. The core message of the Gospel never changes, but the language and metaphors we choose to use to help them understand need to be appropriate to their cultural view of concepts like guilt, fear, shame, honour, innocence and power.



Nobody else knows

I have been coming to this site for a while. I have been very unwell with cancer. I have felt so low, but of all the people, this site has helped me most. There have been things I've been unable to tell anyone else, but this site has given me an outlet.

A snapshot of a chat with a lady in India

*... I do believe that there is someone watching over me, but I don't consider myself a Christian because of the guilt that fills my heart...
... I have heard this about Jesus before, but I don't know what's stopping me from following Him. There are a few things that I'm still stuck on that make it really hard for me to do that...
... I need to figure out the things wrong in my life first. I've gotta go now, but thanks for your help and encouragement.*