

outreach in and through sport



We are part of a sport-focused society. Over 10 million people in the UK regularly take part. Eight out of ten play, watch or read about sport every week.

And, with sport crossing cultural barriers and age gaps, there are many ways to link sport and faith before, during and after the Games.

Sport in Schools

Children of all ages will be caught up in the Olympic fever and most schools will link the Olympics and Paralympics to part of their curriculum. This offers opportunities for –

School Games Programme*: This programme, run during school time, includes sport, games, arts and crafts and sharing Jesus through a pre-written Bible Discovery lesson. This programme is easy for a small team from local churches to deliver. A handbook is being produced by Scripture Union with all the guidance

needed. Details at morethangold.org.uk/schoolsgames

Other ways to engage with schools are –
School assemblies – ideas to download free are being produced

After school clubs – an opportunity to offer sport and faith based programmes outside of regular classroom time

Olympic themed lessons – relating to curriculum requirements that could cover history, geography, religious education and physical education

Sport in the Community

There are ways to reach those of almost every age interested in or active in sport. The Salvation Army has produced a DVD to help churches grasp the possibilities. Details at morethangold.org.uk/resources

Sports Coaching Academy*: This combines coaching, Christian values and relevant Bible teaching - creating a bridge to help children integrate into church life and the church be incarnated into children's lives. Coaching should be led by qualified Christian coaches from your church or other churches nearby. Or coaches could be trained to have the necessary skills through obtaining coaching qualifications and be supported by one of the agencies working with *More Than Gold*. For more information see morethangold.org.uk/academy

A sports themed holiday club*: This is like the holiday Bible club but even more attractive. Lasting from three to five days, clubs can be run during school holidays or a weekend, which is ideal for the Summer holidays or half-terms in

- ▶ 2011 onwards. At least two choices are available, with all a church needs to put on an exciting and engaging event, plus a more football specific programme. Details at morethangold.org.uk/resources

A sports tournament for adults*: This draws people from the fringe of the church and builds links with the community. Possibilities include five-a-side football, tennis, golf, netball, touch rugby, cricket and more. The event could end with a dinner and a speaker. For training, advice and health and safety issues go to morethangold.org.uk/tournaments

Residential sports camps:

For the sporty young person, from a weekend to a week. The camps include specialist coaching, team games, personal development, and an encounter with the Good News about Jesus. Opportunities will be announced through *More Than Gold's* eNewsletter



Non residential sports clinics: For the enthusiast rather than the specialist, from a morning to a full day. Each clinic includes supervised group coaching, team games, and an encounter with the Good News about Jesus. Opportunities will be announced through *More Than Gold's* eNewsletter

Sports themed Guests Events

Interest in sport makes it easy to invite guests to special events like -

A pub-style Sports Quiz Night:

Using multi-media questions,

involving a meal and a speaker. A wonderfully cringe-free event with the resources all on tap from christiansinsport.org.uk

A sports dinner: This can be stand-alone or follow an event like a sports quiz or sports tournament. Specialist speakers are available through christiansinsport.org.uk

Showcase opportunities will be announced through our eNews.

Sports Mission Equipping

The help available is with an aim that churches will see this as an effective way to do ongoing mission. It includes –

- Training programmes for activities marked with an asterisk – with details announced through *More Than Gold's* eNewsletter
- Opportunities to see and take part in sports mission with more than thirty Christian Sports Mission agencies in the UK. Details announced through our eNewsletter
- A free guide to help churches develop sports outreach teams to impact their community available on request from info@morethangold.org.uk

International Sports Mission Teams

As many as 4,000 people could come from overseas as mission teams. This will include sports specialists ranging from football to taekwondo.

They will be available to contribute to schools, holiday and community outreach programmes for your church. Details available later in the year.

This information is brought to you by Sports Ministers UK a coalition of sports ministers and ministries dedicated to helping the church reach out in communities through sport. For more information on how they can help your church make the most of 2012 visit <http://uksportsministries.org>