

40 Rockets

Encouragement and tips for turbocharging
your evangelism at work

CRAIG JOSLING



40 Rockets

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Introduction

For more than 25 years I've had the privilege of working with City Bible Forum, encouraging Christians to work together to reach the world with the good news about Jesus through their workplace.

The City Bible Forum team has grown over these years, and now has staff working in all the capital cities of Australia. It's a team that collectively has many years of experience in workplace ministry.

The chapters in this book are all part of the fruit of that experience. What I've tried to do is capture in writing some of the things we encourage Christians in our network to think about and do as they live out their faith at work.

One of the enduring convictions of City Bible Forum is that the workplace is a great place to get to know people and talk to them about Jesus. But as well as the opportunities, our workplaces also present some unique challenges. So we hope and pray that the ideas given here will be useful to many in making the most of these opportunities and avoiding some of the potential pitfalls. Ultimately we hope this book will *motivate* and *equip* you to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with your non-Christian contacts.

The book contains 40 'rockets', each one containing a different idea to encourage you in your evangelism. Why do we call them 'rockets'? Simply because we hope they'll

turbocharge your effectiveness in sharing Jesus and get you moving!

The rockets have been written primarily with the workplace in mind, and you'll find quite a lot of references to the office in particular. That's because each rocket was originally written for weekly distribution by City Bible Forum, and our particular focus tends to be on city office workers.

But the advice found here can be applied to other contexts too. Just think about the places you find yourself in regularly, where there are people who don't know Jesus—the school playground, your local shop, the gym... The list goes on, and I'm sure you can think of more. Wherever or whatever your 'office' may be, there are opportunities for evangelism. It might take some extra creativity but many of these rockets can be applied in all sorts of contexts.

How to use this book

Reading this book in one go is likely to be overwhelming, and it might discourage you from putting any of the advice into practice. In order to get the most out of this resource, I recommend you read just one rocket per week, and then work at applying what you've read during that week.

You can read each rocket by yourself or with a friend, or use it as the basis for a small group discussion. Each rocket follows roughly the same format:

- Most rockets begin with a **Stop and consider** point to help you reflect on your Christian life in the workplace at the moment.
- Some rockets are very practical and will give you

an **Action** point to carry out that week. The point of many rockets is to challenge you to start doing something you may not already be doing.

- Because we don't want you just to read a rocket and then forget about it, some rockets end with a **Question** to help you recap on what you've read.
- Sometimes a rocket will be a reminder of who God is and how he is working. The application here (rather than an action point) is to **Pray** and give thanks.
- We've also scattered some review questions throughout the book to remind you of previous rockets and to encourage you to keep applying what you've read in past weeks.

Where it might be helpful for you to jot down some notes, we've left space for you to do so.

If you'd like to find out more about City Bible Forum, visit our website at www.citybibleforum.org. You can also receive these rockets as a weekly email by signing up online at www.citybibleforum.org/rockets.

Craig Josling

A graphic of a dark grey rocket ship pointing to the right, with the text "Rocket 1" written in white on its side. The rocket has a white trail of motion lines behind it.

Rocket 1

Be convinced that the workplace is a great place to share Jesus

 **Stop and consider:** Why do you think the workplace is such a good place to share Jesus with people?

Here are five reasons you may have thought of:

1. You spend **a lot of time** there. Many of your waking hours are spent at work (whether you like it or not). We commonly spend more time with our work colleagues than with our family or friends.
2. It gives you **contact with lots of people who don't know Jesus**. How many non-Christian friends do you have outside of work? How often do you see them? Compared with the contacts you have at work, the list is probably much shorter.

3. Work **helps to build relationships**. Common projects, team meetings, group lunches, training courses, going on work trips... Working together is a natural way to get to know people just by turning up each day and doing what's expected.
4. People at work are **more like you**. Whether you work in an office, a shop, a hospital, or a factory—you share the same subculture, education level and skill set with those beside you. It's easier to relate to people from your work 'tribe': you've got lots in common and lots to talk about.
5. It's a chance for people to **see you living out your Christian faith**. Hopefully people at work see that you walk the walk as well as talk the talk. They get to see you taking the teachings of Jesus seriously in your attitude to work, in how you treat people, in the way you cope with difficulty, and in other ways. This is powerful in making the gospel attractive.



Pray: Thank God for your workplace, and that it's such a great place to share Jesus with people.