



Where you live and where you work will make a difference to the kinds of transport you use. If you live in a city with good public transport links, that may be your preferred way of getting around. If you live in the countryside with few buses going near your home you may rely on having your own car or motorbike to get to out and about, even to go to the nearest shops. If you don't have far to go from home to work perhaps you simply walk, roll in your wheelchair or take your bike.

Some types of transport have a larger impact on the environment than others. Engines that use fossil fuels have a larger carbon footprint and so do more harm to the planet than electric vehicles. Using public transport is better as one engine gets many people around. Active travel by foot, bike and wheelchair is even better. It's healthy for us and the planet too.

What transport choices do you make?



#### **Conversation Starters:**

Talk about a journey that you have taken fairly regularly.

How do you prefer to travel for short journeys? Do you make the same choice if you have to travel a long distance? Did lockdown change the way you prefer to travel?

What encourages you and what discourages you about using public transport? Has your view of public transport changed since the Pandemic?

Have you ever travelled by bike or wheelchair? What was your experience of these journeys? What made the journey easy and what made it difficult? Would you like to use a bike?

Have you ever tried car sharing? Is it something you would consider?



## Some ideas for actions for the young at heart (And not so young)

Draw a picture of different kinds of transport. How many different kinds of transport can you think of?

Go for a walk in the local area with some friends.

Join in with a park run or walk if there is one near to you.

Hold a come and try day for bikes.

Ask the local police to put security markings on your own bikes.

Arrange a midsummer evening walk.

Could you set up a car sharing scheme for getting to church?

Find out about what the Scottish Government is doing to encourage active travel from [Transport Scotland](#).

Discover more about the active travel and what is available to support this in your area, from organisations such as [Energy Savings Trust](#) and [Sustrans](#).



## Bible References

The relationship of the Bible with wheeled vehicles is quite extensive.:  
Utilitarian (**Genesis 45:21**) Sacred ( **Exodus 25**: Ark of God) and violently destructive (**2 Kgs 9:20**). Is your vehicle a cart or a chariot?



**Prayer** written by Iain McLarty- Trustee of Eco-Congregation Scotland.

Creator God,

We thank you that you for the miracle of our bodies  
which let us move, walk, run, hop and jump.

We thank you for gifting us with creative minds  
which let us create amazing machines to travel further:  
bicycles, wheelchairs and cars to travel on the land,  
boats, hovercraft and submarines to cross the sea,  
planes, helicopters and rockets to fly through the air.

We thank you for the people they let us meet  
and the places they let us see.

But in the midst of these wonders of human flourishing,  
we acknowledge their impact on the rest of your creation.

We confess that the speed and ease of modern travel  
have mattered more to us  
than the pollution and destruction it has caused,  
and we pray for change.

We pray that you help us understand the price of travel  
not by the cost at the pump,  
but by the cost to the planet.

We pray for scientists and engineers  
as they work to create cleaner and more sustainable technologies.

We pray for decision makers in government and in business,  
especially in the time leading up to COP26,  
that they may have the wisdom and courage to make good choices  
in the difficult decisions about our transport systems.

Amen