

## **“Sharing the Gospel”**

A strategy for presenting the Gospel one-on-one.

### Goals:

- Learn how to effectively share the Gospel in daily life.
- To be bold with the Gospel.
- To be sensitive with the Gospel.
- To stay focused on the Gospel when sharing it.
- To follow-up those we lead to Jesus Christ.

### Things we avoid:

- Arguing.
- Preaching.
- Rabbit Chasing...spending too much time on secondary Theological and/or social issues.

### The Gospel Strategy

- 1) The Approach.
- 2) The Transition.
- 3) The Presentation.
- 4) The Review.
- 5) The Follow-up.
- 6) The Multiplication.

### Tips:

- **This presentation is best used when a Christian experienced in personal evangelism trains someone over a 4-6 six week period.** It is written in that context.
- When quoting the Bible say “The Bible says” instead of quoting all the exact verses.
- Once or twice during the presentation ask, “Is this making sense.”
- ***LISTEN!***...genuine attention to their words, whether we agree with what they say or not, shows respect and maturity. Allowing them to share while still being conscious of time as well as remaining in control of the flow of the conversation is a very important balance.

## 1) The Approach

Walking up to a stranger and/or someone we know with the purpose of sharing the Gospel can be frightening. A wall of fear usually arises. Breaking through this wall of fear is done with the following direct question, “*My friend and I are out talking to people about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Would it be alright if we take a few minutes and ask you some questions about spiritual things.*”

This opening question will be answered yes or no. If no than with a smile we politely say “OK, have a good day” and immediately leave. If yes, than we ask if we can sit down and introduce ourselves with first names. For the ice breaker we can ask their name, their work, etc. Then we move into...

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## 2) The Transition

The transition is made from superficial things to Spiritual things very quickly by saying the following: “I appreciate you allowing us to talk with you. I’m curious if you have an interest in spiritual things?” Regardless of their answer, the next questions are:

- a) If you died today are you 100% confident you would go to heaven?...*Listen to their answer and then ask.....*
- b) Let’s say you did die today and stood before God and He asks you, ‘Why should I let you into heaven’, what will you say?

After listening to their responses, regardless of their responses we move into...

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## 3) The Presentation

- a) God loves us and has a plan for our life.
  - Life here on earth...Jeremiah 29:11
  - Life eternally in heaven...John 3:16
- b) Because of our sin we are cut off and separate from God, outside of His plan for our life.
  - Sin...Romans 3:23
  - Separation...Isaiah 59:2—opposite side of Grand Canyon from God
  - Judgement and hell...Hebrews 9:27
- c) Cross and Resurrection
  - Jesus Christ, by His death on the cross and His resurrection, is “the bridge” over the Grand Canyon...John 14:6
- d) Receiving Jesus Christ
  - Our personal choice to say yes or no
  - How can you know Christ...knowing for sure when you die you will go to heaven? Here is how a person has their sins forgiven, enters God’s plan for their life and receives eternal life:

**1) Repent...** Acts 3:19—*full commitment of entire life!*

-Have you ever gone the wrong way while driving? What did you do? Do a U-turn and change directions from going the wrong way down the road to the right way. So, we agree with God that we are a sinner and going the wrong way in life, and by faith we do a life U-turn towards God, and then...

**2) Receive...** John 1:12

- We give control of our life to Jesus Christ by faith, receiving Him as our Savior and Lord. To illustrate we can use an illustration, such as the following:

-*Unopened Christmas present illustration...* Christmas present sits under tree until we reach out, open it and apply what is inside. Gift is given and received freely by grace as we don't pay people to give us presents, they are given unconditionally.

-*Pen illustration...* using a pen/pencil, hold it in your open hand and ask the person, "If I gave you this pen, what would you have to do to write with it?" Answer, first, you must receive and take the pen in order to use it. If we don't take the pen, it is still ours in a sense but useless to us until we take it. Likewise, what Jesus Christ did on the cross is no good to us and is useless to us until we receive Him.

-*Car illustration...* our life is like a car going the wrong way. We have to invite Jesus into our car/life, and we move over into the passenger seat and let Jesus into the driver's seat. He is now driving our life in the right direction.

**3) Follow...** Luke 9:23, Matthew 4:19.

-Follow Jesus Christ through the ups and downs in daily life and activities...work, family, church, rest, sickness, health, etc.

**Invitation Questions:**

- **Does what we've been talking about make sense to you?**
- **Do you understand what you have to do to receive God's gift of eternal life?**
- **Is there any reason you would not want to receive Jesus Christ right now as your Savior and Lord?**
- **Are you willing to admit you are a sinner and give complete control of your life to Jesus Christ and invite Him to be your Savior and Lord?**

Sample prayer guideline for leading a person to Jesus:

*“Heavenly Father, I admit I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I repent and turn from my sin, and by faith receive your Son, Jesus Christ, into my heart as my Lord and Savior. I give control of my life to you, Jesus. Help me to love You, know You, and serve You. Thank you for coming into my heart and giving me eternal life. In Jesus Christ Name I pray, Amen!”*

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#### **4) The Review**

For those who receive Jesus Christ, a quick review is needed. The following questions help the person who heard and received the Gospel have a better understanding of what just happened. It can help reinforce their new commitment. For someone who just heard the Gospel from us but did not receive Jesus yet we can ask them “What would you need to do if you wanted to give your life to Christ tomorrow?” Then, if they don’t yet understand what they need to do to receive Jesus we go on to explain again how they can know Jesus. The following are review questions for a person we just lead to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. You may have to give the correct answers and begin reinforcing these truths into their minds.

- What did you just do...what did that prayer mean? Answer: I received Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord.
- Where is Jesus now...how do you know? Answers: He is in my heart. I know by faith. Quote John 1:12 to them.
- Will He ever leave you...how do you know? Answers: No, He will not leave me. I know by faith. Quote Hebrews 13:5.
- If you died today where would you go...how do you know? Answers: To heaven. I know by faith. Quote 1 John 5:13.
- Do you have any questions or comments?

Next, offer encouragement and excitement for them by:

- Saying to them “Jesus is in you forever, He will never leave you. The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Jesus, entered your life and will begin to teach and guide your life.
- Say to them, “You may have felt something enter your heart. If so that is fine. If not that is fine. Your commitment to Jesus Christ is not based on feeling or lack of it but on faith.”

Encourage them to:

- a) Read the Bible every day beginning in John.
  - b) Prayer...talking and listening to God.
  - c) Begin telling others what happened...how they accepted Jesus and how others can too!
  - d) Attend a local church that believes and teaches that Jesus was God in the flesh and He is the only way to God, and that the Bible is the Word of God.
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## 5) The Follow-up

The following are the responsibilities we have when we lead someone to Christ, or when someone wants to visit our church, attend a Bible study with us, etc.

- Ask them if you can get their phone number, email and address. Call them the next day if they gave their number. If they don't give contact information invite them to church. If it is someone of the opposite sex bring someone of like gender into the situation from your church to assist you in the follow-up. Tell them you and a friend will be contacting them from your church. Do not meet alone with someone of the opposite sex.
  - Give them a Bible if they need one.
  - Invite and take them to church, small groups, social activities, etc.
  - Attempt a one-on-one mentoring, discipleship relationship with them.
  - Teach them this personal evangelism strategy.
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## 6) The Multiplication

Now that you are equipped to share your faith the time is here for you to pass your personal evangelism training to the next person by training others, *"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers"* (Matthew 9:37-38). Then they too will learn it and pass it on and so forth. God bless you as you share your faith throughout the rest of your life!

*"...he who wins souls is wise."* (Proverbs 11:30)

*"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you may have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."* (Philemon 6)

*"...you will be my witnesses..."* (Acts 1:8)

*"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."* (Mark 16:15)

*"Go and make disciples..."* (Matthew 28:19)

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