

Proclaiming Christ

Evangelism Training growing out of sermon on May 28, 2023

Acts 17:16-34

Getting to Know Me

Take 10-15 minutes in your Growth Group to reflect on Sunday before spending the bulk of your time in the Evangelism Training below.

1. Who is the best storyteller you have ever heard? What makes them fun and interesting?

Digging Deeper

2. What new insight or information did you learn from hearing the sermon this Sunday?
3. Read Acts 17:22-34. How did Paul share the gospel in this scene and what was the effect?

Evangelism Training

We are now transitioning from the sermon into a video series entitled “Jesus Conversations.” <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/344560>

We will be taking a few video segments a bit out of order. Our goal is that each of you will have a couple of tools to help you **know** the gospel and be able to **share** the truths with confidence that God’s power is working through you!

1. Watch Video 1. “Why We Must Evangelize”

What do you think of the idea that sharing the gospel is always a win?

What keeps you from sharing the gospel?

2. Watch Video #3. “The Holy Spirt Can Use YOU”

What thoughts come or feelings do you have when you hear that you can share the gospel message?

3. Watch Video #2. “The Bridge Gospel Illustration”

Leaders – provide paper with pens for the following exercise.

After watching the video, break up into pairs. Take turns copying the illustration and sharing the gospel:

1. Draw two cliffs. Explain: “We were separated from God; We are each on different sides of the cliff.” Say “God created us with purpose, to be in relationship with Him and to enjoy all the fullness of life with Him.” Ask “How would you get to the other side to have relationship with God?”
2. Draw a stick person on the left side of the cliff. Write “God” on the right side of the cliff. Say – “We have a problem we cannot fix on our own. God sees the sin that separates us and he provides a way out.”

Recite Romans 6:23 - “*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*”

3. We can’t build a bridge to God, but Jesus Christ is God’s bridge to us. Draw a cross in the chasm between the cliffs. Emphasize God’s love through John 3:16 - “*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*”
4. Our Response – Ask the person if they want to receive Christ as their Savior and have eternal life and a new beginning in Christ. If so, lead them in a prayer like this:

“Father God, I know that I am a sinner and that I need you to forgive me. I believe that your Son, Jesus died and rose again so that my sins could be washed clean, and I can now have relationship with you. I want to make you Lord of my life and follow you. In the name of Jesus, Amen.”

“We exist to Glorify God by guiding people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.”

After sharing with each other, regroup and ask the following questions:

Why would it be important to first build rapport with the person you are sharing with?

What are some things you might want to ask the person before drawing the illustration?

What surprised you about using the Bridge illustration?

How could this tool be useful to you in sharing the gospel?

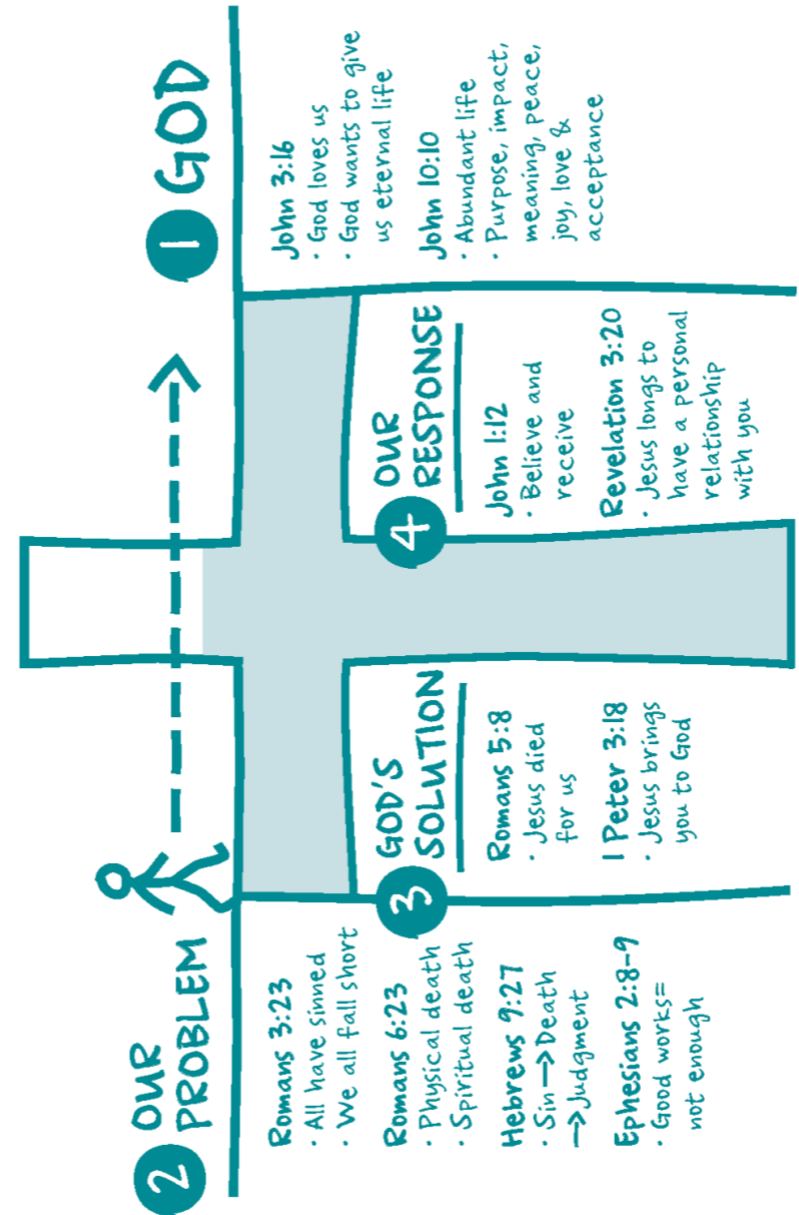
Where Do I Go from Here?

1. Memorize Romans 6:23
2. Pray that God would make it clear by prompting your spirit when you have an opportunity to share the gospel.
3. In preparation for next week, take some time this week to write out a short "story" or "testimony" of your faith in Christ. Some questions to help guide your story:
 - a. What were you searching for before coming to know Christ?
 - b. How did you end up following Christ as your Lord?
 - c. Did anyone share the gospel with you or invite you to church?
 - d. Why do you go to church now?
 - e. How has your relationship with Jesus grown?
 - f. How has your life changed since becoming a Christian?

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we are amazed that you would choose us to further your kingdom here on earth. We do not deserve the grace you extend to each of us. Help us to see the opportunities you have prepared in advance for us to share the gospel with our friends, family, and neighbors! We are fully dependent on your power that works within us and not on our own. To you be the glory! Amen

Bridge to Life Visual



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