

## Week 12 Evangelism: Sharing Spiritually

This effort must gradually move the conversation into the more spiritual or **eternal** aspects of the friendship. By spiritual we mean; **Striving** to be able to offer biblical direction specifically by **sharing the core elements of the gospel** message.

We also mean the ability to \_\_\_\_\_. When the door is spiritually wide open we share as strongly and clearly as we can. When the door is closed, we patiently wait...and \_\_\_\_\_ back to investing in the friendship emotionally and relationally.

In the spiritual sharing phase of the friendship we are in the **“green zone”** for sharing the gospel. If we have laid an adequate relational & personal \_\_\_\_\_ then we can go hard after sharing the truth!

In the spiritual sharing phase of the friendship we are intentionally \_\_\_\_\_ on sharing the gospel in three main ways...**planting, witnessing, meeting.**

### Planting

By ‘planting’ we mean the \_\_\_\_\_ of little by little **unpacking the core elements** of the good news: **God, Law, Gospel**

### Witnessing

By ‘witnessing’ we mean an \_\_\_\_\_ to share a **summary version** of the gospel message because of a clear opportunity.

### Meeting

By ‘meeting’ we mean an **intermittent effort** to go through a \_\_\_\_\_ with a friend...addressing the gospel or other important issues.

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### Planting

**Chart the course:** Lay out and \_\_\_\_\_ the core truths you would like to eventually discuss, in their most logical order. \_\_\_\_\_ yourself with the passages, arguments & biblical narratives.

**Stick to the plan:** Try not to get \_\_\_\_\_ with random or obscure topics/issues/debates. Force the conversation to stick to the truths at hand; God as Author & Authority.

**Know the accounts:** There are a few major accounts in the Bible that clearly \_\_\_\_\_ & lay the \_\_\_\_\_ for better Gospel comprehension. You must know these accounts and their meaning well! Adam/Eve, Cain/Abel, Noah/Flood, Abraham/Isaac, Israel/Passover, Israel/BronzeSnake

**Look to launch:** Look for anything in their life or in the media or culture that could be a launching point or \_\_\_\_\_ to the next truth on the list. Use that issue to transition into the truth.

**Ask questions:** Have follow up questions already \_\_\_\_\_ in your mind that help you discover if they have heard you and if they have understood, and if they believe the truths you presented.

**Model the truth:** Always seek to model in your speech, your behavior, your attitudes, your values, your spending etc. that God is the Author & the Authority...that you have sinned & Christ is the only Savior etc.

**Resources:** *Our 55 Gospel Truths, A Survey of Bible Doctrine.* by Charles C. Ryrie, *The Passion of Jesus Christ (50 Reasons Why He came to Die)* by John Piper

## **Witnessing**

**Spot openings:** Always be looking for an opportunity in their life where you could boldly share the gospel. Classic examples are death, loss, suffering, crisis, tragedy, pain, addiction & disappointments.

**Take your chance:** When those opportunities arise you must, by the power of the Holy Spirit boldly walk through that door. You must not hesitate. Remember prior spiritual conversations to build from.

**Know the Gospel:** When those opportunities arise you must, know how to summarize the Gospel into a condensed yet very clear and accurate picture. You must **familiarize yourself** with what you would say...or you won't know what to say!

**Answer questions:** Be able to answer the questions they may have about God, sin, salvation etc. Be able to **back up** the truths that you just shared with more evidence, more scripture and clear life examples.

**Get a response:** If you believe that you have shared effectively and they have understood adequately you should **gently push** for some type of response. **"Do you believe any of that...?"**

**Resources:** *The Story that Matters.* by John Cross, *What are Christmas & Easter all about?* by John Cross

## **Meeting**

**Find a need:** People will be more likely to do a study on a topic that they are currently \_\_\_\_\_ with (*a topic vs a book of the Bible*); finances, marriage, parenting etc.

**Get a resource:** Find a resource (a book study or video series) that is 3-6 weeks in nature that will effectively and directly address their current need/struggle.

**Make the offer:** **Lay the ground work** for an offer. Find the material and then follow through with an offer to meet with them for a **specific period of time**.

**Stick to it:** People will flounder in their commitment and follow through. You have to push and take the \_\_\_\_\_ to ensure that the study will occur. Make it more attractive with food & fun.

**Get to the Gospel:** Our ultimate goal is twofold; 1) To have finances/marriage to point to the gospel and 2) To possibly get to a study of the Gospel!

**Resources:** *The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus.* by John Cross, *One God. One Message.* by P.D. Bramsen, *Firm Foundations; Creation to Christ.* by Trevor McIlwain