

»»»201



SHARE

SHARE

True Christians reproduce.

*Do YOU have spiritual kids? When was the last time you shared your faith?
Do you know how? Do you lack courage?*

THIS STEP OF THE GROWTH PROCESS HAS 3 GOALS:



KNOW

Gain the tools and knowledge to share your faith with anyone.



BE

...a witness with the confidence and desire to reach the people around you with the gospel.



DO

Carry out the mission Jesus gave to his followers: make disciples!

Look for answers to these questions and more...

How can I use my story to impact others?

How do I reach my friends and neighbors who are far from God?

Do even good people go to hell?

How do I take conversations beyond sports and the weather?

What do the 10 Commandments have to do with Jesus?

What must a person know to be saved?

I'm shy. Am I really required to share my faith?



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HOW TO USE THIS STUDY

Welcome to **SHARE**, part of the Growth Process at Berean.

Our hope is that this study will give you the knowledge and resources to share your faith with anyone, anywhere. Before you get started, we'd like to offer a few tips for getting the most out of your experience.

WORKING THROUGH THE STUDY

The Growth Process has been written to be used in one-on-one mentoring scenarios or in group environments, such as Connect Groups. If you're participating in this study as part of a group or as someone who has been following Jesus for a long time, we recommend that you go through this study at the pace of about one session per week. Each week, review your answers and spend time doing the group discussions together.

If you're doing this study with a mentor one-on-one, or if you're a relatively new follower of Jesus, you may find it helpful to slow that pace down. In fact, it may be helpful to look up verses with your mentor and work through each answer together. This may mean that it takes more than six weeks to complete. That's fine; work at the pace that is best for your learning and personal application.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- The best way to prepare for each group discussion or mentoring conversation during this study is to read the session material and complete any independent work assigned by your group leader or mentor beforehand.
- Generally speaking, the more we interact with something, the better we learn it - so the more you're willing to engage in the group discussion, Bible reading, and next steps activities, the more you'll benefit from those experiences.
- Finally, don't be afraid to ask questions! Answering your questions is what this step in the Growth Process is all about.

ICON KEY

You'll see a number of different icons throughout this study. Here's what they mean.



WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO

Our teaching videos for this study can be found at bbcTRANSFORM.org/grow



LISTEN TO THE TEACHING AUDIO

Our teaching audios for this study can be found at bbcTRANSFORM.org/grow



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Using an app like YouVersion to read the Bible will make it much easier to find these verses. Try it out... it's free! You can use whatever version you prefer. Unless otherwise noted, the verses you'll find in this study have been taken from the ESV (the English Standard Version).



TALK IT OVER

Discuss what you've just heard or read as a group or with your mentor.

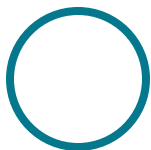


TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPS

You'll get the most out of this study when you put what you're learning into practice. Use these tips to start taking steps of obedience.



SESSION 1:
WHY
SHARE OUR
FAITH?



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Use a Bible or Bible app to find and complete the verses below.

Our Command

Why share our faith? Because it's our mission!

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make _____
of all nations...

Luke 10:2 The harvest is plentiful but the _____
are few...

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come
on you; and you will _____
_____ in Jerusalem, and in
all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Jesus _____ me to share my faith!

Our Compassion

Why share our faith? Because it's good news to people far from God!

Mark 6:34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had
_____ on them...

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and loved, clothe
yourselves with _____
kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Our Concern

The Love Test: honestly evaluate yourself by completing the following statements (check any box that applies):

1. The thought of sharing my faith:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terrifies me | <input type="checkbox"/> Excites me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embarrasses me | <input type="checkbox"/> Bores me |

2. I believe the person with whom I share my faith would probably:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thank me | <input type="checkbox"/> It doesn't matter what they do to me or think of me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physically attack me | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Think I'm a fanatic | |

3. An unsaved person will:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be eternally happy | <input type="checkbox"/> Still go to Heaven |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Die unfulfilled | <input type="checkbox"/> Spend eternity in Hell |

4. The fact that anyone could suffer in Hell forever:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't worry me | <input type="checkbox"/> Horrifies me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concerns me | <input type="checkbox"/> Isn't my problem |

5. According to Colossians 1:28, we are told that we should be warning:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All Jews | <input type="checkbox"/> Every person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Our relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> Every Christian |

6. In light of the command in Col. 1:28, I have been:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disobedient | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaware of my responsibility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faithful | <input type="checkbox"/> Complacent |

Continued on the next page

- 7. If I saw a blind man walking toward a 1,000 foot cliff, I would immediately:**
- Offer him a Bible or a tract
 - Invite him to my house for a non-confrontational BBQ the following weekend
 - Suggest a more fulfilling place to walk
 - Warn him about the cliff
- 8. When Paul pleaded with the people at the synagogues (Acts 17), he demonstrated his concern for them by:**
- Inviting them to a worship service in the upper room
 - Smiling and hoping they noticed the peace in his eyes
 - Saying something to make them feel good about themselves
 - Telling them about the coming day of Judgment and what they must do to be saved
- 9. If I know someone who is not saved, I should do all I can to:**
- Spend months building their trust and hope they ask me what makes me different (assuming they don't die first...)
 - Invite them to church and hope they want to come back
 - Wear a cross around my neck so they'll know I'm sold out for Jesus
 - Learn to go to them in love and compassion, speaking the truth, leading them to the Savior
- 10. In light of the fact that over 150,000 people die every day, and I know how to cure death, what would I like to do now?**
- Pray about it
 - Think about something else
 - Begin to learn how to share my faith effectively and biblically so I can reach the lost with the gospel

Who came to your mind as you took the Love Test? It's time to do something about it! Who are the 5 people closest to you who need Jesus? Write their names in the spaces on the next page.

I ask God to help me reach:

At Berean, we call this our Pi² (Pie Squared) list—PRAY, INVEST, and INVITE:

PRAY daily for those on your list. Ask God for boldness to share your faith, opportunities to share your faith, and clarity when you share.

INVEST by building authentic relationships with those on your list.

INVITE them to take their next step: attend church, read a resource, trust Jesus, etc.

Our Conviction

Why share our faith? Because it's a vital part of what the church is designed to do.

The Church **should not** be like a protected _____, designed to keep people out.

The Church **should not** be like a _____, with 11 people playing and thousands watching from the stands.

The Church **should** be like a _____, designed for the sick and injured, equipped with the resources to go out and help the injured at the scene.

Most people would say:

1. If someone accepts Christ: _____ situation.
2. If we plant a seed: _____ situation.
3. If someone rejects Christ: _____ situation.



Read Matthew 5:11-12, Romans 10:14-15, and 1 Peter 4:14.

According to these verses, **every time we share our faith it's a _____ situation!**

**SUCCESS IN EVANGELISM IS NOT
DEPENDENT ON THE OUTCOME.**

SUCCESS IS _____ .

Our Commitment

Hopefully you are now motivated like never before to share your faith. As you do, here are some important tips to keep in mind.

**People don't _____ how much you _____ until they
_____ how much you _____.**

You may already know a lot of Bible verses and some really important biblical truths. As you go through 201, you will also learn different ways to share your faith. But remember: **you can't argue anyone into Heaven!** You are sharing an explanation of the gospel and giving the reasons you believe. Be careful not to cross the line into debating and arguing.

We need to earn the right to be _____.

You are excited to share your faith...that's great! But often we are so excited to tell people that we don't take time to build trust. It is of utmost importance that we LISTEN! We need to learn about them and their story.

Stephen Covey wrote "Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply." Don't just listen with the thought of "how can I use this in my response?" Listen with the intent to genuinely get to know them.

Here are some helpful ways to build trust in a conversation:

1. **SEEK CLARITY** by repeating what they've just said in your own words.
2. **GO DEEPER** by asking them follow-up questions that encourage them to continue talking.
3. **MAKE CONNECTIONS** by genuinely responding when they bring up something that you have in common.

We need to _____ where they are in their relationship with God.

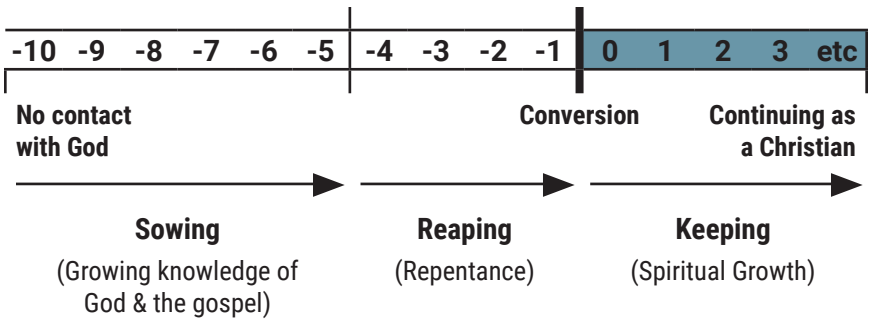
There was a time when we could assume that people were familiar with Bible stories like Adam & Eve, David & Goliath, and Daniel in the Lion's Den. That just isn't the case any longer. We live in an increasingly post-Christian culture, where many people have grown up without any instruction about God or the Bible.

It is helpful to ask questions like "Do you believe there is a God?" "Why do you believe we are here, what is our purpose in life?" "What do you think about Jesus—who was he, what did he do?"

Remember, you not asking these questions so that you can immediately give them your opinion. You want to understand their worldview—what they believe.

The scale on the next page is a helpful visual to demonstrate where people can be in their relationship with God. Understanding their perspective will be very helpful to keep in mind as we determine which method of sharing our faith to use with them. It's also a helpful reminder that evangelism is not a singular event - it's a process.

Engle Evangelism Scale Developed by James Engle



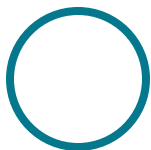
Be Patient!

A commonly reported statistic is that, on average, an adult needs to hear the Gospel message about seven times before they make the decision to become a Jesus follower. For someone who is very far from God, like an atheist, it may be even more.

Be Sensitive!

Depending on their background and experiences, they may have very different opinions on everything from creation to politics. Be committed to lovingly sharing the good news with them, not trying to win them over to your ideas or opinions.





TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPS

You'll get the most out of this study when you put what you're learning into practice. Use these tips to start taking steps of obedience:

- 1. Ask God daily to give you a compassion for those who need to hear the Gospel.**
- 2. Begin praying every day for those on your Pi2 list (from page 6).**
- 3. Practice good listening skills in all of your conversations.**

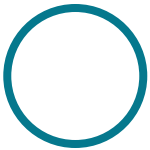
To get started, we recommend listening to the message "*Improve Your Listening Skills*," by Pastor Ted Cunningham. Note: this message is in the context of a marriage conference, but the principles are universal and helpful in any relationship.

View the message here: youtube.com/watch?v=2s9QKZ3oICE



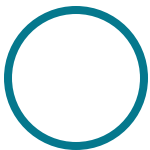
SESSION 2:
**WHY IS IT
HARD TO SHARE
OUR FAITH?**

Scan this code for the Session 2 video and teaching audio:



WATCH THE SESSION 2 VIDEO

Our teaching videos for this study can be found at bbctransform.org/grow/



LISTEN TO THE TEACHING AUDIO

Listen to Chip Ingram’s message “Why It’s Hard to Share the Love” (approximately 50 minutes):

bbctransform.org/grow/

Please fill in the blanks for this chapter as you listen. In his message, he refers to *7 Strongholds*. We would like to focus on five of them and we refer to them as *Myths*.

Sharing our faith can be difficult. Fear, doubt and insecurity can all be obstacles that we must overcome. Many times, the reasons we give for why we can’t share our faith are just _____.

Based on Chip Ingram’s “Parable of the Swimmer”, one of the most common reasons that we do not Share God’s love with people is that we believe a _____.

5 Myths that Keep Us from Sharing God’s Love

Which of these myths have you believed?

MYTH #1 >>> People are not _____.

Truth: “My food,” Jesus said, “is to do the will of him who sent me and finish his work. Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until

harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest!’

John 4:34-35

Don't assume! People may not be interested in hearing about your church or your religious views, but many of them are willing to talk about Jesus. Some people have a very negative view of the word "Christianity," but that's okay because we are not trying to win them over to a religion, we are inviting them into a relationship with God through Jesus.

People are often _____ willing to listen than we are willing to share.

MYTH #2 »» Witnessing is for spiritual _____ and outgoing people.

***Truth:** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.*

Romans 1:16

The Bible is clear that all Jesus followers have a responsibility to share their faith. Are some more comfortable talking to people? Do some have the gift of evangelism? Sure! But we all have a story to share and can make personal connections with people in different ways. Sharing your faith doesn't come down to the power of your personality or skills, it comes down to the power of the message.

The power is not in the _____, it's in the _____.

MYTH #3 »» Witnessing is something I do versus something _____.

***Truth:** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

Acts 1:8

Being a witness is not about going door-to-door handing out tracts. It's not something we put on our calendar as a task on our to-do list - it's our everyday lifestyle and practice.

The strength to live godly lives, which results in being a good witness, comes from the Holy Spirit.

The question is not, "Should I witness?" The question is, "Am I a _____ witness or a _____ witness?"

MYTH #4 >>> Evangelism is an event versus a _____.

Truth: I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7

Very few people decide to follow Jesus when they first hear the good news. It make take several different people sharing the gospel with them in various circumstances over a long period of time. You have no idea where you are being used by God in that timeline. Sometimes you will be the first person who shares Jesus with them, so you are simply planting a seed. The person may have heard the gospel many times and God is using you to "water it." Other times, you may have the privilege to be there when they make the decision to follow Jesus!

Remember, God is _____ it. Some get to _____ the seed, others get to _____ it, and sometimes we have the privilege to see the _____.

MYTH #5 >>> "I'm just not bold enough" versus "I'm just not _____ enough."

Truth: For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who love should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Compassion for someone who is on a path that is far from God should not be based on our self-perception. We have experienced the good news of Jesus and should be concerned enough about others to tell them. Focus on their need of a Savior, not your feelings of inadequacy.

_____ that eternity and the gospel are true for everyone should result in _____ for people who are far from God.



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

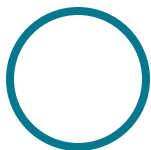
1. Which of these 5 myths do you tend believe?
2. How does believing these myths impact your witness for Jesus with others?
3. What are some ways that you can overcome these myths?

A False Gospel versus the True Gospel

If we, or the person we are sharing with, have a false understanding of the gospel, it can lead to several different devastating results. Some may make a profession of faith even though they don't fully understand what they are deciding to do. Others could be convinced that they are "saved" because they repeated a "sinner's prayer."

The desire to reach as many people as possible with the Good News of Jesus honors God, but that can sometimes lead us to focus on the wrong thing. It's easier to lead someone to make a decision than it is to lead someone to become a disciple. The Great Commission in Matthew 28 is not to make quick converts, it's to make disciples. There's a difference.

_____ vs. _____.



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

1. How would you describe the difference between a “decision” and a “disciple”?
2. What is the “sinner’s prayer”? Is it a bad thing? Why or why not?

What are 4 basic truths that a person needs to believe to be saved?

1. Sin - our problem
2. Judgment - our punishment
3. Redemption - our need
4. Repentance - our response

These 4 basic truths are the core of the gospel.

Two common & incomplete gospel messages:

Two contemporary examples show the problems of an incomplete gospel:

The “Hell-fire gospel” only uses 1 & 2. This message scares people into making a decision. They make fear-filled converts that won’t last.

The “Prosperity gospel” uses only 3. They would never want to talk about sin, judgment, or repentance because it might offend someone. They make false converts.

A complete gospel message communicates all six concepts. We should be concerned that the person’s decision is _____. We want to make tear-filled converts.

The Problem: By reducing salvation to an act of saying a sinner’s prayer, we simplify matters to the point where a person can “check the box” of Christianity and move on *without actually being converted*.

The evidence of a genuine conversion is not a prayer.

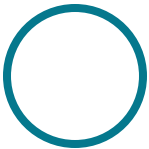
The evidence of a genuine conversion is _____

What exactly IS repentance?

Consider this explanation from John MacArthur:

“ THE GREEK WORD BEHIND ‘REPENT’ (METANOEŌ) MEANS MORE THAN REGRET OR SORROW; IT MEANS TO TURN AROUND, CHANGE DIRECTION, TO CHANGE THE MIND AND WILL. IT DOES NOT DENOTE JUST ANY CHANGE, BUT ALWAYS A CHANGE FROM THE WRONG TO THE RIGHT , AWAY FROM SIN AND TO RIGHTEOUSNESS ... REPENTANCE INVOLVES SORROW FOR SIN, BUT SORROW THAT LEADS TO A CHANGE OF THINKING, DESIRE, AND CONDUCT OF LIFE.

John MacArthur



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

How is true repentance different from regret or sorrow?



THE IMPORTANCE OF REPENTANCE

The command to repent has always been at the heart of sharing the gospel.



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Use a Bible or Bible app to find and complete the verses below.

- The first recorded words of John the Baptist's ministry:
Matthew 3:2 "_____ for the kingdom of heaven has come near!"
- The first recorded words of Jesus' ministry:
Matthew 4:17 "_____ for the kingdom of heaven has come near!"
- The message of the 12 disciples when Jesus sent them out:
Mark 6:12 They went out and preached that people should _____.
- The message of Peter's first sermon:
Acts 2:38 "_____ and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."
- Paul's message to the people in Athens:
Acts 17:30 "In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to _____."

Repentance involves 2 major _____.

1. Repentance means you change your _____

- About yourself...

“I am not fundamentally a good person deep down. I am not the center of the universe. I am not the king of the world or even my life.”¹

- About sin...

“I am responsible for my actions. My past hurts do not excuse my present failings. My offenses against God and against others are not trivial. I do not live or think or feel as I should.”²

- About God...

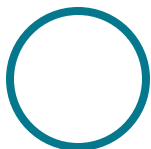
“He is trustworthy. His word is sure. He is able to forgive and to save. I believe in his Son, Jesus Christ. I owe him my life and my allegiance. He is my King and my Sovereign, and he wants what is best for me. I believe it!”³

2. Repentance means you change your _____

SEEING THE WHOLE PICTURE

Review: What are 4 basic truths that a person needs to believe to be saved?

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. Sin | } | The _____ the |
| 2. Judgment | | gospel addresses. |
| 3. Redemption | } | The _____ |
| 4. Repentance | | the gospel offers. |
| | } | The _____ the |
| | | gospel requires. |



TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPS

You'll get the most out of this study when you put what you're learning into practice. Use these tips to start taking steps of obedience:

1. **Review the Five Myths.** Prayerfully consider which of these you struggle with and ask for God's strength to overcome them. Make a commitment to read the Bible by trying each one of these Bible reading methods.
2. **Take some time to write out the message of the gospel in your own words.** Include the 4 basic truths that a person needs to believe.
3. **Continue praying for those on your Pi² list (from session 1).** Try to pray for them every day.

1. Source: DeYoung, K. (2015). What Does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality? Crossway.
2. Ibid
3. Ibid

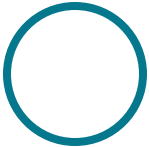


SESSION 3:

**DISCOVER
YOUR SPIRITUAL
LOVE LANGUAGE**

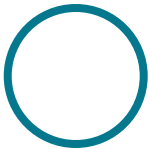
Sharing our faith is simply telling others about the incredible love of God. It is more than something we do - it's something we are! (See pages 15-16). We've covered *what* we share (the good news), now we'll turn the focus inward and talk about the *how*. Here's the key question: how has God equipped you to be a witness for him?

Scan this code for the Session 3 video and teaching audio:



WATCH THE SESSION 3 VIDEO

Our teaching videos for this study can be found at bbctransform.org/grow/



LISTEN TO THE TEACHING AUDIO

Listen to Chip Ingram's message "Why It's Hard to Share the Love" (approximately 38 minutes):

bbctransform.org/grow/

Please fill in the blanks for this chapter as you listen.

The concept of a "love language" is taken from Gary Chapman's classic book "The Five Love Languages"

God's love for _____ is constant, unconditional, infinite, undeserved, and always seeking _____ highest and best interest.

God's love:

_____ our sin
Removes our _____
Heals our wounds
Births new _____
Provides _____ for today
Hope for _____
Power to change
and Peace for our souls!

LEARNING YOUR STYLE

“ THIS MEANS THAT ANYONE WHO BELONGS TO CHRIST HAS BECOME A NEW PERSON. THE OLD LIFE IS GONE; A NEW LIFE HAS BEGUN! ”

AND ALL OF THIS IS A GIFT FROM GOD, WHO BROUGHT US BACK TO HIMSELF THROUGH CHRIST. AND GOD HAS GIVEN US THIS TASK OF RECONCILING PEOPLE TO HIM. FOR GOD WAS IN CHRIST, RECONCILING THE WORLD TO HIMSELF, NO LONGER COUNTING PEOPLE'S SINS AGAINST THEM. AND HE GAVE US THIS WONDERFUL MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION. SO WE ARE CHRIST'S _____; GOD IS MAKING HIS APPEAL THROUGH US. WE SPEAK FOR CHRIST WHEN WE PLEAD, "COME BACK TO GOD!"

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-20 NLT

Christ has chosen YOU to be his ambassador to the world around you. The question you need to consider is this:

What's your _____?

Some Questions to Consider:

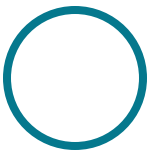
»» What type of *personality* has God given me?

»» What are my *spiritual gifts*? (Not sure? No problem! We'll explore this topic in SERVE, another step in our Growth Process.)

»» What is my *context*? (What kind of people am I around? What's my environment like?)

»» What am I *passionate about*?

»» What am I *good at*?



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

In the following pages, take a look at some of the approaches people in the Bible used to share the gospel. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each approach and then evaluate yourself on the scale below each approach. (1 is "I can't see myself ever using this approach" and 10 is "I can see myself using this approach regularly.")

Peter's _____ approach

»»Acts 2:29-39

Summary: *Here's the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.*

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Paul's _____ approach »»Acts 17:16-34

Summary: *Here's the evidence that what I'm saying is true.*

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

The blind man's _____ approach »»John 9:17-34

Summary: *Here is how I've experienced the power of Jesus in my life.*

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Matthew's _____ approach **»»Luke 5:27-31**

Summary: *Here's a barbeque! While we're eating, let's talk about Jesus.*

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Dorcas' _____ approach **»»Acts 9:36**

Summary: *Here's an example of the love that Jesus has for you.*

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

The Samaritan Woman's _____ approach **»»John 4:27-42**

Summary: *Here's a place I'd like to take you to learn more about Jesus.*

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

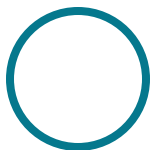
1. With which approach (or approaches) do you most identify?
2. How does learning that there are multiple approaches to sharing God's love "free you" to be yourself?
3. Which of the six approaches are you most motivated to put into practice this week? When and how might you do this?

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER...

Although you may feel more comfortable with one or two of these approaches over the others, here's something to keep in mind: **sometimes the needs of the person with whom you're sharing the gospel will require a different approach** - possibly even one that takes you way out of your comfort zone!

That's OK - in fact, it's better than OK. Prioritizing the needs of the hearer over your own preferences as a messenger is a way for you to demonstrate the love of Jesus *while* you're sharing the gospel.

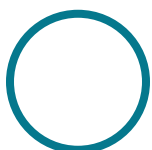
In chapter one, we spent some time studying listening skills and the importance of understanding the person with whom we are sharing the gospel. In the next few chapters, we will give you some specific methods of sharing your faith. As you learn these methods and consider your personal style or approach, keep in mind that their use should be informed by the situation and the person with whom you are sharing your faith.



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

1. Review each approach and ask, “With what kind of person would this method work best?”
2. If I am more comfortable with one particular approach, why would God put me into a situation where I would need to use an approach that I do not like or am not good at?



TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPS

You’ll get the most out of this study when you put what you’re learning into practice. Use these tips to start taking steps of obedience:

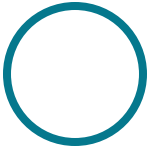
1. **Review the Six Approaches.** Prayerfully consider which of these you struggle with and ask for God’s strength to overcome them.
2. **Take some time to reflect on circumstances where you may have already seen these different approaches of sharing the gospel used.** Did the person who led you to the Lord use any of these approaches? Have you ever used one (or more) of these approaches? If so, write down some memories about those experiences.
3. **Continue praying for those on your Pi² list (from session 1).** Try to pray for them every day.

NOTES:



SESSION 4:
**SHARE HIS
STORY THROUGH
YOUR STORY**

Scan this code for the Session 4 video and teaching audio:



WATCH THE SESSION 4 VIDEO

Our teaching videos for this study can be found at bbctransform.org/grow/



LISTEN TO THE TEACHING AUDIO

Listen to Pastor Chip Ingram’s message “Share His Love Through Your Story.” (approximately 37 minutes):

bbctransform.org/grow/

Please fill in the blanks for this chapter as you listen.

The greatest communicator in the world (Jesus) used _____ as his primary means of teaching.

Why is YOUR story so important?

1. People are _____!
2. People can _____ to it!
3. It isn’t offensive or _____!
4. So how do you _____?

MY STORY: HOW JESUS HAS CHANGED MY LIFE

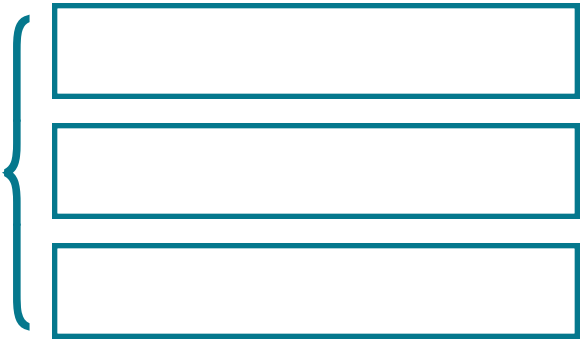
“ ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU TO GIVE THE REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE. ”

1 PETER 3:15 NLT

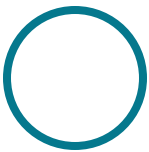
Communicating your story effectively

3 Guidelines to keep in mind:

Your story should be...



One of the keys to an effective testimony is having a clear focus: the _____ that Jesus has had on your life. That is the essence of what we must communicate. Any details that do not lead to this, enhance this, or stem from this are irrelevant.



EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Read Acts 26:4–23. Take note how Paul shared his story. Then we'll look at how his approach can serve as a model for effectively communicating your story.

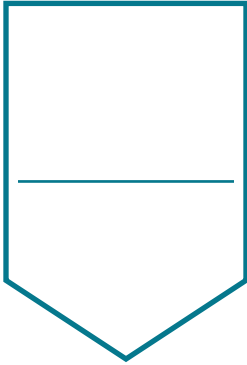
»» **Verses 4-11** Paul told of his life _____ Christ.

»» **Verses 12-18** Paul explained his _____.

»» **Verses 19-23** Paul shared about his life _____ Christ.

The 3 parts of your story

Paul's approach provides an effective framework for sharing your story.



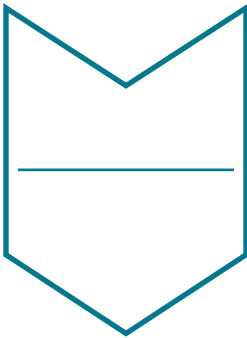
A short description of what your life was like before Jesus

OBJECTIVE: Draw the audience in

WHAT TO INCLUDE:

- Interesting “non-church” material
- Both positive and negative aspects of your life
- An event that illustrates your need for Jesus (as you feel comfortable)

TIP: You may need to adjust your content in order to help your audience relate.



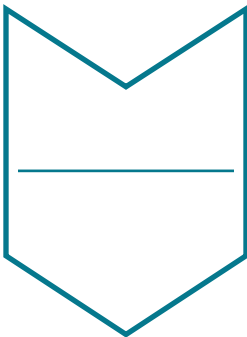
How you became a Christian

OBJECTIVE: Describe your conversion

WHAT TO INCLUDE:

- What made you see Jesus as the answer to your need?
- Be as specific as possible about when and how you placed your faith in Christ.

TIP: Be specific but brief.



What changes have taken place in your life because of Jesus?

OBJECTIVE: Show how Jesus has changed your life.

WHAT TO INCLUDE:

- Positive changes
- Ways that God is still working
- Admit your struggles (don't make yourself out to be perfect)

TIP: Close this section in a way that leads the person to personally interact with the gospel (Ex: Acts 26:19-23)

Helpful Suggestions

»» **Make it sound** _____.

Your testimony is not a speech that you have memorized—it's your story and you should be able to tell it naturally and creatively.

»» **Use** _____ **so that people can relate to your story.**

Make "I" and "Me" statements instead of "You" statements. Don't name specific churches or denominations. Avoid using dates and ages.

»» **Avoid speaking** " _____ " .

Phrases like "born again," "redeemed," "sanctified", etc., are terms that not everyone will understand—in fact, most people won't understand them. Use terms that anyone can understand.

»» **Keep it** _____ **and** _____.

Aim for 2-3 minutes. Don't tell your whole life-story, just stick to the important facts. Reduce clutter: unimportant facts, names, dates, etc., should be left out.

»» **Reduce the** _____.

You probably aren't the only one feeling nerves, especially if you're sharing one-on-one. Include some humor or human interest—smiling and laughing reduces tension and can help you connect with people.

Help! My story is boring!

What if you've never abused drugs, slept around, or spent a considerable amount of time engaging in criminal behavior? What if you grew up in a Christian home and became a Christian at a young age? Should you still share your story?

_____!

Your story may be lacking in drama, but it is not lacking in grace. At some point, you were still converted, and **you have a unique perspective: Christ has been a big part of your life for a long time.**

As you share your story, answer these questions:

- »» Why did you stick with Jesus as you grew?
- »» Why did you consistently choose obedience over sin?
- »» How have you seen Jesus work in specific instances?

Use your story to show people that Jesus is involved in more than your conversion—he’s involved in your life!

We have provided space to write out your story in Appendix B.

YOUR STORY: ARE YOU GOOD ENOUGH?

“ IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A PERSON TO FULLY REALIZE HIS NEED FOR GOD’S GRACE UNTIL HE SEES HOW TERRIBLY HE HAS FAILED THE STANDARDS OF GOD’S LAW. ”

JOHN MACARTHUR

After you share your faith story, it may be an excellent time to focus on the other person and how they’re relating to the gospel. One very effective way to share the gospel is helping people understand that the gospel is not about being “good enough.” Our sin separates us from God and the only way to restore that relationship is through Jesus. Again, it may be helpful for you to relate how you discovered this truth in your own life.

Our need for grace is often one of the hardest ideas in the gospel for a person to accept. The tool on the following pages is intended to help with this.

The Good Person Test

Have you ever tried to get someone who didn't believe they were sick to take medicine?

The gospel is good news—Jesus has taken the punishment that we deserve so that we can have a relationship with God—but here's the problem, most people do not believe they deserve punishment.

How do we communicate the necessity of the gospel to people who don't see their need for it? To get them to take the medicine, they must first be shown that they are sick. The Ten Commandments are God's standards, and the gospel is necessary because everyone has broken them.

If you are sharing the gospel with someone who has even a basic understanding of the Bible, they are likely at least somewhat familiar with the Ten Commandments. However, they are also likely convinced that they are a good person. They may believe that as long as their good deeds outweigh their bad deeds, they will meet God's standards.

The Good Person Test walks someone through the Ten Commandments and helps them to see and admit that they are not good enough to meet God's standards. As a result, they will one day stand in judgment for their sins—unless they repent and believe the gospel.

Keep in mind...

- **Watch the tone of your voice.** It can be easy to come across as judgmental. We want to communicate compassion.
- **Stay on point.** Don't get sidetracked with questions about other theological issues. Politely say, "We can talk about that later, but first let me tell you about why Jesus should matter to you."
- **Remember:** you are not trying to win a debate.

Tip: There are lots of ways to help you remember the Ten Commandments. Scan this code to see an example:



»» **Question 1:** Would you consider yourself to be a good person?

Follow-up: What do you think makes you a good person?

Transition: Do you think God would consider you to be a good person?

»» **Question 2:** The 10 Commandments are the standard of God's goodness. Do you think you have kept the 10 Commandments?

Follow-up: Have you ever told a lie (white lies, exaggerations, etc.)?

» *What does that make you?* _____ (Tip: Get them to say this).

Follow-up: Have you ever stolen anything (value is irrelevant)?

» *What does that make you?* _____ (Tip: Get them to say this).

Follow-up: Jesus said that if you are angry with someone, you've murdered them in your heart. Have you ever been angry with someone else?

» *What does that make you?* _____ (Tip: Get them to say this).

»» **Question 3:** If God judges you by the 10 Commandments on judgment day, will you be innocent or guilty?

Tip: In the event that the person says "innocent," remind them of what they have just admitted and that a good judge must punish lawbreakers.

»» **Question 4:** Will you go to Heaven or to Hell?

Tip: Get them to specifically state the answer. Don't let them sidetrack you.

Follow-up: Does that concern you?

»» **Question 5:** Do you know what God did for you so that you wouldn't have to go to hell?

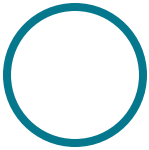
Follow-up: Now you have an opportunity to share the gospel. (We'll share some simple ways to do this in the next chapter.)

»» **Question 5:** Do you know what you have to do?

Follow-up: Take the person to Romans 10:9-10 and encourage them to read it. Explain to them that accepting the gospel means turning away from our sin (repenting) and placing our trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. Ask them if they are ready to make the decision to repent and follow Jesus.

Remember: the objective of the Good Person Test is to show someone their need for the gospel. Do they recognize their need? Do they see the gospel as the solution?

Follow-up: Invite them to church to learn more!



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

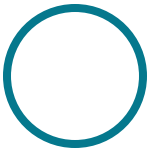
1. Why is it so important to know how to share your story?
2. How does your story lead into the Good Person test?
3. Which of the six questions do you think will be most difficult to ask? How can you overcome that?





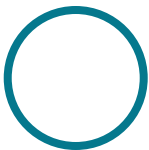
SESSION 5:
HOW
TO TELL
HIS STORY

Scan this code for the Session 5 video and teaching audio:



WATCH THE SESSION 5 VIDEO

Our teaching videos for this study can be found at bbctransform.org/grow/



LISTEN TO THE TEACHING AUDIO

Listen to Pastor Chip Ingram's message "How to Tell His Story" (approximately 42 minutes):

Please fill in the blanks for this chapter as you listen.

Congratulations! You have already learned two methods of sharing your faith: **Telling Your Story** and **The Good Person Test**. You may wonder why you're learning multiple ways to share your faith. Simply put: everyone is different. You likely know people from various backgrounds, with different personalities and worldviews. Because of this, an approach that connects with one person may not connect as well with another, so it's important to continue learning new ways that are effective in sharing the gospel. In this chapter, we'll give you three more methods.

Take a moment go back and review the section **"An Important Reminder"** on page 29. This principle also applies here. You may become more comfortable with one or more of these methods of sharing your faith. Keep in mind that the most important thing to consider is the person with whom you are sharing your faith.

THE DRAMA OF SCRIPTURE: A LOVE STORY

Tracing the drama that unfolds throughout the Bible is the greatest love story of all time!

»» Act 1: How It All Began

CREATION: God made us for Himself—A perfect relationship in a perfect world; giving and receiving perfect love.

Love: gives _____ that leads to _____

The Result: _____ (See Ephesians 2:10)

»» Act 2: How It All Went Wrong

THE FALL: God allowed us to chose or reject His love—Our choice to reject God’s love ushered in sin, death, selfishness to every relationship, and separating us from God.

Love: gives _____ that leads to _____

The Result: _____ (See Romans 5:12)

»» Act 3: How God’s Love Rescued Us

REDEMPTION: Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. (See John 15:13)

God, the Son, took on human flesh, lived a perfect life to reveal God’s heart, then offered His life as a sacrifice and payment for the sins of all the people of all time; that whoever would chose to receive new life may have it.

Love: gives _____ that leads to _____

The Result: _____ (See 2 Corinthians 5: 17-18)

»» Act 4: How It Will End

RESTORATION: Jesus will return as promised to make all things right in heaven and on Earth forever.

Every moral being will be justly judged (repaid) for their thoughts, choices and actions. Sin, death, and Satan will be vanquished forever, and God will re-establish perfect relationships in a perfect world, giving and receiving perfect love.

Love: gives _____ that leads to _____

The Result: _____ (See Revelation 21:1-5)

THE DRAMA OF SCRIPTURE



A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

You don't need to be an artist in order to make a simple drawing to illustrate the gospel. Best of all, this doesn't need many supplies. It can be drawn on scrap paper or even a napkin!

1. God Created Us and Wants a Relationship With Us

Us

God

Genesis 1:27

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

2. Our Sin Separates Us From God

Us

God

Exodus 20:1-17

The Ten Commandments

Psalms 53:3

There is no one who does good, not even one.

Sin

Death

3. God Will Judge Us for Our Sin When We Die

Us

God

Hebrews 9:27

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment...

Sin

Judgment

Death

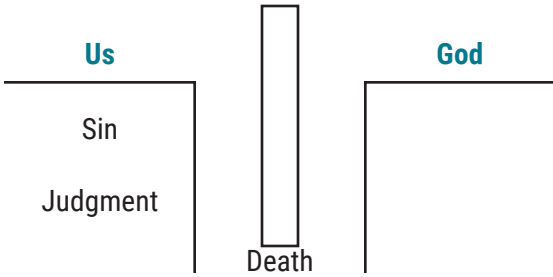
Use this page to practice illustrating the gospel.

1. God Created Us and Wants a Relationship With Us

2. Our Sin Separates Us From God

3. God Will Judge Us for Our Sin When We Die

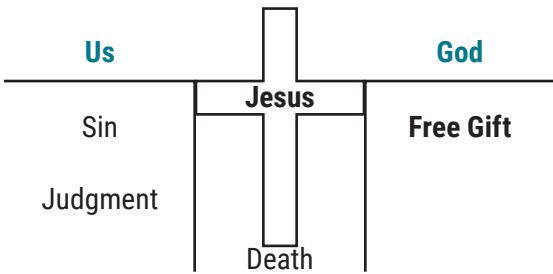
4. All of Our Attempts to Earn God's Approval Fall Short



Ephesians 4:18

They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

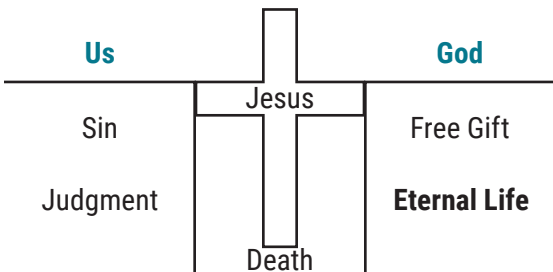
5. God Has Made a Way Through the Cross



Ephesians 2:8,9

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

6. God Will Save Those Who Believe and Repent



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.

Use this page to practice illustrating the gospel.

4. All of Our Attempts to Earn God's Approval Fall Short

5. God Has Made a Way Through the Cross

6. God Will Save Those Who Believe and Repent

THE ROMANS ROAD

The New Testament book of Romans is one of the most in-depth explanations of the gospel in the Bible. Using a few key verses, you can trace out the entire message of the gospel for someone.

1. God Created Us and Wants a Relationship With Us

Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.



2. Our Sin Separates Us From God

Romans 3:23 ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God



3. God Will Judge Us for Our Sin When We Die

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death...



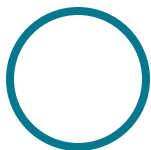
4. God Has Made a Way Through the Cross

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



5. God Will Save Those Who Believe and Repent

Romans 10:9 If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

1. Which of these three methods are you most comfortable with? Why?
2. How can these three methods be interchanged or used together?



TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPS

You'll get the most out of this study when you put what you're learning into practice. Use these tips to start taking steps of obedience:

1. **Take time to master each one of these three methods.** Work on memorizing the verses so that you can share the gospel with or without your Bible.
2. **Practice, practice, practice!** The more comfortable you are using these methods with people who are already Jesus followers, the easier it will be to share your faith with friends or family.
3. **Continue the daily habit of praying for those on your Pi² list (from page 6).**

NOTES:



SESSION 6:
BEING AN
INTENTIONAL
WITNESS

Scan this code for the Session 6 video and teaching audio:



WATCH THE SESSION 6 VIDEO

Our teaching videos for this study can be found at bbctransform.org/grow/

So far, we've provided you with several different ways to share your faith so that you can "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have" (1 Peter 3:15). As we conclude this study, we challenge you to be bold like Paul says:

**“ THEREFORE, SINCE WE HAVE SUCH A HOPE, WE ARE
VERY BOLD ”**

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12

INTENTIONALITY: MAKING THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY

How do we change "witnessing" from something we *do* to something we *are*?

We do it by being **intentional** about sharing our faith. Ephesians 5:16 tells us that we should be "making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil." **Being intentional simply means that we are always looking for opportunities to share our faith, and taking advantage of them when we see them!**

In this session, we'll look at three ways you can be intentional about sharing your faith:

- »» Flipping conversations
- »» Invitations
- »» Using other resources

FLIPPING CONVERSATIONS

Many of us have opportunities to engage in multiple conversations throughout the day. How can we be more intentional about using these opportunities to share our faith?

The main struggle we all face in using our conversations as opportunities to share our faith is simply this: **how do we take the conversation from topics like sports, the weather, or the price of gas, to Jesus?**

Mastering the art of _____

To switch from one topic to another requires a *transition*. These are topical bridges that shift the focus and direction of your conversation. Having some go-to transitions in the back of your mind is a great way to flip any conversation—from the ones you have over coffee at work to the check-out line at the grocery store.

A Transition for Every Conversation:

The _____

Can I ask you an interesting question?

- » What do you think happens to people after they die?
- » Do you ever think about God?
- » What would someone have to do to deserve to go to hell?
- » What does someone have to do to go to heaven?
- » Would you consider yourself to be a good person?
- » Do you believe God exists? Why or why not?
- » (Here's a good one for 201) Hey, I'm learning something ... could I practice on you?

Can you think of any others? What would be a good question for you to use as a transition for conversations at work or in school?

Keep in mind...

- **Notice people.** Let your guard down and be open to conversations.
- **Always be polite and respectful.** People won't always remember what you said, but they will always remember how you said it.

EXTENDING INVITATIONS

Want to know one of the simplest (and potentially most effective) ways to invest in the lives of the people on your Prayer List?

Invite them to come to church with you. We provide Invite Cards (that look like business cards) at the Welcome Center. Keep a few with you so that you are ready for every opportunity.

Consider this quote:

“**CHRISTIAN** _____ **IS THE**”
FINAL APOLOGETIC.

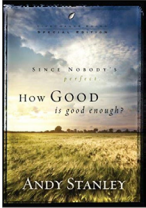
FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

Who could you invite to church this week?



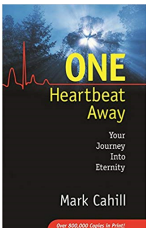
RESOURCES

If the person you are sharing with enjoys reading, there are some excellent printed materials that are available at our Welcome Center.



How Good Is Good Enough?

Use this small booklet to greatly expand on the Good Person Test. This is an excellent resource for helping people move past “good enough” to see their need for Jesus.



One Heartbeat Away

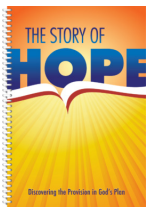
An easy and engaging read that is primarily stories of conversations with people about eternity. With examples from atheists, agnostics, Muslims, and more, you’ll find it to be a very quick and compelling book.



One Second After You...

If a pamphlet would be a better resource for the situation, we recommend this short resource from Mark Cahill for its direct content and treatment of key bible verses.

The Right Tool Review the Engel Scale on page 10. Here are some suggested tools depending on where people are at in their understanding of the gospel.

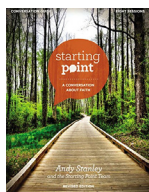


The Story of Hope

Engel Scale: -10 to -5

If you are sharing your faith with someone who is a visual learner, this is a great resource. Produced by ABWE (the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism), “The Story of Hope” is perfect for someone who isn’t familiar with the storyline of the Bible. Designed to be used in conversation over multiple meetings, this resource will gradually lead a person through the stages of understanding towards

making a decision to follow Jesus.¹



Starting Point

Engel Scale: -6 to -1

This resource is designed especially for “Seekers: those who are curious about God, Jesus, the Bible or Christianity; Starters: those who have just begun a relationship with Jesus Christ; or Returners: those who have some church experience but have been away for a while.” If you know someone who is curious about Jesus and open to learning more about what it means to follow him, we recommend this conversational study.²



101: Grow

Engel Scale: -2 and up

If someone is seriously considering becoming a follower of Jesus, then taking them through this step of the Growth Process may be a great way to confirm their understanding of the gospel and encourage them to make the decision. With sessions designed to help people grow their faith, it's also a helpful resource for new and experienced followers of Jesus.

Online Options If the person is not a reader but enjoys video content, here are some suggestions:



Matt Chandler - the Gospel (2 minutes)

Scan this QR code to hear Matt Chandler give a simple and compelling overview of the gospel.

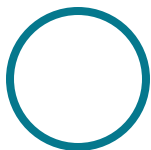


Francis Chan - Follow Jesus (15 minutes)

Scan this QR code to see Francis Chan explain what it looks like to follow Jesus - and why we would ever want to in the first place.

¹For more information, go to goodsoil.com/resources/the-story-of-hope-english-version/

²For more information, go to startingpoint.com/materials/leaders/guide/



TALK IT OVER

Discuss the following questions with your mentor or group.

1. What resources were helpful for you when you were considering the decision to follow Jesus?
2. What other resources have you used effectively to share your faith?

201 IS DONE - BUT YOU'RE JUST GETTING STARTED!

Mentors If time allows, have one or two volunteers share their story with the group, or have the group practice the good person test or drawing the gospel.

To end, consider closing this final lesson of 201 with a commissioning service for the people you have taken through 201. Feel free to use the following format or create your own!

1. **Pray.** Spend some time in prayer together. Give your group members an opportunity to silently pray for those on their Prayer/Hit Lists. After a couple of minutes, conclude the prayer time by praying for each of your group members by name. Ask God to give them boldness as they share their faith with those around them.
2. **Read.** Read Matthew 28:18-20 to your group.

“ THEN JESUS CAME TO THEM AND SAID, “ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE.”

MATTHEW 28:18-20

101 COMPLETION CHECKLIST

Topic	Learner Initials	Leader Initials	Date
Why Share our faith?	_____	_____	_____
Why is it Hard to share our faith?	_____	_____	_____
Discover Your Spiritual Love Language	_____	_____	_____
Share His story Through Your Story	_____	_____	_____
How to Tell His Story	_____	_____	_____
Being An Intentional Witness	_____	_____	_____

Dear Leader:

Thank you for investing your time into helping make more and better Jesus followers! We'd like to ask you to wrap up your study with 2 final steps:

- 1. Take a picture with your 201 SHARE graduate(s) and their book.**
- 2. We'd love to hear your feedback about this study.**

Please send an email with the picture of your 201 SHARE graduate(s) and any feedback to gwyn@bbctransform.org.

Dear Learner:

Congratulations on completing 201 SHARE! Whether you've been following Jesus for years or are just getting to know him, it is our hope that you found this study helpful. We would love to hear about your experience with this step of the Growth Process and any feedback you have. You can send your thoughts and experience to gwyn@bbctransform.org.

May God bless you as you continue your journey as a follower of Jesus!



APPENDIX 1:

ANSWER KEY

PAGE 3

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make **disciples** of all nations...

 Luke 10:2 The harvest is plentiful but the **workers** are few...

 Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you; and you will **be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Jesus **expects** me to share my faith!

 Mark 6:34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had **compassion** on them...

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with **compassion** kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

PAGE 6

The Church should not be like a protected **castle** designed to keep people out.

The Church should not be like a **football stadium**, with 11 people playing and thousands watching from the stands.

The Church should be like a **hospital**, designed for the sick and injured, equipped with the resources to go out and help the injured at the scene.

PAGE 7

What's a **win**?

1. The person can **accept it**.
2. The person can **reject it**.
3. You can **plant a seed**.

PAGE 8

1. If someone accepts Christ: **winning** situation.
2. If we plant a seed: **winning** situation.
3. If someone rejects Christ: **losing** situation.

According to these verses, every time we share our faith it's a **winning** situation!

SUCCESS IS **OBEDIENCE** .

People don't **care** how much you **know** until they **know** how much you **care**.

PAGE 9

We need to earn the right to be **heard**.

We need to **understand** where they are in their relationship with God.

SESSION 2 **WHY IS IT HARD TO SHARE OUR FAITH?**

PAGE 14

Sharing our faith can be difficult. Fear, doubt and insecurity can all be obstacles that we must overcome. Many times, the reasons we give for why we can't share our faith are just **excuses**.

Based on Chip Ingram's "Parable of the Swimmer", one of the most common reasons that we do not Share God's love with people is that we believe a **lie**.

MYTH #1 >>> People are not **open**.

PAGE 15

People are often **more** willing to listen than we are willing to share.

MYTH #2 >>> Witnessing is for spiritual **superstars** and outgoing people.

The power is not in the **messenger**, it's in the **message**.

PAGE 15 (CONT'D)

MYTH #3 >>> Witnessing is something I do versus something **I am**.

PAGE 16

The question is not, "Should I witness?" The question is, "Am I a **good** witness or a **bad** witness?"

MYTH #4 >>> Evangelism is an event versus a **process**.

Remember, God is **controlling** it. Some get to **plant** the seed, others get to **water** it, and sometimes we have the privilege to see the **fruit**.

MYTH #5 >>> "I'm just not bold enough" versus "I'm just not **concerned** enough."

PAGE 17

Conviction that eternity and the gospel are true for everyone should result in **compassion** for people who are far from God.

Decisions vs. Disciples

PAGE 18

A complete gospel message communicates all six concepts. We should be concerned that the person's decision is **genuine**.

PAGE 19

The evidence of a genuine conversion is not a prayer.
The evidence of a genuine conversion is **repentance**.

PAGE 20

Matthew 3:2 **"Repent** for the kingdom of heaven has come near!"

PAGE 27 (CONT'D)

Matthew 4:17 **“Repent** for the kingdom of heaven has come near!”

Mark 6:12 They went out and preached that people should **repent**.

Acts 2:38 **“Repent** and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.”

Acts 17:30 “In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to **repent**.”

PAGE 21

Repentance involves 2 major **changes**.

Repentance means you change your **mind**

Repentance means you change your **behavior**

The **problem** the gospel addresses.

The **solution** the gospel offers.

The **response** the gospel requires.

SESSION 3 **DISCOVER YOUR SPIRITUAL LOVE LANGUAGE**

PAGE 25

God’s love for **you** is constant, unconditional, infinite, undeserved, and always seeking **your** highest and best interest.

God’s love:

Forgives our sin

Removes our **shame**

Birthe new **life**

Provides **strength** for today

Hope for **tomorrow**

So we are Christ’s **Ambassadors**. God is making his appeal through us.

PAGE 25 (CONT'D)

What's your **style**?

PAGE 27

Peter's **direct** approach

Paul's **intellectual** approach

The blind man's **testimonial** approach

PAGE 28

Matthew's **personal** approach

Dorcas' **servant** approach

The Samaritan Woman's **invitational** approach

SESSION 4 **SHARE HIS STORY THROUGH YOUR STORY**

PAGE 32

The greatest communicator in the world (Jesus) used **stories** as his primary means of teaching.

Why is YOUR story so important?

1. People are **interested**!
2. People can **relate** to it!
3. It isn't offensive or **argumentative**!
4. So how do you **tell it well**?

PAGE 33

Simple

Relateable

PAGE 33 (CONT'D)

Understandable

One of the keys to an effective testimony is having a clear focus: the **impact** that Jesus has had on your life...

»» **Verses 4-11** Paul told of his life **before** Christ.

»» **Verses 12-18** Paul explained his **experience**.

»» **Verses 19-23** Paul shared about his life **after** Christ.

PAGE 34

Before

How

After

PAGE 35

»» **Make it sound conversational.**

»» **Use general terms so that people can relate to your story.**

»» **Avoid speaking "Christianese" .**

»» **Keep it short and simple.**

»» **Reduce the tension.**

Yes!

PAGE 38

What does that make you? A liar

What does that make you? A thief

What does that make you? A murderer

SESSION 5 HOW TO TELL HIS STORY

PAGE 43

Love: gives **life** that leads to **relationship**

The Result: **Purpose** (See Ephesians 2:10)

Love: gives **freedom** that leads to **consequences**

The Result: **Separation** (See Romans 5:12)

Love: gives **forgiveness** that leads to **peace**

The Result: **Reconciliation** (See 2 Corinthians 5: 17-18)

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Love: gives **hope** that leads to **perseverance**

The Result: **Eternal Life** (See Revelation 21:1-5)

SESSION 6 BEING AN INTENTIONAL WITNESS

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Mastering the art of **transition**

The **open-ended question**

PAGE 54

community



APPENDIX 2:

**MY
STORY**

BEFORE

HOW

AFTER

BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH
GROWTH PROCESS

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