

SHARING JESUS FOCUSED GROUP

Spring, 2018

WEEK 1

Why We Share the Gospel Message

God asks ordinary people living ordinary lives to share the the Gospel Message - the good news of Jesus Christ! It is love for God and love for people that compels us to share Jesus with others. We are ambassadors of Christ! He has given us the ministry of reconciliation to share with others that through Him, we are reconciled to God.

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Memorize: Matthew 28:19-20

What has been your experience in sharing Jesus with others?

How can you personally be involved in the Great Commission of sharing Jesus? (Matt. 28:19-20)

Prayer: Ask God to work in your heart to help you follow Jesus and share the Gospel with others. As you pray, be honest about your doubts and fears. Ask God to help you overcome your hesitations and see opportunities to share Jesus.

WEEK 2

Living the Gospel Message

We must *live* the gospel to share the gospel most effectively. When we live lives imitating Christ, full of the fruit of the Spirit, we help others see God's love and purpose for them. Pursue holiness. Be yourself. Learn to talk about your faith in Christ in a normal way in everyday life with people in your circle of influence.

Read: Galatians 5:13-26
Memorize: Galatians 5:22-23

What role does our Christian walk play in sharing Jesus?

Why do some Christians *not* demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit?

Prayer: Ask God to help you walk closely with Him displaying the fruit of the Spirit in your day-to-day life. Ask for strength to resist temptations and an ability to honor God with your thoughts, attitudes and actions.

WEEK 3

Why We Don't Share the Gospel

There are many reasons why we don't share Jesus: fear of rejection or of what others may think, discomfort in stepping out of our comfort zone, pride because we don't want to look foolish when we don't have all the answers, and not really loving those who don't know Jesus. The truth is, Jesus commanded us to tell others. Pray that God will lead you to people who need to hear the Gospel message and be faithful to share no matter the cost.

Read: John 4:1-42
Memorize: Matthew 22:37-39

What reasons (excuses) keep you from following God's command to share the Gospel?

What did you learn from Jesus' interaction with the Samaritan woman?

Prayer: Ask God to help you grow in your willingness to share the Gospel. Ask him to empower you and lead you to specific people to tell about God's love and grace.

WEEK 4

Love Overcomes Excuses, Resistance and Obstacles

It's love for God and love for others that motivates us to share Jesus with those around us. Cultivate authentic relationships with others and live a godly life full of hope and joy. As you love and serve people, look for opportunities to begin conversations about your faith in Christ. Love always wins!

Read: Luke 10:25-37, Luke 16:19-31
Memorize: John 1:12

What practical things can you do to overcome your hesitation to share the Gospel?

What might it cost you to share Jesus? What might it cost others if you don't?

Prayer: Pray that God will give you the right motivation to make disciples, increase your love for the people around you, and empower you to live out an authentic Christian life as you share God's truth and love with others.

WEEK 5

Discover your Style of Sharing the Gospel

God uses us just as we are - our personalities, background, experience and spiritual maturity - to share Jesus with others. You don't need more information or to be more mature in your faith. You can be yourself and start Jesus conversations today. It's always good to know your audience so that you know where to begin. Does she have any religious or church background? Does he seem interested in spiritual things? Remember, sharing Jesus is a process in which God may use many people over a span of time. You are responsible for sharing, not results.

Read: Acts 2:14-33, 17:16-34
Memorize: Matthew 4:19

What is your biggest hesitation or fear in beginning a conversation about Jesus?

Consider the various ways God was using others to draw you to Himself. How will God use you, similarly, in the life of others?

Prayer: Ask God to give you boldness to start conversations about faith and give you ease to be yourself in those conversations.

WEEK 6

Write your Jesus story

In sharing the Gospel, it is sometimes helpful to share your Jesus story. You tell others what life was like before Jesus and what life is like now because of Jesus. It is your experience of a changed life that often helps others recognize their need for God. When you tell others about the way Jesus has impacted your life, be sure to keep the focus on Him!

Read: Romans 8
Memorize: Ezekiel 36:26-27

How has your life changed as a result of following Jesus?

What is the role of the Holy Spirit in reaching others with the Gospel message?

Prayer: Ask God for boldness to share Jesus in your everyday life and for wisdom, insight and joy as you tell others the Good News of Jesus Christ. Ask God to show you where He is at work drawing others to faith and join Him there.