Bringing My World To Christ

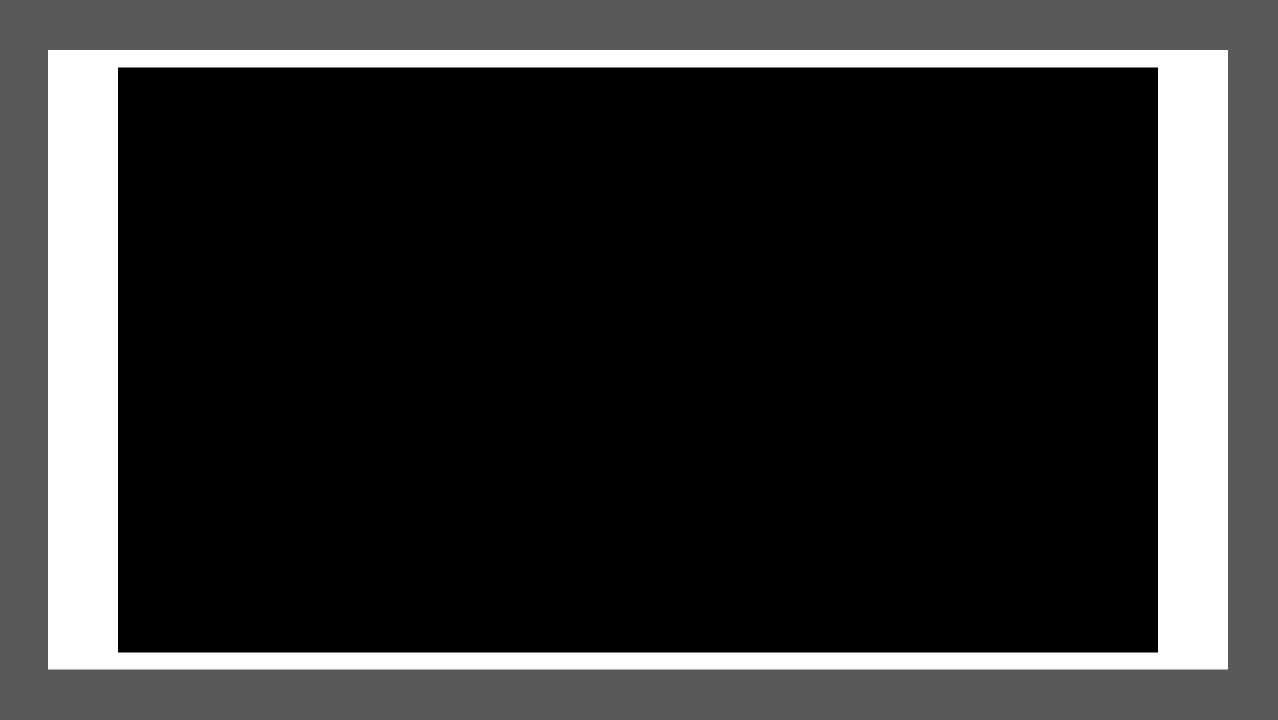
To energize and equip Christ Followers toward focused lives of witness

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Persona Evangelism Training

Personal

Your own responsibility to be a witness of the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It is the responsibility of every follower of Jesus, as He commissioned us to be, a witnesses of our faith.

Your call to be a Christian witness is between you and the Lord.

You are called and appointed by God

Our first call is to Jesus Christ.

To Know Him.

"God is faithful, by Him you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Christ Jesus our Lord." 1 Corinthians 1:9

Our second call is **To Make Him Known.**When we come to Christ, His passion and mission become our passion and mission.

"The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost." Luke 19:10

"Come follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

You are called and appointed by God

All of His followers are saints who are called as <u>ministers</u> to do <u>the work of the ministry!</u>

2 Cor 5:20

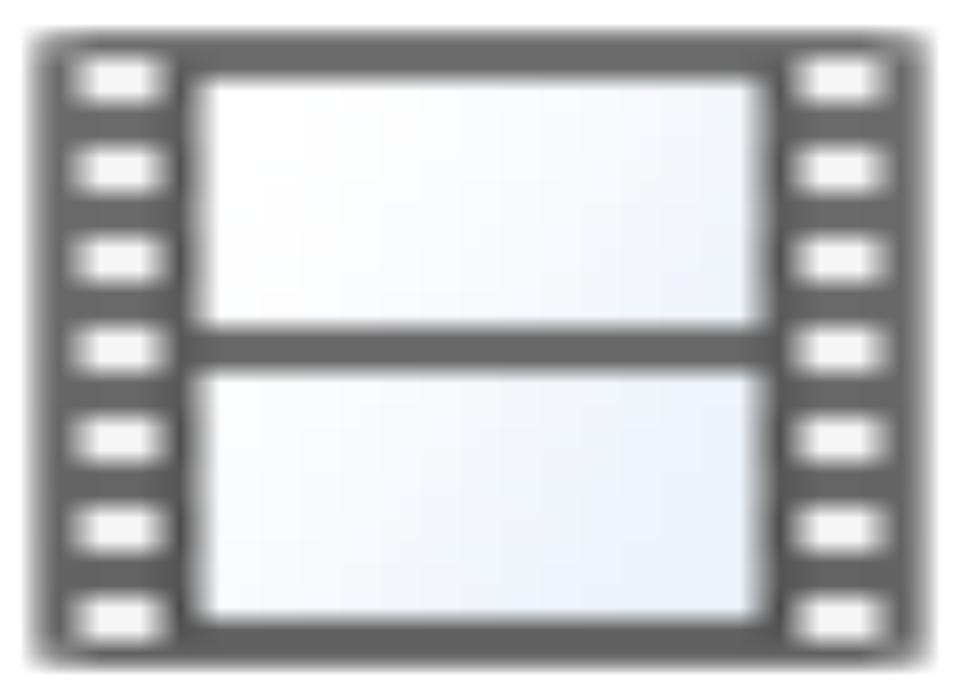
2 Cor 5:11-21

Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience If we are "out of our mind," as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. 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 live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Ask Yourself...

Am I willing to accept some level of personal responsibility for another person's eternal welfare?

Would I like to be able to say before God with Paul, "I am innocent of the blood of all people."



Evangelism (Witnessing)

"To join together with the Holy Spirit and others to help one person take one step closer to Jesus."

Evangelism is the proclamation of the good news of gospel of Jesus Christ with the aim to persuade

Evangelism ... (Witnessing)

Evangelism is more of a way to live than an action to perform

Training

This seminar is designed to motivate, engage and equip Christ followers in public and personal proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit's Vital Part

Apart from the power of the Holy Spirit, we have no capacity to influence people for Christ. All our efforts are in vain if He is not enabling us.

Acts 1:8

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in <u>Jerusalem</u>, and in all <u>Judea</u> and <u>Samaria</u>, and to <u>the ends of the earth</u>"

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26)

When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about me. And you also must testify. (John 15:26,27)

When He comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment. (John 16:7)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. (16:13)

Eph. 5:18 "Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit."

How do we come under the control of the Holy Spirit?

How to be filled with (under the control of) the Holy Spirit ...

... Get clean and right with God.

1John 1:9; Psalm 51

... **Yield** yourself and your body fully to Christ. Romans 6:3; Romans 12:1-2

... **Ask** Luke 11:9-13

"And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. "You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? 12 Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! 13 So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." Luke 11:9-13

First Things First PRAYER

Asking God in prayer for the lost to be saved!

I urge then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone... This is good and pleases God our Savior who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:1,3,4

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for (them) is that they may be saved. Romans 10:1

Prayer provides **motivation**. 2Cor 5:14-15

Prayer has power and prayer has impact.

Prayer assists you as an evangelist/witness in many ways:

- Prayer provides **faith**. Hebrews 11:6
- Prayer provides courage. Ephesians 6:19
- Prayer provides the word. Ephesians 6:19
- Prayer provides open doors. Colossians 4:3
- Prayer provides **verbal & non-verbal clarity**. Colossians 4:4

Why do we need to pray for people who are far from God?

People apart from Jesus are . . .

LOST – Matthew 15:24, 18:11

BLIND - 2Corinthians 4:3-4

BOUND – 2Timothy 2:25-26, Eph 2:2

People apart from Jesus are . . .

CONDEMED – John 3:18, Eph 2:3

UNDER GOD'S WRATH - John 3:36

HELPLESS – John 6:44, 65, Eph 2:1

HOPELESS – Ephesians 2:12

Do you have a heart to pray for the lost like Jesus did? Do you have the passion that inspired John Knox to plead, "Give me Scotland or I die"?

Is your attitude that of George Whitefield, who prayed, "O Lord, give me souls or take my soul"?

Romans 9:1-3 & 10:1

I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh, [...] Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation.

Biblical Ways to Pray for Others Who Are Far From God

1. Sanctify them (set them apart for you Lord) I Peter 1:2

2. Send many believers into their path Matthew 9:37-38

3. Bless them Luke 10:5

4. Convict them John 16:8

Biblical Ways to Pray for Others Who Are Far From God

5. Draw them John 6:44

6. Bind the Evil one John 10:10

7. Illuminate them 1 Peter 2:9

8. Save them Luke 19:10

9. Pray together in unity Matthew 18:20

10. Bring them to a mature faith Ephesians 4:13

Write the names of those you will begin to pray for right now

Bringing My World To Christ

Personal
Evangelism
Training

The mission of Jesus for His followers . . .

Matthew 4:19

And He said to them, "Follow Me [as My disciples, accepting Me as your Master and Teacher and walking the same path of life that I walk], and I will make you fishers of men." (AMP)

"Follow me! I will teach you how to bring in people instead of fish." (CEV)

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." (NIV)

Who are you praying for right now?

Who's YOUR ONE...

"The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christ's. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose. It is even doubtful, you know, whether the whole universe was created for any other purpose."

—C.S. Lewis, from "Mere Christianity"

"The only way the church will fulfill the mission of Christ... is for Christians to have a vision for fulfilling the mission personally."

David Jeremiah

CARE

Loving others with the love of Jesus



It all began with the love of God

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. ' John 3:16-17

If We Love God Most, We Will Love Others Best

". . . You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died . . . So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. 2 Corinthians 5:14,16

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven Matthew 5:14-16

Love like Jesus would!

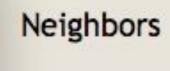
- Genuine
- Greater than the world offers
- Building authentic friendships

CARE

1. Look for relationships

Strangers

Store Clerks



Hair dressers

Friends

Business associates

Club members

Waiters/Waitresses



CARE

How could you model genuine servanthood and care on an individual level?

How could the church model genuine servanthood and care on a corporate level?

Let God love people through you – build relationships

- ~ The gospel is passed on most effectively through established relationships. Lon Allison
- ~ More than 80% of all Christians trace their conversion to a friend, relative, associate, or neighbor.
- ~ Strengthening and repairing relationships is a first order of business for every Christian.
- ~ Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you. Mark 5:19

SHARE

Probably not like this . . .

Share ...

But consider the **big question** and several excellent **witnessing principles** in this true story . . .

Share ...

Whether you call it witnessing, soul-winning, proselytizing, evangelism, sharing your faith, preaching, or whatever... are you intentional about telling others of Jesus Christ?

If you truly believe that Hell is real and that
Jesus Christ saves us from our sin and is the
only way, the only truth and the only life, how
much would you have to hate someone to not
tell them?

Share ...

Many people today are interested in discussing spiritual matters. If the one you are talking to opens the topic to God, he or she will be more likely to listen to what you have to say.

Three Stories . . .

Their story Our story His story

1. Their story . . .

Listen to their story . . . why?

If we believe God has gone ahead of us and is drawing them to Himself, we have to slow down and find out where they are at.

We risk missing the unique circumstances that God is using in their life. Tragedy? Great joys? Divine moments?

If we don't, we risk treating them like a project.

The transition from moving from 'their story' to 'His story' will be very awkward.

We make it difficult to convince them that we really care about who THEY are.

Listen to their story

Rule #1 - Stop talking!!!

Rule #2 - Show genuine interest in who they are and where they are at in their life. Examples - felt needs, church background, etc.

Rule #3 - Ask good open-ended questions.

"What do you do for a living?"

"What is the quick story of your life? Listen for life-changing moments.

Rule #4 - Continue to ask questions & listen for open doors

- * Open doors are natural opportunities to take the conversation to a deeper level.
- * Recognize that every person knows or does something that you can learn from.
- * Look for natural transitions to Your Story and His Story.
- * An open door is of no value if you are not willing to have the discipline & courage to walk through it. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you that courage!

2. Our story...

* Personal Testimony

Our story . . .

- If you've not discovered the value of telling others how God has rearranged your life, you've missed a vital link in the chain of blessing. Charles Swindoll
- ... one thing I do know, I was blind, but now I see. John 9:25
- Nothing speaks louder than a life!
 - Paul's Example Acts 26: 4 23

Share our story / testimony . . .

Before Christ Acts 26:4-12

- Describe your life before Christ.
- Describe the situation that led you to consider Christ.

How I met Christ Acts 26:13-18

- Describe your conversion experience.
- Verbalize how you prayed to Christ.

This is my life now Acts 26:19-23

- Describe your life following conversion.
- Describe how Christ is blessing you today.

Your Story ...

- 1. Write down a short, 500 word version of your story that uses the three part outline. One paragraph for each part.
- 2. Form groups of 4-6 people, and read your stories to each other. If you can, try saying it from memory. Always end your story with, "Has anything like that ever happened to you?" and select the next person to go.

Your Story ...

Things to Remember as you develop your story

- 1. Keep in mind that you are speaking with a pre-Christian.
- 2. Avoid exclusive language.
- 3. Avoid exaggeration the best testimonies are believable.
- 4. Be clear and concise 500 words maximum three minutes to communicate it.
- 5. Make the climax of your story what Christ has done for you.
- 6. Find a verse that sums up your story and use it once in your telling.
- 7. Make sure you include what is required to become a Christian in your story.

Has anything like that ever happened to you?

Transitions. . .

- ◆The biggest challenge that most of us will have in sharing our faith is how to transition the conversation to His Story.
- ♦Why?

Tips for transition . . .

• If you sense a need in their life, ask them if it would be alright if you pray for them right now. This will automatically take them to a spiritual level. The majority of people are very open to be prayed for in our culture.

 Search, customize & practice the transition statement/question that works best for you.

While LISTENING to their story . . . "What do YOU do?"

I'm working on a life-time project in which I'm asking people what they think happens after they pass away.

May I please ask you what <u>YOU</u> think will happen to you after you pass away?

Transition Questions

"Has anyone In your life ever shown you from the Holy Bible how you can KNOW you will go to heaven when you die?"

Meet Mary Miyagawa



BIBLE PLAN OF SALVATION

- JOHN 3:7
- ROMANS 3:23
- ROMANS 6:23
- HEBREWS 9:27
 - ROMANS 5:8
- EPHESIANS 2:8-9
 - JOHN 3:16
- ROMANS 10:9-10
- ROMANS 10:13
- ASSURANCE
- 1 JOHN 5:13-15

More Transition Questions

- 1. Do you have any interest in spiritual things?
- 2. Have you ever thought about becoming a Christian?
- 3. If someone were to ask you what a Christian is, what would you say? (they will usually tell you what a Christian does prays, goes to church, etc, etc.) -- not what a Christian is.

3. His Story...

3. His story . . .

<u>His story</u> is the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ who lived, died and rose again for the salvation of mankind.

The telling of this incredible story can equally be told to oneon-one or to the many. It can be proclaimed on a park bench or in the pulpit. It is the power of God unto salvation for all mankind! The proclamation of this story is the mission of the church until He returns. It is an invitation from God that demands a response! It is the one time-sensitive, incredibly urgent responsibility of His people to invite people to respond. We have a window of opportunity to proclaim to all. The window will not last forever, and it MUST be proclaimed TODAY! "Now is the day of salvation." 2Cor 6:2

- Elements to consider in sharing His story -

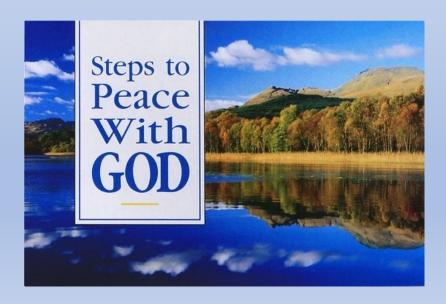
- * Bathe it in Prayer (even Paul asked for prayer to make it clear & to be bold.) Eph 6
- * No amount of words can fully explain the entire Gospel Message.
- * God has to seal it in someone's heart.
- * There are core elements that a Gospel message should include such as God's Plan, Our Problem, God's Remedy, Our Response.
- * This is true for public or personal application.
- * Be sure that every evangelistic message gives clear direction on the hearer's options for response.
- * Every person should be able to clearly articulate the basic elements of the "Good News!"
- * God has also, in the office of the evangelist, given a unique anointing and calling to some that allows them to function with great effectiveness & power.

Simply Share Jesus!

HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST

HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST

Steps to Peace with God



INVITE THEM TO RECEIVE CHRIST

"We implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God." 2 Cor. 5:20b

- Learn to listen where they are.
- Don't make them feel like a project.
- Ask for a decision but don't pressure or manipulate. Allow discussion.
- Ask them to pray or follow you in prayer.

INVITE THEM TO RECEIVE CHRIST

"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I want to turn from my sins, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son. Believe He died for my sins and that You raised Him to Life. I want Him to come into my heart and take control of my life. I want to trust Jesus as my Savior and follow Him as my Lord from this day forward. In Jesus' Name, amen."

Sharing your faith via the internet

www.billygraham.org

www.searchforjesus.net

http://peacewithgod.jesus.net

www.ransom.tv

www.myhopewithbillygraham.org

www.iamsecond.com

www.dare2share.org

'Steps to peace with God' (iphone app)

"Lord, I can't do it! But YOU can. Will You please do it through me today?"