

OUTLINE: LEADING PEOPLE TO JESUS

Begin this ministry skill by praying together as a group using the "Activation Preparation in Prayer" found on Page 6 before proceeding further.

1. Purpose:

The purpose of this ministry skill is threefold: to learn and practice how to share what Jesus has done in our lives; to learn some practical ways to invite other people to receive His gift of salvation; and then how to train the new believer to lead others into this same experience. Jesus was motivated by love and moved by compassion. His command to go into all the world to preach the gospel and make disciples (the Great Commission) is not to be viewed simply as a duty or obligation. Rather, it is to be seen as the privilege of every believer to participate with God in sharing His love and power that lead people into salvation through Jesus Christ.

2. The Gospel is Good News

God sent Jesus to die for our sins:

John 1:14 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Isaiah 53:5-6 "But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—everyone—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

God raised Him from the dead:

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

Romans 8:11 "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you."

God has given us new life in Him:

Romans 6:4 "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

Ephesians 2:4-5 "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved—"

God has reconciled us to Himself:

2 Corinthians 5:17-18, 20 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ... Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

3. The Great Commission is to Preach the Good News and Make Disciples:

Mark 16:15 "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Matthew 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"

4. We share the Gospel with Others Out of Love and Compassion:

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Matthew 9:36-38 "When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

5. The Holy Spirit Empowers us to Share What Jesus has Done:

Acts 1:8 "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."

John 3:11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen,"

6. The Holy Spirit Uses us to Help Others Believe in Christ and be Saved:

Acts 16:30-31 ". . . Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved — you and your household."

Acts 8:29-30, 35-38 "And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ... Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water!

What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

7. Water Baptism is the "Next Step" in the Life of a New Believer:

Mark 16:15-16 "And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

Acts 2:38 "And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

ACTIVATION: LEADING PEOPLE TO JESUS

Practice sharing your story of how you came to Christ (write it down).

Acquire a copy of "Doing What Jesus Did" online at www.MinistryTraining.org. Use the recommendations in Chapter One in preparing your testimony.

Prepare a five-minute story. Your story of how you came to personally know Jesus Christ and the wonderful changes that have taken place in your life since. Use the discussion points below to build your story. Remember to keep it simple by just telling what happened to you.

Do a role-play with one person from your group. Begin by telling them that you are in a course and in order to graduate you need to share your five-minute story with someone. Ask them if you can share your story with them now. Make sure you include these critical elements of your story:

1. "Before believing in Christ I was ..."

2. "What caused me to look to Jesus Christ and repent of my sins was ..."

3. "When I repented, my confession of who Jesus Christ was..."

4. "Since surrendering my life to Christ, my life has been..."

5. "Jesus did all this for me, and He will do it for you, too. Do you believe this?" (Yes)

6. "Let's pray this prayer together: "Jesus Christ, I believe You are the Son of God who died for my sins and was raised from the dead to give me new life. Forgive me for my sins and now guide me in this new life with You. Amen."

Next steps after confessing their belief in Christ for the forgiveness of their sins.

- Schedule a time with the new believer to be **water baptized**. (If possible, do it now).
- Invite them to join you at your **church's next service**.
- Invite them to attend the **discipleship group** of which you are a member.

Next steps after completing the role-play.

Make the call: (use your phone)

Pray right now and ask the Holy Spirit to tell you the name of a person that you have relationship with that He is leading to salvation. As soon as their name comes to your mind, call them and ask them if you can share your story with them. Using your story from the Activation, briefly share your story with them and invite them to give their life to Christ.

Share your story with the world: (send a video)

Using your phone, make a quick video of your testimony and upload it to social media or send it to someone with whom you feel led to share your story. (Note: in some locations it is unsafe for followers of Christ to post overtly Christian material to their social media accounts. Be led by the Holy Spirit and use wisdom when sharing your story publicly).

Testify:

Share with the group how God used your simple obedience to share your story to lead someone to Christ. Share your story of leading someone to Christ from this Activation (in your group, on the phone, or in person).