

onechurch

bigIdea

People ask a lot of questions. Who should I marry? Where should I live? What car should I buy? Where did I put my keys? While we will never be able to answer every question with confidence, can we have an answer for everyone? Christians aren't called to *have* an answer to everything, but to *be* an answer to everyone.



BIG IDEA: *Your story could be the difference in someone else's life.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Tell your story of how you arrived at oneChurch.tv. Were you invited? By who?
2. Who have you invited recently to oneChurch.tv?
3. Share with the group when and how you were baptized. How did you feel about it? Share a brief version of your story.
4. Name a time in your life when you felt like you had to have all of the answers? What made you feel this way?
5. Some Christians have a real fear of outsiders (non-Christians) asking them questions for which they have no answers. Where does that fear come from?
6. Has anyone recently asked you a “God question” that you could not answer? What was the question?
7. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Mark 5:1-21.*
8. In Mark 5, Jesus heals the demon-possessed man, whom Chris calls “Larry.” When “Larry” asked to leave with Jesus, he was told, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” What impact do you think Larry's story had on those who heard it?
9. Chris said, “*Christians aren't called to have an answer to everything, but to be an answer to everyone.*” Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
10. Many times people put off talking about Jesus because they think they don't know enough. How much did Larry actually know about Jesus? Do you think he had any questions lingering? Any doubts?
11. Who can you share your personal story with? What can this group do to support you?
12. Get on Facebook and thank the person (tag them) for bringing you to oneChurch, and tell how it has changed our life. #[onechurch.tv](https://www.facebook.com/onechurch.tv) @[onechurch.tv](https://www.facebook.com/onechurch.tv)

THINK ABOUT IT

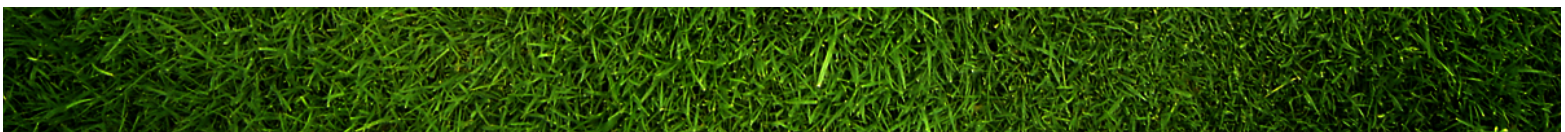
We believe that every owner at oneChurch.tv has the responsibility to invest in someone's life who does not attend church and to invite them. We call this *Invest and Invite*. Inviting them to a church service. Inviting them to hear your story, because all of us have a story.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Practice telling your story to each other in your small group. Remember, your story should consist of three things:

1. *Your life before Jesus*
2. *How you met Jesus, and*
3. *How has Jesus made your life meaningful today?*

Identify three people you need to listen to their story, tell your story, and invite them into God's story. Set a date to share your story with them.



MOVING FORWARD

It is hard to resist someone's personal story. Facts can be disputed, but stories must be noted. Your personal story is an answer for everyone.

ALL ABOUT YOUR STORY

Just like snowflakes and fingerprints, no two people are alike. Meeting Jesus is similar for everyone. However, your journey is unique as God uses circumstances, people, and things to bring you to this point of your life. That is your story! Every story is:

1. Personal and Individual

It's your story because it only happened to you. No one can argue with your story. How did you feel when you wrote about what Christ has done for you? Just as God used people in the Bible to tell how Christ changed them, He desires to use you today. (See 1 Peter 3:15; Luke 8:39)

2. Powerful

The Bible teaches that with God all things are possible; therefore, telling your story is a powerful tool for God. No one rightly challenges your story when they see the change Christ brings to your life. (See Acts 4:20; 2 Corinthians 4:13-14)

3. A Bridge

Your story is a message of God's love. Because He loves all people, He invites you to become a bridge of love to them. Who will you influence for Jesus Christ? (See Luke 16:26; Acts 18:9)



4. Every story participates in our strategy of Invest & Invite.

oneChurch's mission is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ by creating relevant environments where people are encouraged and equipped to pursue intimacy with God, community with insiders, and influence with outsiders.

Our strategy for sharing Jesus with others is *relational*. Rather than knock on doors or pass out tracts, we encourage our members to invest in the people around them. Neighbors, friends, and coworkers live all around us, and God has given us influence in their lives. God has entrusted us with these relationships. He invites us to partner with him in the process of changing lives. At oneChurch.tv, we encourage our owners and attendees to invest in the lives of people who don't go to church and then invite them to church. We call this strategy ***Invest & Invite***.

Invest & Invite is a personal strategy. It means genuinely caring for people outside the church and then being bold enough to risk the relationship by inviting them into the church. It takes energy and effort to build and invest in a relationship. It takes equal compassion and courage to leverage that relationship for God.

That's why oneChurch is committed to relevant environments. Environments that are appealing, engaging, and helpful. Environments that feel safe, even to outsiders. Environments that create conversations where people can come to God.

Remember, Clarksville didn't need another church. There are churches on practically every corner. What's missing are relevant environments. The environments at oneChurch.tv require a lot of volunteers and resources to execute them with excellence.

Our owners give and serve strategically each week because they believe they are partnering with others who believe the time is right to invite their unchurched friends to church for the first time. They want everything to go perfectly. They want their friends to feel welcome. They want their kids to have fun and be engaged. They want the music to be appealing. They want the message to be helpful. They want their friends to want to come back and allow God the opportunity to work in their lives.



We desire to make reaching your unchurched friends and family as easy as possible. We partner with you. You pray for and invest in the people in your life. When the time is right, you invite them to a relevant environment—our Sunday morning worship service. Our staff and volunteers will make sure that environment is appealing, engaging, and helpful. Only God can change hearts and lives, but we have the chance to partner with God in that work. We get to invest in those outside the faith and invite them to discover a relationship with Jesus.

3 ELEMENTS OF YOUR STORY

1. What was your life like before receiving Christ? *(no longer than one minute)*
2. How were you introduced to Christ? *(no longer than one minute)*
3. How does Christ make your life meaningful today? *(no longer than one minute)*

SUGGESTIONS FOR SHARING YOUR STORY

- **Keep it short.** No longer than 3 minutes.
- **Tell what happened to you.** It is your story.
- **Avoid glorifying past sins.** You have to talk about how your life was like before Jesus. But don't make the focus of your story on your past. Emphasize Jesus and what He has done for you.
- **Ask, "What would this mean to me if I were unchurched?"**
- **Eliminate religious words.** Speak so that outsiders can understand. Don't use a bunch of *churchy* words

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6

