

# Any 3: Anyone, Anywhere, Any Time

Adapted from Mike Shipman

Who is the greatest missionary of all? God! The Father sent the Son. The Son sent the Spirit. The Father, Son, and Spirit now sends us. (John 20:21)

We are all called to go. We are all fearful in doing so. Yet, it is the love of Christ that motivates us to obey God by pointing others to salvation found in Jesus.

Jesus was the best at sharing the gospel. He is our true example to follow and as his disciples, we must imitate him. Jesus could approach anyone and tell them what they needed to hear and invite them to believe in him. Not everyone responded positively to Jesus which shows us even with the best presentation, it is still the Holy Spirit who works in the listener. Therefore we are hopeful for God to bring people to believe in him as we focus on faithfully following Jesus as our example.

Any3 is based on Jesus' personally evangelistic encounter with the woman at the well in John 4. This approach has been modelled with much success today particularly towards those in the muslim community. However, this model can be adapted to reach anyone, anywhere at any time.

We will learn this approach then quickly put it into practice as we sharpen our skills to love your neighbours by pointing them to Jesus.

The goal of Any3 is to share the gospel with a new person within the first encounter with them. We will naturally turn the conversation to God and get a clear sense if this individual is worth following up with for more interactions.

## Conversational Characteristics

Our method must match our message.

### Intentional

Jesus was purposeful with his presence. As he lived his life, he looked for opportunities to talk to new people. Jesus led the interaction at the well and made sure this woman heard the gospel. Evangelism is not an event or a program, but an intentional lifestyle. The training can be organized, but evangelism is organic.

### Informal

Jesus did not have a script to read and did not treat this woman as a number. He adapted each gospel conversation to the person he was speaking to. He was natural and met her where she was at in life. He also embraced the awkward parts and kept rolling with the conversation. Social skills are spiritual skills.

### Interactive

Jesus does not preach or talk for long periods at a time. He asks questions and lets the woman talk. He listens as much as he speaks so that when he does speak, it meets her specific needs and shows why the gospel is good.

### Initiative

Jesus was the one who started the conversation. He could have stayed quiet and avoided a potentially awkward interaction. Yet, he lovingly risked the relationship. Jesus knows where he wants the conversation to go.

### Introduce the Messiah

Jesus' goal was to tell this woman about who he is. It is only by believing in Jesus that anyone can be restored to God and experience eternal life. People get to belief through relationship. (Romans 10:14)

## An Any3 Conversation

### Step One: Get Connected

Initiate the conversation. Get to know the person. Conversational threading. Establish commonality. "Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. What is your's?" "How are you doing?" "Do you have kids?" "What do you do for a living?"

**Transition #1:** "What is your religious background?"

### Step Two: Get to God

Everyone has a worldview, so seek to understand theirs. Lead by asking questions about their faith or worldview. Listen to find the differences in what they believe verses what the gospel teaches. What they are **longing** for, what **lie** they are believing, and how can the gospel bring them **light**? How is Jesus better for them? Make it personal and specific to them.

**Transition #2:** "I believe something different..."

### Step Three: Get to the Gospel

Tell them what God has done for you through Jesus' life, death, and/or resurrection. Tailor the gospel to address a specific need in their life. In John 4, it was her lack of purpose and satisfaction. The gospel is the answer people need but never want. It is our job to reconcile the two.

**Transition #3:** "Do you believe?" Or "Would you like to get together again?"

You need to assess if God is at work in the life of this person. Assuming they do not accept Christ in that first conversation, what level of urgency is there to get together with them again? Get their contact information and make a plan with them to meet again if they are open. Follow up within 48 hours.