

## CHECKOUT FOR LESSON ONE

To complete this lesson I will: (check when completed)

### PREPARATION (to be completed before we meet together)

- 1. Complete all material in Lesson One before meeting with my trainer.
- 2. Prepare my one minute personal testimony. Be prepared to read it to my trainer.
- 3. Memorise the entire first point including verses and transitions in the gospel booklet. (Be prepared to share it with my trainer)

### TO BE COMPLETED WITH TRAINER

- 1. Review material in Lesson One.
- 2. Read testimony and improve on it as needed.
- 3. Share from memory point One of the gospel booklet.
- 4. Preview briefly the "Procedure in Making a Home Visit." (see points 8 and 9 below)
- 5. Observe trainer make a phone call to set up an appointment for session two with a church related contact.

### Prayer Time

- 6. Discuss with trainer, and list the names of three friends. We will pray each week for their salvation.

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I request prayer this week for:

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Praise God for our salvation.

Pray together for our appointment. Pray by name (if possible) for those we will be visiting. Pray for a positive response to the gospel.

- 7. Go over "Checkout for Lesson Two". "Preparation" assignment is to be completed before we meet next time.

### Evangelistic Visitation

- 8. Together introduce ourselves and establish rapport.
- 9. Observe trainer and remain silent as he leads in the following:
  - shares his/her testimony.
  - asks diagnostic questions.
  - shares the gospel or Spirit-filled life message.
  - invites them to attend a Life Group (Small Group and One-to-One training).
  - closes visit with prayer.
  - completes Guest/Contact Report after appointment. (This report should be handed to your Life Group leader or visitation co-ordinator.)

# DYNAMIC

## -- Sharing --

Lesson One

### KNOWING GOD PERSONALLY

#### INTRODUCTION

##### **Congratulations!**

You are about to prepare for the greatest endeavour known to man. It is so worthwhile in fact, that “Jesus left the glories of heaven” to accomplish it. As we read in John 17:4, just before His crucifixion He prayed to His Father and said, “*I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do*”. As He was dying on the cross for the sins of the world to redeem us all, He said “*It is finished*”. Now **you** are privileged to share in His great ministry, the ministry of reconciling the world back to God. God will bless you as you do that which is dearest to His heart.

*“Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent..”*

If you are a Christian today it is because God reached out to you, and you responded by receiving Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. Your sins are forgiven and you have peace with God.

#### PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

##### PREPARING MY LIFE

What were Jesus first instructions to His followers?

Mark 1:17 \_\_\_\_\_

What did Andrew do after he met Jesus?

John 1:40-42 \_\_\_\_\_

What were Jesus' last instructions?

Matthew 28:18-20 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 1:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Why was the apostle Paul not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Romans 1:16 \_\_\_\_\_

What was Paul's goal for his life?

Colossians 1:28,29 \_\_\_\_\_

Everything Jesus said and did contributed to the ultimate purpose of His life, which was to redeem the world. He demonstrated His love for all by dying on the cross. Jesus wants you to **be** His disciple and as such, show your love for Him by **going** and **making** other disciples.

#### Disciple making is a process.

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

John 17:3  
Matthew 28:19-20

#### MAKE DISCIPLES WHO WILL . . .



\* Disciple making is a process

As Christians, we are responsible for the whole process, but the first step of that process is evangelism. Without the first step it is impossible to make disciples.

Before you can share Christ with others you need to prepare yourself.

1. Be sure of your relationship with God. You cannot tell others about peace with God unless you know Jesus Christ personally.

Do you know that Christ lives in you? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you know that Christ is in your life?

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2. Be sure that you are willing to confess any known sin. Sin short circuits God's power in your life. If you are a defeated Christian you will not want to share with others because it is not real to you at this time.

Take this simple check (answer Yes or No).

Is there any sin that I am unwilling to confess? \_\_\_\_\_

Do I have resentment towards a family member or a friend? \_\_\_\_\_

Have I lost the joy of my relationship with Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

Does God answer my prayers? \_\_\_\_\_

In order to again experience God's love and forgiveness, confess your sins.

1. Ask for the Holy Spirit to reveal to you any unconfessed sin in your life.
2. List those sins on a sheet of paper. Tell God what is wrong in your life. This list is between you and Him.
3. Write across that list the promise of 1 John 1:9.
4. Thank God for His forgiveness and cleansing.
5. Destroy your list.
6. It may be necessary to ask others to forgive you, making restitution where needed.

Once you have trusted God for forgiveness and cleansing of all your sins and are empowered by the Holy Spirit, you are prepared to share with others your Personal Testimony (Life Story) of how you came to know God personally.

## PRACTICAL TRAINING

### “MY LIFE STORY” WORKSHOP

The purpose of this workshop is to help you write a testimony and present it to others.

#### HOW TO PREPARE “MY LIFE STORY” - PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Any subject matter can be presented more effectively by careful organisation.

A carefully prepared testimony, empowered by the Holy Spirit, can be of immediate and effective use in nearly every witnessing situation. It should be our desire to present Christ in such a clear, attractive, yet simple way, that those who hear will want to know Him too, and will also know “how” to receive Him personally.

#### Do's and Don'ts of a Personal Testimony

##### Do's:

1. Ask the Lord to give you wisdom and guidance as you write. (James 1: 5,6)
2. Follow a four-point outline: “My Life Story” (see sample worksheet).
  - a. Share about your life before knowing Christ.
  - b. Explain how you came to know Christ. (be specific)
  - c. Tell about your life after you received Christ (positive changes He has made, what He means to you now).
  - d. Give an appropriate Bible verse.
3. Emphasise point “c” above if you became a Christian as a young child.
4. Use approximately 10 seconds for point (a), 20 seconds for point (b), 25 seconds for point (c), and 5 seconds for point (d). Points (a) and (b) are past history. Once you have prepared them you will not necessarily be changing them. Point (c) should be kept current and fresh - what Christ is doing in your life now.
5. Begin with an interesting, attention-getting sentence and close with a good conclusion. Try to follow a theme throughout. Examples are:

Purpose for living

God's Word

Freedom from fear of death

Freedom from self

Fulfilment

God's forgiveness

Sense of belonging

Assurance of Salvation

Freedom from fear of living

Peace of mind

God's love

Success

- 6 Write in such a way that others will feel associated with you in past and present experiences. Talk about changes in attitudes such as: apathy or hate to love; resentment to concern; depression to joy; anxiety to peace; impatience to patience; lack of discipline to temperance.
7. Edit carefully and rewrite as necessary before final draft.
8. Memorise your testimony and practice it until it becomes natural.

**Don'ts:**

1. Don't use Christian jargon - words such as: "saved", "converted", "convicted", "born again", and "sin". Though these words and phrases are precious to us, they are often misunderstood by non-Christians.
2. Don't be too wordy, beat around the bush, or emphasise how bad you used to be.
3. Don't use words like "wonderful", "glorious", "fantastic", etc.
4. Don't mention church denominations, especially in a derogatory way.
5. Don't speak negatively about any other individual or group.
6. Don't give the impression that the Christian life is a life without problems.

**EVALUATE YOUR "LIFE STORY"**

1. What is my theme? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Will my opening statement catch their attention? \_\_\_\_\_

**My life before I received Christ:**

1. Remember, I will be talking to non-Christians. Could they relate? Is it realistic?
2. What caused me to realise that I needed Christ?

**How I received Christ:**

1. Did I say specifically "how" I actually invited Christ into my life?
2. Would a non-Christian know how to and want to receive Christ as a result of hearing my testimony?

**My life after I received Christ:**

1. Did I use simple, clear illustrations of ways in which Christ has changed me?
2. Is it realistic? Remember, no one is perfect.
3. Does it show that it is Christ making the difference in my life?

**Appropriate Bible Verse:**

1. Does this verse tie in with the theme of "My Life Story"?

**When Sharing Your Testimony, Be Sure to:**

1. Share it with loving enthusiasm in the power of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18)
2. Speak clearly in a natural, relaxed tone of voice.
3. Avoid mannerisms when you speak, such as: rubbing your nose, clearing your throat and using "ums" and "ahs".
4. Avoid using high-pressure methods to get a "decision" for Christ. Remember men are "born of the Spirit", not through the persuasiveness or logic of men, though God may use both.
5. Avoid preaching at people. Present **a testimony**, not a preachimony. Say "**I**" not "you". Remember, it is **your** story.
6. **Smile often!** Ask the Lord to give you a happy, radiant face.

**“MY LIFE STORY” WORKSHEET**

MY LIFE BEFORE I RECEIVED CHRIST

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HOW I RECEIVED CHRIST (Be Specific)

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MY LIFE AFTER I RECEIVED CHRIST

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APPROPRIATE BIBLE VERSE

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