

CHECKOUT FOR LESSON TWO

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

PREPARATION

- 1. Complete all material in Lesson Two.
- 2. Prepare to role play my testimony with my trainer.
(Read final draft to trainer)
- 3. Prepare to role-play sharing the gospel booklet.
- 4. Memorise point Two of the gospel booklet. (Be prepared to share it with my trainer)

TO BE COMPLETED WITH TRAINER

- 1. Review material in Lesson Two.
- 2. Role-play testimony.
- 3. Observe trainer sharing the gospel booklet.
- 4. Share from memory point Two of the gospel booklet.
- 5. Practice point Four - various responses.
- 6. Briefly review **Procedure for Making a Home Visit**. (See points 10 and 11 below)
- 7. Observe trainer make a phone call to set up an appointment for session three with a church related contact.

Prayer Time

- 8. Continue to pray for the three names on our prayer lists.

I request prayer this week for:

Pray together for our appointment.

- 9. Go over “Checkout for Lesson Three”. “Preparation” assignment to be completed before we meet next time.

Evangelistic Visitation

- 10. Together introduce ourselves and establish rapport.
- 11. Observe trainer as he/she:
 - 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 the Guest/Contact Report. (This should be handed to our Life Group leader or visitation co-ordinator.)

DYNAMIC

--Sharing--

Lesson Two

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

In order to be an effective witness for Jesus Christ, we need to be equipped in the best possible way. God has chosen us to share the good news of the gospel and has given us more than adequate means to share Christ. Preparation is important. Let's look at how we can be an effective witness.

EMPOWERED TO SHARE

When you are experiencing God's love and forgiveness and are filled with His Holy Spirit, you will be enjoying the abundant life. You will want to share with others. You will also have the power to share your faith effectively.

The Spirit-filled life is the Christ-directed life by which Christ lives His life in and through you in the power of the Holy Spirit. You can be filled with the Holy Spirit only by faith, by trusting God to produce in you the fruitful life He promised.

You can be filled with the Holy Spirit if you:

- a. Confess all known sin. (Psalm 66:18)
- b. Surrender to God and His will. (Romans 12:1,2)
- c. Trust the Holy Spirit to fill you according to His command in Ephesians 5:18, "*Be filled with the Spirit*", and His promise in 1 John 5:14,15. Write out His promise.

We know it is God's will because He commands us to be filled. We know He will answer our prayer because it is His will.

HOW TO PRAY IN FAITH TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

If you would like to be certain that the Holy Spirit is in control of your life, pray this prayer.

Dear Lord, I have sinned against You by directing my own life. Thank You for forgiving my sins. I now ask You to take complete control of my life. In faith, I now claim the Holy Spirit's power and control and I thank You for directing me.

Did you pray this prayer? _____

Do you **know** that you are **now** filled with the Holy Spirit? _____ How do you know? _____

CONTINUAL POWER

By an act of your will you can continue to experience the power of the Holy Spirit on a daily basis. If you become aware of sin in your life:

1. Agree with God that you have sinned (be specific). Trust God to change your attitude and actions.
2. Surrender the control of your life to Christ.
3. Claim by faith the fullness of the Holy Spirit in your life.
4. Trust that He now directs and empowers you.

As you continue to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, you will be at peace with God. You will become more and more like Christ. You will develop a love for the lost and compassion to reach out to others because of the love and compassion of Christ in you. You will then be prepared to share how they can find peace with God. You will progressively learn to trust Him more and more, allowing Him to produce the character of Christ within you and empower you to be His witness.

PRACTICAL TRAINING

EQUIPPED TO SHARE

Many people are very confused about what it means to be a Christian. Our responsibility is to present the gospel of Jesus Christ in such a clear way that they will understand.

Why is it important that they hear and understand about Christ?

John 14:6 _____

Acts 4:12 _____

What was Paul's message?

1 Corinthians 1:23,24 _____

Ephesians 3:8 _____

What are the essential ingredients of the Gospel according to 1 Corinthians 15: 3-6?

List them 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

We need to communicate the gospel clearly and in a logical way. The gospel booklet will help you to focus on the scriptures that a person needs to know in order to receive Christ.

THE BENEFITS OF USING A BOOKLET ARE:

1. The gospel can be seen as well as heard.
2. The gospel can be left with the person which:
 - a. Helps the new believer read and study again on his own the claims of the gospel.
 - b. Gives the new believer a method of sharing Christ immediately with someone else.
 - c. Gives the one who did not pray an opportunity to read how to become a Christian at another time.
3. The booklet can be memorised and communicated from memory when a booklet is not available or cannot be used.
4. Having memorised the verses in the booklet, the same verses can be used from the Bible if desired.

HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL USING THE GOSPEL BOOKLET

A. BE AVAILABLE TO GOD

2 Timothy 4:2 says: *“Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction.”*

God will bring people to Christ through you if you are available. By being trained to communicate the gospel clearly you are preparing yourself to be available and to be used of God. The Holy Spirit will lead you to people whose hearts He has prepared to hear the good news of the gospel.

B. BE SENSITIVE TO PEOPLE

Our purpose in sharing the gospel booklet should always be to share God's love. Never argue or try to pressure a person into making a commitment to Christ. Our part is to witness; God's part is to change a person's heart and bring him to faith in Christ. Let Christ love that person through you.

Keep your presentation simple and clear. The best way to do this is to read the booklet aloud without expanding on it. (Remember, as you train others, model for them by just reading the booklet. This will ensure that they will do the same). Do not read in a mechanical way - be enthusiastic! Remember you are not just sharing a booklet but you are sharing the best news of all - the Gospel!

Don't feel that you have to share or complete the booklet if the person is just not interested. Not everyone is ready or open to receive Christ. Always leave the person with a positive impression of you and your message no matter what his response. Try to leave the booklet with him.

Give the person an opportunity to pray. Most people are open to consider the claims of Christ on their life, and they will welcome your assistance, but no one wants to be pressured. Do not hesitate to ask them to pray to receive Christ. To not do so will only cause them to doubt your sincerity and confidence that this is indeed **good news**.

We should always leave them with such a favourable attitude that they will welcome the opportunity to talk with us or someone else at a later time about their personal relationship to Christ.

C. HOW TO PERSONALIZE YOUR PRESENTATION

1. Be friendly. Use the person's name.
2. Hold the booklet so that it can be seen clearly by the listener.
3. Use a pen or pencil to focus on the key points and diagrams.
4. Don't just read **to** the person; **share it with** the person.
5. Read through the booklet. However, you should not be so committed to reading the booklet that you are not sensitive to the listener. As

you read through it and you sense there is no response, stop and ask, **“Is this making sense to you?”**

6. When asked questions that would change the subject you might say, **“That's a good question. Could we talk about it at the end of the booklet?”** Explain that most questions will be answered as you go through the booklet. It is best to answer after the prayer to receive Christ is shared because:
 - a. You can refer to what was presented in the booklet in answering their questions.
 - b. By first giving the invitation you personalise the presentation so that more personal, meaningful issues can be discussed with the person rather than side issues.
 - c. It is important that you show the person **how** to receive Christ. Even if he does not pray with you, God can use the information shared to draw him to Himself at a later time.

D. SHARING THE GOSPEL BOOKLET

Sharing your faith with someone is not difficult to do. The booklet contains four points which explain all a person needs to know in order to receive Christ.

One - God's Purpose

Two - Our Problem

Three - God's Remedy

Four - Our Response

Points One through Three should just be read. There should be little or no need to elaborate.

E. HELPING THE PERSON IDENTIFY HIMSELF SPIRITUALLY

Our goal in sharing the booklet is to clearly show **how** to receive Christ. **This will be accomplished at the prayer.** However, it is important to help the person understand that it is not enough just to know what it means to be a Christian. He must see his need and make a personal commitment. To help the person, follow this simple outline.

Point Four is Our Response - Receive Christ

After the verse, Revelation 3:20 has been read, read the statement and explain the diagram. You could say, **“This diagram explains two spiritual positions. The one on the left is man separated from God. His life is characterised by (read from booklet). The one on the right is man who has come to God through Jesus Christ. His life is characterised by (read from booklet)”.**

After explaining the diagram simply ask, **“Are you here (point to the left position)...or here (point to the right position)?”**

Follow the flow chart on the following pages and practice the various responses. **It is very important that you feel prepared to handle each possible situation.** This will give you the confidence and the boldness you will need to share your faith. We are to be ready to share in order to be obedient. God will empower us and give us the opportunities as we are prepared.

