

CHECKOUT FOR LESSON FOUR

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

PREPARATION

- 1. Complete all material in Lesson Four.
- 2. Prepare to role play the entire gospel booklet.
- 3. Practice the questions in point Four.
- 4. Memorise point Four.

TO BE COMPLETED WITH TRAINER

- 1. Review material in Lesson Four.
- 2. Repeat from memory point Four.
- 3. Role-play the entire gospel booklet.
- 4. Practice together the questions in point Four.
- 5. Make a phone call to set up an appointment with a church related contact for session five.

Prayer Time

- 6. Plan and pray about a strategy to share the gospel with one person each on our prayer lists.

I request prayer this week for: _____

Pray together for our appointment.
Discuss and pray about who we will train next when we complete our training.

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

Evangelistic Visitation

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

DYNAMIC

-- Sharing --

Lesson Four

A POWERFUL MESSAGE TO SHARE

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE GOSPEL MEANS "GOOD NEWS"

When we share the Gospel we are proclaiming the greatest news of all time. It is a message of hope and an offer of peace with God. To all who are without a knowledge of God as their personal Saviour and Lord it is indeed "GOOD NEWS". When we share this good news we are presenting a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ - not a plan.

What was the subject of Paul's witness?

I Corinthians 1:23,24 _____

Read Colossians 1:15-17; 2:9; Hebrews 1:3,8; John 10:30; 14:9,10 concerning the deity of Jesus Christ.

When you receive Christ, you receive a whole new life - **Eternal Life** -the type of life that God has. When Jesus comes into your life, because He is God, He brings the potential of His quality of life into your experience.

Read II Corinthians 5:17 What has passed away? _____

What has become new? _____

List some things that have become new in your life: _____

Are these changes that others would want for their lives? _____

As Jesus lives His supernatural life in you through the power of the Holy Spirit, what will be the result? Read Galatians 5:22,23 and list the qualities of life He will produce.

This is why the Gospel is called "GOOD NEWS".

The world is desperately in need of this "GOOD NEWS". It is a matter of life or death for those with whom we share, therefore **we must be careful to share the Gospel in a simple and clear way.** We must also share it often because there are many who have never heard the truth about Jesus Christ.

How do you respond to Romans 10:14,15? _____

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The Gospel booklet is designed to communicate the message simply and clearly. Write out from memory each point and give Bible references for each.

One _____

Two _____

Three _____

Four _____

EXPECT PEOPLE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY

Some Christians think that if they witness to someone, that the person will be offended and they may lose their friendship. While not everyone you share with will be ready to receive Christ the first time you share, most people are very grateful that you cared enough to tell them of God's love.

Your attitude is very important! Expect people to respond positively, not because of your ability but because of your confidence in God, His love, His power, His sovereignty and His promises.

Write in your own words what II Peter 3:9 means to you.

We can expect people to respond because we have been sent out by God to tell them. Jesus commands us to make disciples. Matthew 28:19-20 begins with *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go....”*. We don't need anyone's permission to go; we have been commanded to go by God Himself!

Jesus concluded His command with the promise, *“I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”* This same promise is for us today so we can confidently **“go”** knowing that He will honour our faithful witness.

If we will share with the boldness that the early Christians displayed, we too will experience world-changing results.

Step out in faith and see what God will do through you!

PRACTICAL TRAINING

SHARING THE GOSPEL BOOKLET

ENCOURAGING THE PERSON TO PRAY TO RECEIVE CHRIST

A. ALWAYS ASK

After reading the prayer, ask the question, **“Would you like to pray this prayer and receive Christ into your life?”** By asking this question you are giving the individual an invitation to receive Christ.

If the person responds positively:

B. OFFER TO LEAD THE PERSON IN PRAYER

- Say: **“Let me pray this prayer, a phrase at a time and you repeat it after me and receive Christ”.**
- If the person is uneasy about repeating a prayer, ask the person to pray his own prayer out loud.
- Some may hesitate to pray out loud, either with you leading or praying their own prayer. They may be willing to pray silently either way. Encourage them to do so.

HELPING THE PERSON KNOW THAT CHRIST IS IN HIS LIFE

Knowing that Christ is in his life is extremely important for the new believer. Some will say that Christ is “right beside me”, or “He is near me”, or “I hope He is in my life”. He needs to understand that if he prayed in faith, God answered and Christ is now living in him. **Remember, a person is not born spiritually by praying a prayer but by faith, believing that Christ comes in when He is invited to come in.**

A. HOW TO KNOW THAT CHRIST IS IN YOUR LIFE

Ask:

- “Did you receive Christ into your life?”** Wait for a response. If the person does not answer, ask: **“Were you sincere when you prayed this prayer?”**
- “According to His promise in Revelation 3:20, “Did Christ come into your life?”** Turn back to point Four and reread Revelation 3:20 and ask the question again.
- “Christ said that He would come into your life. Would He mislead you?”** Wait for a response.
- “How do you know that God has answered your prayer?”** (He said He would come in if I sincerely invited Him in.) **God does not lie!**

B. THE BIBLE PROMISES ETERNAL LIFE TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE CHRIST

When reading I John 5:11-13, emphasise the words **“has”** and **“know”** in verses 12 and 13.

C. DO NOT DEPEND ON YOUR FEELINGS

Explain the importance of not depending upon feelings. Ask, **“If you ever feel that God is far away, where will He be?”** Remind him to thank God often that Christ is in his life.

D. PROCLAIMING YOUR FAITH

Suggest that you pray together and thank God for what He has done. In leading the person in a “thank you” prayer, explain that you will pray first. Then pray a short, simple “thank you” prayer yourself. After you pray, encourage the person to pray as well. You might say, **“Thank God, in your own words, for coming into your life.”**

E. CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Continue reading through to the back cover indicating how the person can grow as a Christian. Encourage him to attend a church (yours or one near his home where he can fellowship with others and grow in his relationship with Christ). Encourage the person to share this Gospel booklet with a friend or family member.

HELPING THE PERSON WHO DOES NOT WISH TO PRAY TO RECEIVE CHRIST AFTER THE PRAYER IS READ

1. Maintain a positive and loving attitude. Not everyone is ready to receive Christ when you invite him to do so. Be sure to remain loving and friendly towards the person, regardless of his response.
2. You could say, **“Let me show you what would happen if you asked Christ to come into your life”**. Cover the pages on Assurance and give the person another opportunity to pray. You might say, **“Now that you understand a little more of what it means to have Christ in your life, would you like to pray that prayer and receive Christ?”**
2. Another suggestion in response to a person who is not ready to receive Christ is to review with him your personal testimony of how you came to know Christ and the changes that resulted in your life.
3. You may want to ask, **“Is there any reason why you would not want to receive Christ at this time?”**
5. If a person still does not wish to pray, you could say, **“This is a decision I am sure you will want to make soon.”** Encourage him to pray to receive Christ after he has reread the booklet on his own. Leave the booklet with him.

6. Encourage him to read the Gospel of John.

HELPING THE PERSON WHO SAYS, “I PRAY A PRAYER LIKE THIS EVERY DAY”

1. Read Ephesians 2:8,9 and explain it is through faith that we are saved, not through prayer. It is not asking Christ to come into my life that saves me - but **believing** that He came in when I asked Him to.
2. If appropriate, suggest that he pray the prayer for the last time, believing that Jesus will keep His promise and come into his life. From then on suggest that he should thank Jesus every day that He is in his life.

Refer to these verses:

Revelation 3:20.....Christ comes in when you ask in faith.

Hebrews 13:5.....He will never leave you.

I John 5:13.....He gave His Word *“that you may know”*.

When a person does not receive Christ during your first time together, assure him of your availability. Offer to meet again if he would like to talk further. Continue to pray for his salvation.

You may want to invite him to a pre-Christian Bible study.