

EVANGELISM FIRE (Train the trainers) WORKSHOP NOTES



Website: www.coh.org.au

To download the PowerPoints for these training notes please use the following link:

[www.coh.org.au/Workshop Powerpoints](http://www.coh.org.au/Workshop_Powerpoints)

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ONE DAY EVANGELISM INTENSIVE TRAINING NOTES

Introduction:

These notes have been compiled using our Church of Hope evangelism training materials that are on our Church of Hope website downloads page: www.coh.org.au/downloads. In these teaching notes I have included several shorter key practical teachings to help all Christians to share their faith immediately after completing this one-day Evangelism Intensive Training Workshop. These notes can also be used in conjunction with the PowerPoints for this workshop when training up others in the future.

After completing this workshop, I would encourage all those who have completed this course to continue to learn more about how to be effective in winning souls whilst DOING it. In particular our Evangelism Fire Workshop Manual and our Practical Evangelism Workshop teaching are good resources to help people to become even more effective in sharing their faith as they also continue to learn by practically sharing their faith with others.

In these notes we cover the following key areas to help people to share their faith immediately upon completing this one-day course:

- 1) Praying for divine appointments
- 2) Understanding humanity
- 3) Jesus is the answer
- 4) The simple gospel message (The gospel of grace)
- 5) The use of ice breakers to start conversations
- 6) Some keys to effective one-on-one evangelism
- 7) Twelve tips for effective street preaching
- 8) Sharing our testimony
- 9) Using gospel tracts to evangelize others
- 10) Continually being motivated by a genuine love for the lost
- 11) Depending on the Holy Spirit, and
- 12) The importance of commitment in sharing our faith with others

Before covering these 12 important aspects of sharing our faith with others effectively, we will begin with a few introductory thoughts on the importance of having character and praying for people to be healed, as well as an introductory teaching on the importance of being missions minded. Miracles of healing so often help to lead people to Christ.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.” (Romans 8:28-29)

Early in my Christian Walk when I was attending bible college, I met a person who gave me his ministry business card. The name on his ministry business card was “Character First.”

When I read this ministry name on his business card, the Lord clearly impressed upon my heart the importance of having character first before He could entrust to me significant ministry roles.

Since then, over the past 28 years God has been continually doing a work of change in my life as He continues to prepare me for each new season of ministry. As Christians we are continually works in progress. Developing godly character in our life is crucial for many reasons. Some of these reasons are:

1) Because it helps us to shine for Jesus in our Christian Walk. The way that we live our lives matters

Jesus Himself said,

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

2) Because it helps us to remain strong in our Christian Walk in the ungodly and lawless times that we are now living in

In the book of James we read, “Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.” (James 1:12)

3) Because the way that we live our life has the greatest impact on the lives of others

The Apostle Paul wrote to the young pastor Timothy,

“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12) And

4) Because it will help us to finish our Christian Walk strongly

Towards the end of his time here on earth the Apostle Paul wrote, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

Following are some important aspects of Christian character that will help us to become all that God has planned for our lives and to remain strong in our Christian Walk:

1. Having humility (1 Peter 5:5-6)
2. Having a teachable spirit (Proverbs 12:1)
3. Being faithful in the little things (Luke 16:10)
4. Letting our ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and our ‘No,’ ‘No.’ (Matthew 5:37)
5. Having integrity in the stewardship of money. That money is always our servant (1 Timothy 6:10) (Matthew 6:24)
6. Being faithful first in what is another man’s vision (Luke 16:12)
7. Being always truthful and honest in our dealings with others (Having integrity in the way that we do things)
8. That we live a life of simple trust and obedience, and
9. That we always speak well of others and refuse to engage in gossip and slander (This is a great key to seeing unity in the body of Christ)

When we look at the lives of two of the greatest evangelists, Billy Graham and Reinherd Bonnke, they both had great character and finished their ministries here on earth well.

MIRACLES OF HEALING

In the gospel of Matthew we read, “Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.” (Matthew 9:35)

Miracles of healing will so often cause people to give their heart to Jesus Christ. Praying for people to be healed, especially when directed by the Holy Spirit, needs to be also an important part of our witness in the coming season. The early church was characterized by miracles of healings and daily people were added to the church. (Acts 5:12-16) (Acts 2:47)

Jesus said to His twelve disciples, “And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand,’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons...” (Matthew 10:7-8)

Jesus Himself also said, “And these signs will follow those who believe: In My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” (Mark 16:17-18)

In the book of Acts we read, “Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. And there was great joy in that city.” (Acts 8:4-8)

How we need to live in the miraculous in the times that we are now living in to help see people come to Christ. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8) He still heals the sick.

INTRODUCTORY TEACHING BY PASTOR CONRAD - BEING MISSIONS MINDED AND HAVING GOD'S HEART FOR EVANGELISM

Jesus said to His disciples,

“Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest? Behold, I say to you, **lift up your eyes** and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!” **(John 4:35)**

- **In this teaching we will be looking at the importance of being missions minded as Christians given the ungodly and lawless times that we are now living in**
- **We will also be looking at some keys to gaining God's heart for evangelism and to being prepared to share our faith with others**

- **As Christians we have been saved for a purpose**

The Apostle Paul made this very clear in the following two passages of Scripture

“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.”

(2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” **(Ephesians 2:10)**

Jesus Himself also said to His disciples, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15)

- **GOD'S HEART TRULY IS THAT NONE WOULD PERISH**

- We only have one gift of life here on earth to store up treasures in heaven
 - One gift of life to make an eternal difference in the lives of others. We are now at the time of the printing of this manual rapidly approaching Spring of 2024. It just seems like yesterday that we celebrated New Years Eve 2023.
- This is why we need to be always intentional in living for the Kingdom Cause and in having a mission's focus

Jesus also emphasised the importance of this when He said,

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

(Matthew 6:19-21)

- I WANT TO BEGIN BY FIRST QUICKLY SHARING WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE ARE MISSIONS MINDED IN THE TIMES THAT WE ARE NOW LIVING IN

1) Because Jesus is coming back soon

Jesus Himself said in relation to the times that we are now living in,

“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

(Luke 21:34-36)

In the book of Revelation we read, “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.” (Revelation 22:12)

2) Because it is God's heart for the lost to be saved. As Christians we are the hands and feet of Jesus

We see God's heart of compassion for the lost in the gospel of Matthew, "Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. "But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd." (**Matthew 9:35-36**)

Jesus also said, "... for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." (**Luke 19:10**)

3) Because without a missions focus, we will invariably squander much of our time on things that have no real eternal significance

In His explanation of the parable of the Sower Jesus said, "Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." (**Mark 4:18-20**)

4) Because other people's eternal destinies are connected to us being faithful in living for the Kingdom Cause

In the book of Proverbs we read, "Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, "Surely we did not know this," does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?" (**Proverbs 24:11-12**)

5) Because true purpose and meaning and joy in life only comes from knowing Christ intimately and from living wholeheartedly for the Kingdom Cause

- Flowing in our own unique gifts and calling is a great key to living a life of great purpose and meaning as Christians
- We will always have a divine discontentment when we are not following God's plan for our life

Jesus Himself said, “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” **(John 10:10)**

In His Parable of the Talents Jesus said,

“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ “His Lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His Lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord.” **(Matthew 25:20-23)**

- When we connect with our calling and flow in our spiritual gifts, we experience great joy and purpose in our Christian Walk,
AND

6) Because one day Jesus will reward us for what we have done for Him during our time here on earth

Jesus Himself said, “For the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.” **(Matthew 16:27)**

- WE WILL NOW LOOK AT SOME KEYS TO LIVING WITH A MISSION'S FOCUS AND TO BEING EFFECTIVE IN SHARING OUR FAITH WITH OTHERS

1) **Jesus needs to be our first love** (Especially given the lawless times that we are now living in)

- Everything flows out of maintaining an intimate walk with the Lord. (We need to gain God's heart for the lost)

- In a world full of temptations and distractions we need to purposely make our love for Jesus the greatest priority in life

- It is so important that we do not allow the things of this world to steal our affections for Christ especially in the lawless and materialistic times that we are now living in

Jesus Himself said in relation to the times that we are now living in, “And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold, But he who endures to the end shall be saved.” **(Matthew 24:12-13)**

- Our love for Christ must be our greatest priority in the times that we are now living in. Otherwise like Martha we will be worried and troubled about many things

- As life can become busy at times, we need to purposely make time each day to spend with the Lord

- Revelation from God almost always comes in isolation

In the book of Jeremiah we read, “For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD, And has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His word and heard it?” **(Jeremiah 23:18)**

- King David would have been a very busy man but his priority was to know God intimately

- King David was the only man referred to in the bible as being a man after God's own heart

We see King David's great love for God in Psalm 63 where he wrote, "O GOD, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for you; My flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You." (Psalm 63:1-3)

- When our love for Christ is truly our greatest focus in life it will be natural to share our faith with others. WHAT MATTERS MOST TO US WE WILL TALK ABOUT

- When Christ is truly our first love, we will also have His compassion for the lost

- Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw the multitudes, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd

- Right now, there is a world full of people who are weary and discouraged in life, especially the youth. How we need God's heart of compassion in the times that we are now living in

King David wrote, "**Delight yourself also in the Lord**, And He shall give you the desires of your heart." (Psalm 37:4)

- Nothing can ever truly satisfy us like knowing God intimately. Both King David and the Apostle Paul knew this very well

King David wrote, "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Psalm 16:11)

The Apostle Paul also wrote,

“But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.”

(Philippians 3:7-8)

- WE NEED TO LEARN TO PRACTICE GOD’S PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES AND TO CULTIVATE INTIMACY IN OUR WALK WITH THE LORD. (It is good to have a place where we meet with God)

- When Christ is our first love it will be reflected in the way that we live our life and what we talk about

- As Christians we can radiate God’s peace and joy and love in the way that we live our lives if we maintain an abiding relationship with Jesus Christ

Jesus Himself emphasised the importance of making our relationship with God our greatest priority when He said;

“‘And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.” **(Mark 12:30)**

“‘And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” **(Mark 12:31)**

- It is our love for the LORD that will give us His love and compassion for others and compel us to share our faith with others; in season and out of season

2) WE NEED TO LIVE OUR LIVES WITH ETERNITY IN MIND

We need to purposely live our life with Kingdom priorities in how we use our time, talents and resources

- We only have a set number of days in our life to make an eternal difference in the lives of others

- We only have one gift of life here on earth to store up treasures in heaven

King David wrote,

“LORD, make me to know my end,
And what *is* the measure of my days,
That I may know how frail I *am*.

⁵ Indeed, You have made my days *as* handbreadths,
And my age *is* as nothing before You;
Certainly every man at his best state *is* but vapor. *Selah*

⁶ Surely every man walks about like a shadow;
Surely they ^[a]busy themselves in vain;
He heaps up *riches*,
And does not know who will gather them.” (Psalm 39:4-6)

- **King David was well aware of the brevity of life and the futility of expending all of our lives on the pursuit of temporary riches**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)

- The world, the flesh and the Devil are all continually influences that will try and draw people away from living for the Kingdom Cause

- The Devil is good at keeping people busy and distracted by things that have no real eternal significance. Maybe this is one of the reasons why Jesus said that there are few who enter the narrow gate that leads to eternal life
- **Particularly now with the smart phone there are many ways in which people can be distracted from following wholeheartedly after the Lord**
- **The Devil's sole focus is to thwart God's salvation plan and to minimise the number of people who get saved**

Jesus Himself said, “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” **(Matthew 7:13-14)**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For this reason, for the sake of the lost, we need to purposely choose each day to live with a mission's focus |
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- As Christians we need to see our workplaces, schools and neighbourhoods as being our missions' fields
- John Wesley the great revivalist preacher said “The world is my parish”

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - So as Christians, especially given all the temptations and distractions in the world around us, we <u>need to choose daily to live for the Lord</u> if we are to make a difference in our world for eternity |
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- This is why Jesus outlined what it really involved to be a disciple of His
Jesus said,
“Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.” **(Mark 8:34-35)**

- It is only in living this crucified life that we will realize our full potential in Christ and bear much eternal fruit

This is why the Apostle Paul wrote, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” (Romans 12:2)

Jesus Himself said, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matthew 6:24)

- There is a contest on for our God given destiny because other people’s eternal destinies are connected to us being faithful in following God’s plan for our lives
- Prayerfully involving God in all of our plans helps us to maintain a Kingdom and missions focus in our walk with the Lord
- Again, as Christians we are to be in the world but NOT of it
- The Devil will continually try and get us to squander our time, gifts and talents by distracting and discouraging us from fulfilling our God given assignment here on earth. The real battle is for the mind
- The Devil will also try and bring wrong and worldly-minded friends into our lives to draw us away from our God given assignment here on earth

- It is so important that we do both our career and calling well

- That we do not get so caught up with our career and pursuit of the material things of this life that we do not live our life with a mission’s focus

- Given the fact that we come into the world with nothing and leave the world with nothing it is so important that we have a Kingdom perspective in how we use our gifts and talents and resources during our time here on earth
- Having a Kingdom and missions focus will greatly affect the way the we use our finances and time and the priorities that we have in this life

- Having a Kingdom focus will cause us to want to invest our time and talents in storing up treasures in heaven

The Apostle Paul wrote, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” **(Ephesians 5:15-17)**

- Reinherd Bonnke was a very gifted man who could have easily been a very successful business man given his great organizational skills
- But he committed his life to pursuing his ministry calling to Africa with the result that over 80 million people have come to Christ through his life and ministry
- Reinherd Bonnke has now gone to be with the Lord
- Given that we have only one gift of life here on earth to live for Christ, having a Kingdom focus in the use of our time and resources and talents is a great key to helping us to continually have a missions focus in the way that we live our life during our time here on earth

- We can also be assured that we will never come second putting God first in the long run

- Jesus made it clear that if we put Him and the things of the Kingdom first in our life, we can be assured that God will meet our every need in life

Jesus Himself said, “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (**Matthew 6:31-33**)

- We have one gift of life to store up treasures in heaven
- How important it is that we continually live our lives with eternity in mind

3) BEING CONTINUALLY GUIDED BY AND EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

- It is so important to be continually guided by the Holy Spirit so that we can make right choices in life
- Being continually guided by the Holy Spirit helps us to be always at the right place at the right time doing the right thing

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The simple fact is that we have a very real adversary, the Devil, who would love to complicate our lives |
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The Apostle Peter wrote, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” (**1 Peter 5:8**)

- Being sensitive to the guidance and leading of the Holy Spirit is crucial to consistently making right choices in life and to fulfilling our God given potential in Christ
- For this reason, we should always have a desire to know the voice of God so that we can always make right choices in life that help us to fulfil God’s plan for our life

- In a world full of temptations and distractions it is crucial that we are continually guided by the Holy Spirit in all that we do in life

- Involving God in all of our plans helps us to make right choices in relation to our career choices, where we are to live and how we are to use our time

Jesus Himself said,

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” **(John 14:26)**

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” **(John 16:13)**

- Being continually guided by the Holy Spirit helps us to remain in the will of God for our lives and to keep our focus on the Kingdom Cause

King David wrote,

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand.” **(Psalm 37:23-24)**

- It is in the will of God for our lives that we see God’s favour and blessing upon our lives and God opening up doors that no man can close and our lives bearing much eternal fruit

- **It is ALSO crucial that we always depend upon the Holy Spirit when witnessing to and ministering to others**

- Jesus Himself depended upon the Holy Spirit during His ministry here on earth

In the book of Acts we read, “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” **(Acts 10:38)**

The Apostle Paul also wrote, “I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” **(1 Corinthians 2:3-5)**

Jesus Himself said, “Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.” **(Luke 21:14-15)**

- Being baptized in the Holy Spirit and then continually filled with the Holy Spirit empowers us to be effective in witnessing to and preaching to others

In the book of Acts we read the words of Jesus,

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **(Acts 1:8)**

- As we give out to others, we need to be continually filled afresh with the Holy Spirit ourselves. That we always share and minister out of the overflow of God’s Spirit in our own lives. **(Refer to teaching 11 – Depending on the Holy Spirit)**

This is why the Apostle Paul wrote,

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,” **(Ephesians 5:18)**

4) The importance of being planted in the house of God

- We all need one another in the body of Christ
- We need the continual encouragement of other Christians if we are to remain on fire for the Lord. We cannot do the Christian Walk alone

- A great analogy for this is when we see an ember being spat out of a log fire. It quickly grows cold and dies out

- We simply cannot do the Christian Walk alone in the lawless and ungodly times that we are now living in
- EVERY believer has an important part to play in the body of Christ

- Our God given purpose in life will always be outworked in connection with other believers

- Having regular fellowship with other believers helps us to be nurtured and encouraged in our faith AND to remain focused on the Kingdom Cause
- We ALL need the encouragement of other believers if we are to continually live our life with a mission focus and fulfil our God given destiny
- We are better together. One will put a thousand to flight but two, ten thousand to flight

- AS A TEAM WE CAN ACHIEVE MUCH

In the book of Hebrews we read, “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:23-25)

5) The importance of making plans and commitments to reach out to the lost. There is power in having a focused mind

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, but those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty.” **(Proverbs 21:5)**

- **It is so important that we start each week by seeking the Lord for His outreach initiatives for the coming week so that we can make plans and commitments to complete those outreach initiatives**
- Purposely making plans to share our faith is a great key to being missions focused in our walk with the Lord
- It is important to start each day by getting God’s perspective for the day ahead

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” **(Proverbs 16:3)**

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| <p>- Without having a commitment to sharing our faith with others, we will invariably miss many opportunities to help lead people to Christ with weeks and months passing by</p> |
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- WE NEED TO MAKE EVANGELISM A LIFESTYLE. Each day we can bring the goodness of God into our spheres of influence as we share the love of Christ with others
- The Lord impressed upon my heart some time ago that the “...exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think” plan of God (Ephesians 3:20) for our life unfolds over time, as we are just daily open to living wholeheartedly for Him
- That if we daily live our life with eternity in mind, we will help many people to come to Christ and encourage many people to fulfil God’s plan for their lives

- This can be seen in the faithfulness of Frank Jenner who for many years gave out just 10 gospel tracts every day in George Street in Sydney. Through this simple ministry around 146,000 people worldwide were impacted with many coming to Christ and eventually also entering into full time ministry (Click this link <https://youtu.be/9rm9btmJavU> for his life story)

- If we simply go by our feelings and make no firm plans or commitments to sharing our faith with others, invariably weeks and months will go by without us encouraging anyone to come to Christ

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint;
But happy is he who keeps the law.” **(Proverbs 29:18)**

- What regular outreach initiatives may God be putting on your heart to do in this season? **A season for evangelism**

- Who may God be putting on your heart to reach out to with the gospel message?
- May I encourage you to wholeheartedly commit to what God may be putting on your heart to do AND SIMPLY MAKE PLANS TO SEE THOSE THINGS COMING PASS!

AND

6) JUST BELIEVE THAT YOUR LIFE CAN MAKE A GREAT ETERNAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MANY IF YOU ARE SIMPLY PREPARED TO BREAK OPEN YOUR LIFE FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST

- As Christians we can make a great difference in our world at a time when so many people are searching for genuine hope
- Just believe that your life can make a great eternal difference in the lives of many in the coming days

- The bible makes it clear that as believers we have the potential to make a great difference in our world for eternity if we are simply prepared to live wholeheartedly for the Cause of Christ

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” (**Ephesians 3:20**)

The word of the LORD came to the Prophet Jeremiah in prison, “Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” (**Jeremiah 33:3**)

I will now conclude with one final thought;

- **God does not look at our ability. He will always anoint and empower us to do all those things that He calls us to do in life**

| |
|--|
| - All God is looking for is our availability |
|--|

- Are we available to be used by Him to help see others come to Christ?
- If we are, He will use us in a great way for His glory!

In the book of Isaiah, we read the words of the prophet Isaiah, “Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying:

“Whom shall I send,

And who will go for Us?”

Then I said, ‘Here am I! Send me.’”

(Isaiah 6:8)

- May I encourage you to also take after the prophet Isaiah by responding to God's call upon your life. That you would make the most of your life here on earth by having a mission focus so that one day you will hear the words from Jesus, "Well done my good and faithful servant"

I will now look at the 12 aspects of sharing our faith in turn:

1) Praying for divine appointments

Prayer is a great key to being fruitful in our evangelism outreaches. Prayerless people are powerless. Before going out to evangelise we need to pray for Divine appointments and for God to prepare the hearts of those that we will be ministering to so that they will be open to receiving the gospel message and the tracts that we will be handing out.

Prayer involves God in our evangelism outreaches. (Acts 4:23-31) This is a great key to seeing fruit in our evangelism outreaches. *We need to pray in the harvest.*

Prayer also helps to prepare our hearts and to get us in tune with God's heart for people. Prayer is the key to seeing revival in our nation. We need to pray for God to give us His love for the people that we are ministering to.

In the book of 2 Chronicles we read,

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

(2 Chronicles 7:14)

We need to always pray that the Holy Spirit will anoint our words and direct our conversations when we are witnessing to others. God knows the hearts and needs of all people. Before preaching we need to invite the Holy Spirit to speak through us and to anoint our words.

2) Understanding humanity

A great key to effectively preaching to the lost and to sharing our faith with others is to have a clear understanding of Humanity.

In the book of Jeremiah we read,

“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?” **(Jeremiah 17:9)**

BECAUSE OF SIN AND THE FALL OF MAN AND THE CONTINUAL EFFORTS OF THE DEVIL AND HIS FALLEN ANGELS TO DESTROY PEOPLE'S LIVES, MANY PEOPLE LIVE FAR BENEATH THEIR GOD GIVEN DESIGN AND POTENTIAL AND OFTEN SUFFER IN MANY WAYS

I will now look at some of the features of humanity that we need to understand if we are to be effective in our preaching

- i) That without Christ we all have a God shaped vacuum that nothing else can fill. We were made to worship God
- ii) People suffer from many fears (Fear of man, fear of rejection, fear of failure, fear of lack, fear of death and hundreds of other fears)
- iii) Because of the breakdown of families many people carry deep hurts and suffer from rejection. Jesus will reject no person who comes to Him.
- iv) All people have a need to be loved and accepted and will even stay in dysfunctional relationships out of a fear of being alone. Hence peer group pressure can cause people to make wrong choices in life because of their fear of being rejected
- v) That without the Lord, people worry about many things and are anxious about many things. Only putting our entire trust in the Lord can give us true peace
- vi) That people need to have a purpose in life. Where there is no revelation people cast of restraint. God created us for a unique plan and purpose
- vii) That many people have a wrong concept of God,
- viii) That many people (in particular the youth) see no hope or future in life, and
- ix) That people cope with the emptiness of life without Christ in many dysfunctional ways:
 - Drugs, Alcohol, Gambling, Ungodly Relationships, Work holism, Buying things, Partying, Living for pleasure, etc

3) Jesus is the answer

There are many blessing that we receive when we come to Christ.

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” (**Ephesians 1:3**)

- In Christ we have been Chosen (**Ephesians 1:4**), we are Accepted, (**Ephesians 1:6**) we have been Forgiven and we have been adopted into the family of God (**Ephesians 1:5**)
- JESUS is the lover of our soul. Only Jesus can love us perfectly at all times and fill the empty void in our life
- He is the Prince of Peace (**Isaiah 9:6**) (**Isaiah 26:3-4**) The moment we come to Christ we have peace with God

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,” (**Romans 5:1**)

- He is the Healer (**Isaiah 53:5**) (**Psalms 103:3**)

King David wrote,

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits; Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” (**Psalms 103:2-5**)

- He is the Deliverer (**Psalms 34:4**) **God is able to rescue us from harm or danger. Jesus has saved us from sin and death**

King David wrote,

“I sought the LORD, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.” (**Psalms 34:4**)

- He binds up and heals the broken hearted. **(Luke 4:18)** Jesus is able to heal the hearts of those who have been rejected or mistreated in life

In the gospel of Luke, we read the words of Jesus as He read out part of the book of Isaiah that related to Him,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me. Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed.” **(Luke 4:18)**

- He sets at liberty those oppressed by the Devil **(Luke 4:18)** He who the Son sets free is free indeed
- He will never leave nor forsake us **(Hebrews 13:5)**

In the book of Hebrews we read,

“...For He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we may boldly say: ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?’” **(Hebrew 13:5-6)**

- He has a plan for our life that is full of purpose **(Ephesians 2:10)**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” **(Ephesians 2:10)**

Jesus Himself said, “... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” **(John 10:10)**

- As believers we can tap into all of God’s promises in His word, **(2 Corinthians 1:20)** including answered prayer **(Mark 11:22-24)** **(1 John 5:14-15)**
- When we put Christ first in our life, we can be assured that God promises to meet our ever need in life **(Matthew 6:31-33)**

Jesus Himself said, “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” **(Matthew 6:31-33)** **And**

- We have eternal life. **(John 3:16)** To be absent from the body as a believer is to be with Jesus. Death no longer has any sting

Jesus Himself said, “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” **(John 14:1-3)**

All that we truly need in life is found in Christ

4) The simple gospel message (The gospel of grace)

ETERNAL LIFE IS A FREE GIFT

The Apostle Paul wrote, “The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **(Romans 6:23b)**

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” **(Ephesians 2:8-9)**

BECAUSE ETERNAL LIFE IS A GIFT, WE CANNOT EARN IT NOR DO WE DESERVE IT

The bible says that no amount of personal effort, doing good things, or even being religious, can earn eternal life:

“It is the gift of God, NOT OF WORKS, lest anyone should boast.” **(Ephesians 2:8c-9)**

IF GOD DID NOT OFFER EACH OF US A PLACE IN HEAVEN AS A GIFT,
NO-ONE WOULD GET THERE, BECAUSE

EVERYONE HAS SINNED

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
(Romans 3:23)

“There is none righteous, no, not one;” **(Romans 3:10a)**

In the book of Isaiah we read, “But we are all like an unclean thing,
And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;” **(Isaiah 64:6a)**

In the book of Jeremiah we read, “The heart is deceitful above all
things, And desperately wicked; ...” **(Jeremiah 17:9)**

Again, in the book of Isaiah we read, “All we like sheep have
gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the
LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” **(Isaiah 53:6)**

We all have our own standards for what sin is. But when it comes
to heaven, only God’s standard is relevant. To God, **hate and lust**
are sins just as much as murder or adultery, because both express
selfishness and ignorance of His Law.

The greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart,
soul, mind and strength, and to care for others as much as we care
for ourselves. Every time we fail to love in this manner, we are
sinning. That is why the Bible says: “For all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God.” **(Romans 3:23)**

WE CAN DO NOTHING TO SAVE OURSELVES

The reason we cannot save ourselves is because we all miss the
mark and fall short of God’s standard of absolute perfection.

Jesus said, “Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in
heaven is perfect.” **(Matthew 5:48)**

No matter how good we are, any sin, no matter how trivial it may appear to be, spoils the perfection that God requires.

In the book of James we read, “For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.” (James 2:10)

Whilst some people are better than others, being better is not good enough. It is like two people trying to jump across a deep chasm. If one falls only a couple of feet short of the other side, he is no better off than the other who only makes it half way.

BECAUSE WE HAVE ALL SINNED, NONE OF US ARE ABLE TO SAVE OURSELVES. NO ONE WOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH TO GET TO HEAVEN.

HOWEVER, IN CHRIST, GOD OFFERS US ETERNAL LIFE AS A FREE GIFT.

Why should God offer anyone the gift of eternal life?

BECAUSE GOD IS LOVING AND MERCIFUL. HE DOES NOT WANT TO PUNISH US

“The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works.” **(Psalm 145:8-9)**

“For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.” **(Psalm 100:5)** “For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm.” **(Joel 2:13c)**

Jesus Himself said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” **(Romans 5:6-8)**

In fact, the bible says, “... for God is love.” **(1 John 4:8)**

HOWEVER, BECAUSE GOD IS PERFECTLY JUST, HE MUST ALSO PUNISH SIN

God’s love does not overrule His justice.

“Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.” **(Deuteronomy 32:3b-4)**

“For I will not justify the wicked.” **(Exodus 23:7c)**

“I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity;” **(Isaiah 13:11)** “**And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.**” (Hebrews 9:27)

IF GOD WAS TO OVERLOOK OUR SIN BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE, HE WOULD NO LONGER BE JUST. HIS LAW IS PERFECT AND HIS SENTENCE HAS BEEN PASSED... “THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH” (Romans 6:23a)

HOWEVER, GOD HAS BROUGHT HIS LOVE AND HIS JUSTICE TOGETHER IN THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

THE BIBLE MAKES IT CLEAR THAT JESUS IS GOD

JESUS WAS FULLY GOD YET ALSO FULLY MAN

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” **(John 1:1&14)**

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” **(Matthew 1:23)**

JESUS CHRIST CAME INTO THE WORLD TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR SINS AND TO FULFIL GOD’S JUSTICE

WITHOUT CHRIST, EACH ONE OF US WOULD STAND CONDEMNED BEFORE GOD BECAUSE OF OUR SINS. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF HIS GREAT LOVE FOR US, HE HAS PUT OUR SINS ONTO JESUS.

- **Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and to fulfil God’s justice**
- **He was buried, but death could not hold Him down**
- **On the third day He arose from the dead and is alive forevermore**
- **Jesus gives the gift of eternal life to all those who RECEIVE Him (believe in Him)**
- **This is why we celebrate Easter**

This is the simple gospel message which must be preached to the unbelievers. (Refer to Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 1:17-24, Acts 8:4-8 and 1 Corinthians 2:1-5) “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” **(Romans 5:8)**

THE DEATH OF JESUS ON THE CROSS HAS REPAIRED OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. WE ALL NOW HAVE A WAY OF COMING INTO HIS PRESENCE, HOLY, PURE AND FAULTLESS

Jesus Himself said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (**John 3:16**)

THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE IS FOR **WHOEVER** BELIEVES IN HIM. **WHOEVER** INCLUDES **YOU!**

YOU CAN RECEIVE THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH FAITH

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (**Ephesians 2:8-9**)

Relying on your own efforts or even human logic, or even religious activity, cannot save you. Faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to be forgiven by God and to receive the gift of eternal life.

HOW DO WE RECEIVE THIS GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE BY FAITH?

WE MUST TRANSFER OUR TOTAL TRUST TO JESUS CHRIST ALONE

We must simply **BELIEVE** what God has done for us, and **ACCEPT** His offer of eternal life and **TRUST** Jesus Christ alone. There is no other way.

WE NEED TO REPENT OF ALL OF OUR SINS

The Apostle Peter preached, “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” (**Acts 3:19**)

REPENTANCE IS LIKE DOING A U-TURN

- 1) It is recognising that we are going in the wrong direction**
- 2) It is owning up to God and asking for His forgiveness, and**
- 3) Choosing to go in the opposite direction – HIS WAY**

TURNING FROM OUR OWN WAY TO GOD'S WAY IS
ACKNOWLEDGING THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD OF
OUR LIFE

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” (**Galatians 2:20**)

GOD KNOWS WHAT IS BEST FOR US.

**WE CAN TRUST HIM TO LEAD US INTO THE FULLNESS OF LIFE
THAT HE WANTS US TO EXPERIENCE.**

Jesus said,

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (**John 10:10**)

ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT SAVED BY DOING GOOD WORKS,
(ETERNAL LIFE IS A FREE GIFT), LIVING IN A WAY THAT IS
PLEASING TO GOD IS EVIDENCE OF OUR NEW LIFE AS A
BELIEVER, AND WILL CONFIRM THAT JESUS CHRIST IS TRULY
LORD OF OUR LIFE

5) The use of ice breakers to start conversations

Following are some things to consider when approaching people:

- i) Be led by the Holy Spirit as to who to approach
- ii) Making a good first impression (friendly / smile)
- iii) Don't be pushy (*Colossians 4:6*)
- iv) Ice Breakers (to help break down any barriers)
- v) Conversation – First the natural and then the spiritual (We need to be first GENUINELY interested in those who we are witnessing to. Wait for the Holy Spirit to direct the conversation to the sharing of our faith)

SOME POSSIBLE ICE BREAKERS TO USE:

- Compliments
- Weather
- Child or Dog (talk about)
- Did you have a good day today?
- Any prayer needs?
- Invite to our church meetings
- An open-ended question such as, “what do you think happens when someone dies?”

6) Some keys to effective one-on-one evangelism

- Firstly, and most importantly we need to have a clear understanding of the gospel message and be able to communicate it to others in an uncomplicated way
- Whenever we share our faith with others it is important to incorporate the message of the cross. It is in sharing the gospel message that people's hearts will be opened to receive Christ (Romans 1:16)
- We need to be led by the Holy Spirit when seeking who to witness to. God knows the heart of every person and who is ready to receive the gospel message. This is a great key to avoiding time wasters

- The importance of making a good first impression. We need to be friendly

- We need to GENUINELY care for people; That those that we witness to must see that we have a genuine interest in their lives

- ASK SOME QUESTIONS THAT WILL CAUSE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT LIFE AND ETERNITY TO HELP LOWER THEIR GUARD. I.e. what do you think happens when you die? Do you believe in an afterlife?
- We need to learn to listen to and pay attention to people. Listening to someone who is sharing their life's struggles with us will so often open their heart to receiving the message of the gospel
- Listening to people is a great key to opening up opportunities for us to share our faith with others. In a world that is becoming more and more impersonal, just to listen to people first is a great key to being effective in sharing our faith with others
- We need to have a genuine love for the people that we are witnessing and preaching to. Otherwise, we are just clanging cymbals (1 Corinthians 13:1)
- It is also important that we do not compete with each other when we go out witnessing in pairs. One can pray whilst the other shares
- We must never perceive that those who are lost are our enemies. God has a great love for all people from all religious and philosophical backgrounds and desires that all would come to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ and be saved
- God simply has a great love for all people. The conversion of the Apostle Paul who was persecuting Christians prior to coming to faith is a perfect example of God's incredible grace and love for all people

- When sharing our faith, it must never be about winning an argument but always about making known the love of God to the people that we are witnessing to and *what Christ has done for them*
- Nothing looks worse than to see a Christian in a heated argument with an unbeliever about their faith. It is the goodness of God that leads people to repentance. (Romans 2:4)
- Sometimes we need to just agree to disagree with someone who is not yet open to receiving the gospel message after we have shared our faith with them
- It is so important that after we have shared our faith with others that we ALWAYS leave on loving terms. We must not bruise the fruit by trying to force our faith on others when they are not yet ready to receive Christ into their hearts and lives
- A good way to finish our witnessing to someone *who is not yet open to receiving Christ* is simply to ask them if we can we pray for them that they would one day know the love of Christ in a real and tangible way
- Most times they will say yes to this question. Again, all that we do must always be motivated by love
- Again, praying for Divine appointments and being led by the Holy Spirit as to who to witness to, is a great key to seeing fruitfulness in our witnessing to others.
- Especially when we are part of an outreach team, it is good to make the most of the time that we are outreaching by only witnessing to those people that God puts on our heart to share our faith with. With Divine appointments people's hearts have usually already been prepared to receive the gospel message when we share our faith with them

- Using ice breakers is a great way of opening up conversations with others
- Some possible ice breakers to use include: Compliments, commenting on the weather, talking about a person's child or dog, asking for any prayer needs, inviting someone to a special church event, or posing the question, "What do you think happens when someone dies?"

- It is good to first engage in general conversation with the people that we are witnessing to so that they can see that we are genuinely interested in their lives. FIRST the natural and then the spiritual.

- It is important that we are never pushy. As we engage with people in conversation, we will invariably see God turning the conversation around at the right time so that we can share about the things of God. Again, we must allow the Holy Spirit to direct our conversations,

And

- We need to keep directing the focus of our witnessing back to the fact that only Jesus Christ can save us because we have ALL sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)
- The simple fact is that there is a fight on for every soul and the Devil will continually try and divert the attention of the person that we are witnessing to onto other things

SO HOW CAN WE KEEP POINTING PEOPLE BACK TO THEIR NEED FOR CHRIST when the enemy is trying to draw us into a debate or to take us away from sharing our faith with others. How can we continually keep bringing our conversation with the person that we are witnessing to back to Christ

We can gently do this in a number of ways;

- **By continually letting those that we are sharing our faith with know just how much God loves them and what Jesus did for them by dying on the cross for their sins**

Jesus Himself said, “For God *so loved the world* that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

- **By letting people know that they can have a fresh start to life today and that God will completely forgive them of all their sins if they come to Christ. That God is the God of second and third and fourth chances. That God is able to restore broken lives. (Psalm 103:2-5)**

King David wrote, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, And **forget not all His benefits; Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, **who redeems your life from destruction**, Who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” (Psalm 103:2-5)**

- **By emphasising that where we spend eternity is the most important thing in life and how Jesus Christ gave His life for them as God’s desire is truly that none would perish**

Jesus Himself said, “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matthew 16:26)

- **That we make it clear that we all miss the mark of sinless perfection which is the entry requirement for heaven. (Matthew 5:48) (See also James 2:10) That none of us have and can ever lead a sinless life. That only Jesus can forgive us of our sins**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“As it is written, “There is *none righteous*, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; *There is none who does good, no, not one.*”
(Romans 3:10a-12)

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”
(Romans 3:23)

In the book of Jeremiah we read,

“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?” **(Jeremiah 17:9)**

In the book of Acts we read,

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”
(Acts 4:12)

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,” **(1 Timothy 2:4)**

- **That we let people know that God has a unique plan for every person’s life that begins the moment they come to Christ. A plan that is full of purpose and meaning**

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” **(Ephesians 2:10)**

And

- **THAT WE EMPHASISE HOW THE BIBLE MAKES IT CLEAR THAT GOD WILL MEET OUR EVERY NEED IN LIFE WHEN WE PUT JESUS CHRIST FIRST IN OUR LIFE. (Philippians 4:19)
(Matthew 6:33)**

As we listen to people we can encourage and comfort them as they share about their needs, fears and concerns in life with us, by letting them know what the bible says about God's faithfulness and what He can do for them in life

➤ ***That no situation is ever impossible for God.*** That He is both willing and able to help us in time of need. That “For with God nothing will be impossible.” (Luke 1:37) That as believers we have a God who both hears and answers prayers that are in line with His will for our life. (1 John 5:14-15) God always knows what is best for us.

➤ ***That God promises to meet our every need in life when we put Christ first place in our life (Physical, Emotional and Spiritual)***

Jesus Himself said, “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:31-33)

King David wrote, “A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; ...” (Psalm 68:5-6)

“O GOD, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for you; My flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips.” (Psalm 63:1-5)

- **That God will connect us with good friends and the right people in life to help us to fulfil our God given destiny**
- **That God knows our every need in life even before we ask Him (Matthew 6:32)**
- **That Jesus came that we might have life and that we might have it more abundantly; that we can live a life that is full of purpose and meaning (John 10:10)**
- **That Jesus will never leave nor forsake those who come to Him. (Hebrews 13:5) We can therefore have great stability in our life**
- **That God is able to resurrect the broken dreams in our life (Psalm 103:2-5) (2 Corinthians 5:17)**

King David wrote,

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits; Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” (Psalm 103:2-5)

- **That though the Christian Walk is challenging at times the Lord promises to be with us each and every step of the way (Matthew 28:20)**

Jesus Himself said, “... and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen (Matthew 28:20)

And

- **That one day the best is yet to come when we have an eternal home with Jesus (John 14:3)**

Jesus Himself said,

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” **(John 14:1-3)**

AS WE CONTINUALLY SHARE ABOUT GOD’S LOVE AND CONCERN FOR ALL PEOPLE AND HOW HE IS CONTINUALLY FAITHFUL TO THOSE WHO PUT THEIR FAITH AND TRUST IN HIM, WE CAN BEGIN TO CONVINCE PEOPLE OF HOW WISE AND IMPORTANT IT IS TO COME TO CHRIST.

JESUS IS THE ONLY HOPE FOR HUMANITY. THIS IS ESPECIALLY THE CASE WHEN A PERSON TAKES THEIR LAST BREATH

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” **(Acts 4:12)**

- **As we begin to prepare to lead a person to Christ, we can then let them know that we all have a God shaped vacuum which only God can fill**
- **That without Christ we are separated from God’s presence and that no other thing, career or person can ever fill that void in our life**
- **That there is great joy in heaven over even one sinner that repents and comes to Christ and that Jesus will never reject anyone that comes to Him (Luke 15:7) (John 6:37)**
- **AT THIS TIME IT IS THEN GOOD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL MESSAGE WITH THOSE THAT WE ARE WITNESSING TO**

- It is in the sharing of the gospel message that people's hearts are opened to receive Christ into their lives. This is God's saving grace that comes upon people as they hear the gospel message.

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” **(Romans 1:16)**

FOLLOWING ARE THREE EXAMPLES OF HOW WE COULD SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH OTHER PEOPLE THAT WE ARE WITNESSING TO.

EXAMPLE ONE (Short presentation):

God's heart is to have a loving relationship with every person in the world. God's desire is that every person would live a life that is full of great purpose and meaning and have eternal life.

However, it is our sin that separates us from a Holy God. But because of His great love for us God sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world to reconcile us back to Himself. **Jesus Christ Himself said**, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” **(John 3:16)**

Because of His great love for you and me Jesus Christ willing died on the cross at Calvary to pay the penalty for all of our sins. But death could not hold Him; Three days later He arose triumphantly from the grave and is alive forever more. Today Jesus Christ is reaching out to you and knocking on the door of your heart. Today you can open the door of your heart to Him and receive the gift of eternal life.

EXAMPLE TWO

(Goodness of God focus using some key scriptures):

God's desire is that you would not only have a fulfilled life here on earth, but that you would also have an eternal home with Him.

Jesus Himself said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” **(John 3:16)**

God loves ALL people and desires to have a relationship with each and every one of us, no matter how many mistakes that we may have made in the past. Because of God’s great love for us and Jesus Christ’s willingness to die on the cross for our sins, we can receive God’s forgiveness by coming to Christ, so that we can have eternal life and a future that is full of purpose and meaning.

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die, yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

(Romans 5:6-8)

Jesus Christ loves you with a passion. This is why He bled and died on the cross at Calvary to pay the penalty for all of our sins. But death could not hold Him down; Three days later Jesus Christ arose triumphantly from the dead and is alive forevermore. Today Jesus Christ is knocking on the door of your heart. Today you can open your heart to Him and receive the gift of eternal life

EXAMPLE THREE

(Incorporating the reality of both heaven and hell):

Where we spend eternity is the most important thing. Jesus made it clear that there is only one way to get to heaven.

Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life, No one comes to the Father except through Me.” **(John 14:6)** He also said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, **though he may die, he shall live.** And whoever lives and believes in Me **shall never die...**” **(John 11:25-26)**

Only Jesus Christ can forgive us of our sins.

The simple fact is that we have all made mistakes in life. None of us are perfect. The bible makes this very clear.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” **(Romans 3:23)** “As it is written: “There is none righteous, no not one;”” **(Romans 3:10)**

FOR THIS REASON, WE MUST ALL PERSONALLY RECEIVE THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE BY OPENING UP OUR HEART TO JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM OUR OWN PERSONAL LORD AND SAVIOUR DURING OUR TIME HERE ON EARTH.

The Apostle Paul also wrote, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **(Romans 6:23)**

JESUS CHRIST CHOSE TO LEAVE HEAVEN FOR 33 YEARS TO RECONCILE US BACK TO GOD. HE DIED ON THE CROSS AT CALVARY TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR OUR SINS, but three days later He arose triumphantly from the dead. Jesus is alive and back in Heaven and is coming back soon.

ONLY JESUS CHRIST CAN SAVE US FROM OUR SINS.

No one except Jesus Christ has ever led a sinless life.

The simple fact is that we have all lied at some time in our life, lusted after other people, or gossiped about others. None of us have or can keep God's standard of sinless perfection ALL the time.

That is why we must all personally turn from our sin and come to Jesus Christ with a humble heart to receive His forgiveness and His righteousness.

Jesus Himself said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, **(A Believer)** he cannot see the Kingdom of God." **(John 3:3)**

All who reject Jesus will be accountable for their own sins when they are resurrected in the body to face Him (God) at the final judgement.

The final ***destiny for all unbelievers*** is the Lake of fire into which the Devil, the False Prophet the Anti-Christ and other fallen angels are also cast. **(Revelation. 20:10-15) THIS IS NOT GOD'S DESIRE THOUGH.**

Jesus loves you with a passion. Today He stands knocking at the door of your heart. Today the sinless blood that He shed on the cross at Calvary for all people can wash *all of your sins away*. **Today you can turn from your sins and open your heart to Jesus Christ and accept His gift of eternal life.**

Finally, just invite them to pray with you. Let them know that you would love to see them experience the peace and joy in their heart and the purpose that comes from being in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

AT THIS TIME, YOU CAN THEN LEAD THEM THROUGH THE SINNERS PRAYER

Following is one suggested example of a sinner's prayer;

Dear Father God today I turn from my sins to live for You. I believe that Jesus Christ died for all my sins and arose from the dead three days later. Today I invite Jesus Christ to come into my heart and life to be my Lord and Saviour and best friend from this day on. Fill me with the Holy Spirit I pray in Jesus Name, Amen.

AGAIN, just one final key to being effective in witnessing to and preaching to others is memorizing scriptures

The more scriptures that we memorise the more effective we will be in sharing our faith with others. Including scriptures when witnessing to others, helps to build up their faith so that they are able to give their hearts to Jesus Christ.

Especially when street preaching without notes, it is important that we have memorised plenty of Scriptures so that our messages are effective and powerful. (John 8:31-32)

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” **(Romans 10:17)**

- **PRACTICAL EXERCISE:** Split into pairs. One person is to take on the role of the person being witnessed to and the other the role of sharing their faith with that person. Spend 3-5 minutes sharing your faith. Then swap roles

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.” **(Proverbs 11:30)**

7) Twelve tips for effective street preaching

i. Make your love for Christ the greatest priority in life.

We need God's compassion when preaching

King David wrote, “Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.” (**Psalm 37:4**)

In the gospel of Matthew we read, “Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” (**Matthew 9:35-36**)

ii. The importance of memorising Scriptures

The LORD said to Joshua, “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” (**Joshua 1:8**)

The Psalmist wrote, “Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.” (**Psalm 119:11**)

- **When street preaching, we do not have notes**
- **For this reason, the more scriptures that we have memorised, the more we can incorporate the word of God in our street preaching**

- **This is a great key to preaching powerful messages**

Jesus Himself said, “If you abide in My word you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (**John 8:31-32**)

The Apostle Paul wrote, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (**Romans 10:17**)

iii. **Spend time thinking through messages to preach in street outreaches (This gives us many little messages that the Holy Spirit can draw upon when we are preaching)**

iv. **The importance of being continually filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit**

- We must always preach out of the overflow of the Holy Spirit in our lives
- As we give out, we must continually be filled afresh with the Holy Spirit
- It is so important that we minister the word of God and preach the gospel message in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- It is the anointing that breaks the yokes of bondage in people's lives and sets the captives free

The Apostle Paul wrote, "I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." **(1 Corinthians 2:3-5)**

The Apostle Paul also wrote,

"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit," **(Ephesians 5:18)**

"that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." **(Ephesians 3:17-19)**

Jesus Himself said, "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life." **(John 6:63)**

v. Before commencing an evangelism outreach, ask the Lord for any theme that He may have for the night for us to preach on

- **LORD is there any theme that you want me to preach on tonight? If so, we can then think through and prepare some messages to preach during the outreach**

In the book of Proverbs we read, “Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established.” (Proverbs 16:3)

In the book of James we read, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” (James 1:5)

vi. Spend quality time praying before heading out to preach in the streets. Following are some important prayers to pray:

- For God to place in our heart all the messages that He wants us to preach during the street outreaches
- If there will be any particular healing needs during the outreach
- For God to give us His great love for all the people that we will be preaching to
- For God to prepare the hearts of all those who will hear the messages to receive the message of the gospel
- For God to keep away all contentious people and for God’s favour from all people
- For God’s tangible presence and power and love to be manifest in our outreach meetings
- For God’s warring angels to continually surround all of our team members, especially when going to darker areas

- Most importantly, for the Holy Spirit to take over our mouth and to speak through us
- For God to bring the right people, at the right time, to hear the right messages, when we are preaching in the streets, and
- Finally, committing the street outreach into the Lord's hands and praying that the Holy Spirit would have His way in all that we do from the moment we commence the outreach
- **PRAYER INVOLVES GOD IN OUR OUTREACHES. IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE ARE ALWAYS GOD DEPENDENT IN ALL THAT WE DO IN LIFE AND MINISTRY**

Keys one to six are very much about preparation before we go out to commence an evangelism outreach meeting

- Given the value of every soul to God, it is worth being excellent in preparing for our street preaching messages
- I am continually thinking through messages to preach to help see people come to Christ and to encourage believers, as I look at the struggles that many are now going through in life
- **HAVING A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF HUMANITY HELPS US TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN OUR STREET PREACHING**
- For example, when preaching to the poor, I can share about the joy and peace and purpose that we can always still have when we love God with all our heart and about the wonderful ETERNAL future that we have in Christ
- I can also share about the power of prayer to change our circumstances and the faithfulness of God
- To the lonely I can share about the wonderful friendship that we can have with God when we come to Christ

The next six keys now relate to how we can be effective in street preaching when we COMMENCE to do so

- vii. Spend some time worshipping the Lord before commencing preaching.** (This is a great key to touching God's heart and to getting His love for the people that we are about to preach to)

The words in one song are "Touching heaven changing earth." God inhabits the praises of His people

Jesus Himself said,

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (**John 4:23-24**)

- viii. As you worship the Lord wait for Him to put on your heart what to commence preaching with** (A theme, or a Scripture to start with - i.e. God has such a great love for all people, or John 3:16)

Again, King David wrote, "Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart." (**Psalm 37:4**)

- ix. After you have commenced preaching with the theme or Scripture that God has put on your heart to start with, then let the Holy Spirit take over and direct the message**

Jesus said,

"Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist." (**Luke 21:14-15**)

x. After beginning preaching listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit who will direct our thoughts as He preaches through us

Jesus said, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” (John 14:26)

- As we preach, we need to continually listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit who gently impresses upon our minds the next progression of thoughts to preach on**
- It is as we communicate these thoughts that we find the Holy Spirit directing our preaching**
- As we let go and allow the Holy Spirit to minister through us, the message will flow from our heart as we simply follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we preach**
- One great key to being sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading when preaching is to fast before we preach**
- The real power in our preaching is when we preach the word of God in the power of the Holy Spirit, as we let go and allow the Holy Spirit to minister through us**

Again, the Apostle Paul wrote, “And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.” (1 Corinthians 2:4)

xi. Looking at people as you are preaching in the streets, as the Holy Spirit directs and directing the message to them. The message to them will be relevant for many others as well when we are preaching to large crowds

- As we preach in the streets it is good to speak directly to different people as the Holy Spirit leads rather than just preaching to the air**

- **It is in directing our preaching to specific individuals that we will often invariably share a word of knowledge or wisdom, that helps to open their hearts to the gospel message**

And

- xii. **Draw the messages that you preach in the streets to a close by giving people the opportunity of giving their lives to Jesus by sharing the gospel message and praying the sinner's prayer, or if preaching in a crusade, inviting people to respond to an alter call**

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” **(Romans 1:16-17)**

FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLE SINNERS PRAYER

Dear Father God today I turn from my sins to live for You. I believe that Jesus Christ died for all my sins and arose from the dead three days later. Today I invite Jesus Christ to come into my heart to be my Lord and Saviour and best friend from this day on. Please baptize me now in the Holy Spirit I pray in Jesus Name, Amen.

8) Sharing our testimony

Sharing our testimony is a powerful way to witness to others. When we share with others how Christ has changed our life and where He has taken us from, it opens up the door to share the gospel message with them.

No one can argue about a life that has been transformed through Jesus Christ coming into their life.

In the book of Revelation we read, “And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” (Revelation 12:11)

We all have a testimony to share of how Jesus Christ has made a big difference in our lives. When we have Divine appointments with others that we are witnessing to, we will find that our testimony of how Christ has changed our lives will so often be relevant to what is happening in their own personal lives. This will then so often lead to them also accepting Jesus Christ into their heart to be their own personal Lord and Saviour.

When sharing our testimony, it is good to include the following:

- What life was like before we came to Christ
- How we came to know Christ as our Lord and Saviour
- How Christ has changed our life and the way that we now live, and
- How living for Christ has given us greater purpose and meaning in life

PRACTICAL EXERCISE: Split into pairs and prayerfully put together a brief outline of your testimony of coming to faith and how Christ has changed your life. (5-10 key points) Take ten minutes to do this. Then share your own personal testimony (3-5 minutes) with each other in turn

SOME TIPS TO PREPARING YOUR PERSONAL STORY (TESTIMONY)

- i. Pray as you prepare and put together your testimony. Pray also before you share your story (testimony) with others by asking the Holy Spirit to speak through you as you share your testimony with others**
- ii. Prepare your testimony so that a non-Christian will understand how Jesus has changed your life**

- iii. Avoid too much detail about the bad things in your past that might tend to glorify sinful exploits or cause people to judge you**
- iv. In telling how you came to know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour say it in a way that others can imitate when they decide to trust in Him**
- v. You may include some short bible verses that complement your testimony and help give clarity to what you are sharing with others. "... Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17)**
- vi. Try to use common, non-church words as much as possible when sharing with unbelievers. Avoid using Biblical or religious terms such as "born again," "washed in the Blood," "saved" and "alleluia" which they may not understand. We need to learn to be naturally spiritual**
- vii. Avoid speaking negatively about any other religion, especially the religion that you may have followed before coming to Christ**
- viii. Focus on what Christ has done in YOUR life, not on the errors of your former faith. Speaking negatively about other religions can be a barrier to others coming to Christ. Keep focused on sharing how Jesus Christ has transformed your life**
- ix. Conclude your testimony naturally by saying something like "I hope that my testimony has been an encouragement for you," and**
- x. You may then like to invite people to share in your own experience of accepting Jesus Christ into your life by giving them the opportunity of making Him their own personal Lord and Saviour in their life.**

9) Using gospel tracts to evangelise others

Gospel tracts are a great tool to use to help unbelievers to come to Christ. For new believers, giving out gospel tracts is a great way for them to share their faith with others whilst they are growing themselves in their own faith.

It is always good to have some gospel tracts with us so that we are able to give tracts to people that we may meet who are searching for answers in life, or who are experiencing great trials and challenges in their life. *This is especially the case for those who travel a lot.* It is so important that we are always prepared to share our faith, in season and out of season.

Gospel tracts are great to use:

- To letter box drop homes and businesses. (Letter box dropping gospel tracts is particularly effective in areas which have older residents)
- As part of evangelism outreaches
- To leave with people when you are short of time
- To help explain the gospel to unbelievers
- To leave with our unsaved family members and friends to look at, and
- To give out to people when you are not really in a talking mood

Some reasons why Gospel Tracts are so good to use in evangelising:

- Short messages can go a long way in turning people to the Lord. (Jonah's eight-word sermon is a great example – Jonah 3:4-5)
- God planted a tract for Hudson Taylor to read at the age of 17 and he planted the Gospel for over 50 years for the millions in China

- Tracts go everywhere and they are found in many places such as letterboxes, phone booths, buses, businesses, bathrooms, trains, planes, schools and universities, etc
- Tracts can do the witnessing for us at a time and place that may suit the reader, and
- Tracts don't get into arguments; they just state their case and leave the results to the Lord

Tracts are a great tool for those who are regular train commuters or who travel a lot. There are always many opportunities on the train or planes to connect with unbelievers and to give out tracts

Following are some practices that can help you to become more effective in distributing tracts to people in street outreaches;

- Become familiar with the content of the tract that you are handing out. It is good to have a tract that is very clear and concise in its content and easily understood by unbelievers *AND that you feel good about distributing*
- Share a little about the content of the tract with those that you are giving the tract to. This can help the reader to more fully embrace the message on the tract
- It is good to also point people to where the sinner's prayer is located for those *that we spend some time talking to during our outreaches*. Often at this time you can then suggest to them that now would be a good time for them to say this prayer; that there is no better day than "today" for them to start their new life with Christ
- Share as the Holy Spirit leads some encouraging words when you are handing out the gospel tracts to people. This can help those who are going through struggles to receive the gospel tracts

- Sometimes the most effective way to distribute tracts is to just leave them in the hands of the people that you have given them to without saying anything. Then as they read the tracts the Holy Spirit will begin to minister to them, and
- Just a few things that can help us to distribute tracts more effectively are;
 - ❖ Being always enthusiastic and friendly when handing out tracts to others.
 - ❖ Having worship music in the background during our outreaches. Worship helps to open up the heavens and makes people more receptive to receiving the gospel tracts
 - ❖ Being led by the Holy Spirit when handing out the tracts. *Especially when you have many people walking towards you in a street outreach* it is good to be led by the Holy Spirit as to who to give the tracts to. Otherwise, we can miss many who may be open to the gospel message
 - ❖ Gently looking at placing the tracts into the hands of those passing by. This helps people to decide to receive the tracts
 - ❖ Positioning yourself in a way that people are coming towards you in street outreaches. Having to move to the left or right to reach out to people tends to cause them to be less open to receiving the gospel tracts
 - ❖ We must refuse to get discouraged when some people reject the gospel tracts but keep smiling. A smile helps to open up people's hearts to receive the tracts
 - ❖ If one or two people say no to receiving tracts, let one or two others pass by before resuming handing out the tracts. There is a sheep factor that so often stops people from receiving tracts. When one says no to receiving the tract those following them will also often say no as well, and

- ❖ Finally, it is important that the tracts that you are handing out have a clear presentation of the gospel message and a sinner's prayer. It is also good to have a website and/or church address on the gospel tract so that people can connect with a local church and with other believers through the tract

10) Continually being motivated by a genuine love for the lost

We need to have a GENUINE love and concern for all people and be genuinely interested in the lives of those people that we are witnessing to.

We must never see people as being just another notch in our evangelical belt. People do not care about how much we know, but they do want to know how much we care for them

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.”

(1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

People respond to genuine love and kindness. Having a genuine love for others is a great key to seeing people's hearts being opened to receive the message of the gospel

During His time here on earth Jesus' life was characterized by the great love and compassion that He had for others. In particular for the lost and the poor and marginalized

In the gospel of Matthew, we see Jesus' great love and concern for the lost, “Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.””
(Matthew 9:35-38)

It is our genuine love for others that will also compel us to share our faith with unbelievers, even when it is inconvenient

11) Depending on the Holy Spirit

It is good to learn as much as we can about how to evangelise more effectively but the most important thing is that we depend on the enabling power of the Holy Spirit when witnessing to others.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” **(1 Corinthians 2:3-4)**

Jesus Himself said, “Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.” **(Luke 21:14-15)**

THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS A BELIEVER TO WITNESS TO OTHERS EFFECTIVELY.

In the book of Acts we read, “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **(Acts 1:8)**

The Holy Spirit gives us both the boldness and wisdom that we need to share our faith with others

For those people who are more shy or introverted by nature, they will find that as they begin sharing their faith with others the Holy Spirit will put the words in their mouth to speak.

I always believe in the importance of preparing for my messages and continually learning how to become more effective in sharing my faith with others.

Often, I will look at passages of Scripture in the bible and spend time working through in my mind how I can effectively share the wisdom in these scriptures with those that I will be witnessing to and preaching to at our evangelism outreaches.

There is no greater cause than helping people to come to Christ. Given the value of every soul to God it is good to give our best in preparing for our street outreaches

HOWEVER, once I begin sharing my faith with someone, I allow the Holy Spirit to direct my conversations.

As I listen to the person that I am witnessing to, I also listen to what the Holy Spirit may be putting on my heart to share with that person. God knows how best to reach out to people with His love and will give us the keys to help us to see someone coming to faith in Christ.

The right questions or a word of knowledge given by the Holy Spirit to us will often be the way in which a person begins to open up their heart to Jesus Christ.

It is the Holy Spirit ministering through us that will convict people of their need to come to Christ as we share the gospel with them.

Jesus Himself said, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.” **(John 16:7-11)**

Being led by the Holy Spirit as to who to witness to is also a great key to bearing much fruit in our Christian Walk.

God knows the hearts of all people and who are ready to receive Christ into their hearts and lives. It is in witnessing to those who the Holy Spirit directs us to that will enable us to lead many to Christ.

There is always a right time as well to share our faith with our family members and friends. Until that time comes, we need to simply keep living out the Christian life in the way that we live our lives and love others. (Lifestyle Evangelism)

When the time is right to share our faith with a person, it is so often just minutes before they come to Christ.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to minister through us in our witnessing to others, we will always find that we minister the truth of the gospel in a way that is ungirded by love. The Apostle Paul emphasised the importance of “...speaking the truth in love...” (Ephesians 4:15)

BEING CONTINUALLY FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A KEY TO BEING EFFECTIVE IN WITNESSING TO OTHERS ON A CONSISTENT BASIS (In season and out of season)

The Apostle Paul wrote, “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,” **(Ephesians 5:18)**

In the book of Acts we see that after being threatened for speaking and teaching in the name of Jesus, the disciples turned to God in prayer and were again filled afresh by the Holy Spirit.

After this they again began to speak the word of God with boldness.

We see this in Acts 4:31

“And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.”
(Acts 4:31)

AND

12) The importance of commitment in sharing our faith with others

We must simply be committed to going and sharing our faith with others. Bottom line we need to just reach out and share our faith with others that God puts on our heart to share our faith with.

This may at times interfere with our own plans.

We need to simply respond to Jesus great commission by reaching out to the lost with the gospel message.

Jesus Himself said, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15)

We all have a mission’s field. Everywhere we go we will have opportunities to share our faith with others. This is why the great revivalist John Wesley said my parish is the whole world.

Given the glorious hope that we have in Christ, how we need to share the gospel with all those that God would put on our heart to share it with. We must simply choose to be missions minded and to be available to be used of God to share our faith with others.

The great German evangelist Reinherd Bonnke who saw 80 million conversions through his ministry was quoted as saying;

"Some Christians wait to evangelize till times seem better. The best time is for the worst times. "Today is the day of salvation". Today is always the most opportune day. The Holy Spirit is never on vacation. Many are always preparing.

The best way to prepare for evangelism is to do it. Conferences, seminars, prolonged prayer sessions may be excellent but they often produce only perpetual students, not witnesses, too busy learning how than to actually do it. Turning things over in our mind plows no fields. Jesus was unhurried but always urgent. His word was to preach "while it is day, for the night comes when no one can work..." God bless you."

I will now finish by looking at the life of a man who truly knew the value of every soul to God

JOHN HARPER (A true hero of the faith)

- John Harper was born to a pair of solid Christian parents on May the 29th, 1872
- On the last Sunday of March 1886, when 13 years old, John Harper received Jesus as the Lord of his life
- Four years later at the age of 17, John Harper began preaching in the streets of his village pouring out his soul to see lost people come to Christ
- As John Harper's life unfolded, he was consumed by a passion to read and to preach the Word of God
- After five or six years of toiling on street corners preaching the gospel and working in a mill during the day, John Harper started his own church in September of 1896.
- This church started with just 25 members and over the next 13 years grew to 500 members

- During this time John Harper got married but shortly after was widowed. However, during this brief marriage God blessed him with a beautiful little girl named Nana.
- Ironically, John Harper almost drowned on three occasions
- When two and a half years of age, he almost drowned when he fell into a well but his mother resuscitated him
- At the age of 26 he was swept out to sea by a reverse current and barely survived
- And if this was not enough, at the age of 32 he faced death on a leaking ship in the Mediterranean.
- It was like God was preparing him for what would come next
- On the 14th of April 1912 the RMS Titanic was sailing swiftly on the bitterly cold ocean waters
- On board this ship were many rich people
- At 11.40 pm on that fateful night, an iceberg scraped the ships starboard side ripping open six watertight air compartments
- The sea poured in
- On board the ship that night was John Harper and his much beloved six-year-old daughter Nana
- According to documented reports as soon as it became apparent the boat was about to sink, he immediately took his daughter to a lifeboat
- It is reasonable to assume that this widowed preacher could also have easily got on board this lifeboat and been saved
- However, this thought never crossed John Harper's mind
- He bent down and kissed his precious little girl; looking into her eyes he told her that she would see him again someday.

- The flares going off in the dark sky reflected the tears on his face as he turned and headed towards the crowd of desperate humanity on the sinking ocean liner
- As the rear of the huge ship began to lurch upwards, John Harper made his way up the deck yelling, “Women, children and unsaved into the life boats.”
- As the ship began to break in half many people dived into the icy waters. 1528 people went into the frigid waters.
- John Harper was seen swimming frantically to people in the water leading them to Christ before hypothermia became fatal
- John Harper swam up to one young man who had climbed up on a piece of debris
- John Harper between breaths said “Are you saved?” This young man replied no
- Harper then tried to lead him to Christ only to have the young man who was in shock, reply no
- John Harper then took off his own life jacket and threw it to the young man
- A few minutes later John Harper swam back to this young man and led him to Christ
- Of the 1528 people who went into the icy waters that night only six survived. One of them was this young man
- Four years later, at a survivors meeting, this young man stood up in tears and recounted how John Harper had led him to Christ
- Mr Harper had tried to swim back to help others, yet because of the cold had become too weak to swim.
- HIS LAST WORDS BEFORE GOING UNDER IN THE FRIGID WATERS WERE, “**Believe on the Name of the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.**”

APPENDIX ONE – THE IMPORTANCE OF ANOINTED WORSHIP

- A great key to seeing God's presence and power in our outreaches is to play and sing anointed worship songs
- There is a big difference between worship songs with just good lyrics and anointed worship songs
- There is only one thing that the Devil fears and that is the anointing that breaks the yokes of bondage off people's lives and that draws people into the Kingdom of God
- For this reason, it is important to choose the right songs for our outreaches and the right singers to lead the worship. The condition of a singer's heart spiritually will greatly determine the degree of anointing in the worship songs
- Worship songs touch people's hearts. Music has the ability to bypass people's intellects and to touch their hearts
- Worship helps to create an open heaven so that the Holy Spirit is able to move freely in our outreaches and meetings. God inhabits the praises of His people. It is easier to preach the gospel with power when there is an open heaven

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”
(Romans 1:16)

- Anointed worship also helps to break strongholds off people's lives
- Worship also helps to prepare our hearts to preach the gospel message with love and compassion and power
- Anointed worship combined with the preaching of the gospel has the power to change the atmospheres in our outreaches and to bring transformation to our communities as souls are won to Christ

In the book of Act we read,

“Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. AND THERE WAS GREAT JOY IN THAT CITY.” (Acts 8:4-8)

- Anointed worship also helps to prepare people’s hearts to receive gospel tracts and the message of the gospel
- Anointed worship and prayer are great keys to seeing strongholds over areas broken and to seeing an open heaven in our outreaches. Worship also helps our prayers to be Spirit led and powerful (Romans 8:26-27)
- We are living at a time when anointed worship is springing up across the globe. The 2023 Asbury revival was characterised by anointed ongoing worship that touched the world and sparked revivals in other universities
- It is so important that we make worship a lifestyle. That we are also private worshippers. King David was a worshipper and the only man referred to in the bible as being a man after God’s own heart. He wrote in Psalm 63;

“O GOD, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for you; My flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You.” (Psalm 63:1-3)

“My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips.” (Psalm 63:5)

- Worship is also a great key to gaining God's heart of love and compassion for the people that we are ministering to
- Worship and prayer were also great keys to seeing Judah's deliverance from the armies of Moab, Ammon and Mount Seir after they began singing and praising the LORD. We see an account of this in 2 Chronicles chapter twenty verses 21 to 23

- **I WILL NOW FINISH WITH A FEW SCRIPTURES THAT EMPHASISE THE IMPORTANCE OF ANOINTED HEART FELT WORSHIP**

Jesus Himself said, "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (**John 4:23-24**)

King David wrote, "I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High." (**Psalm 9:1-2**)

The Psalmist wrote,

"Oh, sing to the LORD a new song!

Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless His name;

Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day."

(**Psalm 96:1-2**)

King David wrote, "But You are holy

Enthroned in the praises of Israel." (**Psalm 22:3**)

In the book of Acts we see the power of prayer and worship after Paul and Silas had been beaten and imprisoned for their faith, "But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed." (**Acts 16:25-26**)

And finally, the Psalmist wrote, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name." (**Psalm 100:4**)

APPENDIX TWO – PRACTICING GOD’S PRESENCE – A KEY TO MINISTERING WITH GOD’S BOLDNESS AND POWER

- The more intimate we are in our walk with the LORD the more we will experience God’s boldness and power in our own lives
- ***Spending quality time in God’s presence and in His word helps to empower us to live an overcoming and victorious life***
- Spending time in God’s presence also gives us His compassion for the lost which is a great key to preaching the gospel with passion
- Jesus Himself often withdrew to spend time in prayer to His Father in heaven. After spending time in prayer, He came out full of the presence and power of God and as a result performed miracles wherever He went

In the gospel of Luke we read, “However, the report went around concerning Him all the more; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. ¹⁶So He Himself *often* withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.

¹⁷ Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was *present* ^[a]to heal them.” (Luke 5:15-17)

- **Practicing God’s presence is also a great key to seeing an awakening in our nation and revival in the church (We see this in 2 Chronicles 7:14)**

In 2 Chronicles we read, “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14)

- **SPENDING QUALITY TIME WITH THE LORD WITH AN OPEN BIBLE IN THE UNGODLY TIMES THAT WE ARE NOW LIVING IN HELPS US TO LIVE A VICTORIOUS AND OVERCOMING CHRISTIAN LIFE**
- **Practicing God’s presence in our lives is a great key to maintaining;**
 - i. Our first love for Christ
 - ii. A continual love and compassion for others
 - iii. Our passion for the things of God, and
 - iv. The fire in our preaching of the gospel
- **It is also a great key to;**
 - i. Never burning out and becoming jaded in our ministry calling
 - ii. To remaining strong in a world full of temptations and challenges, and
 - iii. To knowing Christ in a real and personal way
- **I will now look at eight scriptures in relation to the importance of believers practicing God’s presence in their lives with an open bible**

In the book of Daniel we read,

“Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.” (**Daniel 11:32**)

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.” (**Ephesians 6:10**)

In the book of Acts we read, “Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.” (**Acts 4:13**)

In the book of Jeremiah we read, “For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD, And has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His word and heard it?” (**Jeremiah 23:18**)

In the book of Isaiah we read, “He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.” (**Isaiah 40:29-31**)

The LORD said to Joshua, “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” (**Joshua 1:8**)

The Apostle Paul wrote, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (**Romans 10:17**)

And finally, Jesus Himself said, “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” (**John 15:4-5**)

- Practicing God’s presence with an open bible helps us to be full of the Holy Spirit and full of the word of God so that we can live our lives in the power of God
- The early church operated in the power of God
- A key feature of the disciples’ lives in the early church was prayer, studying the word of God (the apostles’ doctrine) and practicing the presence of God as they continued daily with one accord in the temple

- **Having regular fellowship with other believers was also a key feature of the early church. Jesus Himself emphasised the importance of having fellowship with other believers when He said, “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20)**
- **We can see the correlation between the disciples consistently practicing God’s presence and ministering in the power of God when we look at the following three passages of Scripture:**
 - “So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” (Acts 2:46-47)
 - “And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch.” (Acts 5:12)
 - “And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, **and they were healed.**” (Acts 5:14-16)
- **How we need to see the church operating again in the power of God with miracles being commonplace**
- **A great key to see this becoming a reality is that we learn to practice the presence of God in our lives and that we build our lives on the foundation of the word of God**
- **Enjoying both corporate worship and an intimate personal devotional life with the Lord helps us to experience God’s presence and power in our own Christian Walk and ministry**

I will finish with the words of Jesus in relation to the power and authority that we all have as believers, “And these signs will follow those who believe: In My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” (Mark 16:17-18)

LINKS TO EVANGELISM TRAINING RESOURCES AND VIDEOS ON THE CHURCH OF HOPE WEBSITE:

To download Evangelism Training Manuals and Teachings:
<https://www.coh.org.au/downloads>

To download the Evangelism Fire (Train the trainers) Workshop PowerPoints / Videos:
https://www.coh.org.au/Workshop_Powerpoints

To download Quick Start Evangelism Training videos / PowerPoints:
https://www.coh.org.au/Quick_Start

To download Evangelism Training Workshop videos:
https://www.coh.org.au/2021_Evangelism_School

To visit our 17-week Evangelism and Ministry Training Course page:
https://www.coh.org.au/ministry_course

To download the PowerPoints for the 17-week Evangelism and Ministry Training Course:
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