Lesson 1

Why Share Our Faith?

*What the Bible says about sharing our faith.*

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ONCE WE KNOW WHY, WE’LL FIND A WAY!

Look up verses in Bible

CALLED TO SHARE
"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." Mark 1:17

Comments
Just as Jesus called the early disciples He calls us to follow Him. As we follow Jesus, He promises to make us “fishers of men”.

It's a process. The early disciples learned from their "mistakes". So will we. Jesus will increase our skills, knowledge, wisdom and discernment as we follow Him in "fishing for men".

COMMANDED TO MAKE DISCIPLES
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matt. 28:19-20

Comments
As we are going about life the church is commanded to make disciples. We are charged to help people begin and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ. One where they learn of Jesus and to follow Jesus according to His teachings in the Bible.

Jesus promises to always be with us as we seek to make disciples. This surely includes witnessing.

THE CURSE
Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him. John 3:36

Comments
Those who have not come to know Jesus by trusting Him alone to be saved will not experience eternal LIFE, now or forever.

Sin condemns us. For the unbeliever, God's wrath (judgment for sin) "remains on him". They are still under God's judgement of sin, destined for eternal separation from Him. A place of agony and torment apart from the love and light of God. (See Luke 16:19-28)
FACING OUR FEARS

By faith, we follow Jesus. Most feel anxious about witnessing but He promises to be with us. Remember, it's a process. One where we learn to trust Him to lead and guide us. One where we learn His discernment. One where we trust in His power to work in the hearts of those we share.

Let’s look at what the Bible says about the benefits we have to offer others.

GOOD NEWS FOR TODAY

Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will share a meal together as friends. Rev. 3:20

I came that they might have life and life to the full. John 10:10

GOOD NEWS FOREVER

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” Rev. 21:3-4

When someone trusts in Jesus and comes into relationship with Him they are saved forever.

They will spend eternity with Him in heaven. A place where there is no more death, mourning, crying or pain!

GOOD’S PROVISION

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have

Consider how God has provided for us to witness. The Holy Spirit empowers, teaches and reminds us of what to say and how to say it.

Then He uses the message to convict of sin and unworthiness and convinces one of their need of a Savior.
said to you. John 14:26

When he [Holy Spirit] comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment. John 16:8

**THE PRIVILEGE**

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ [God's part] and gave us the ministry of reconciliation [Our part]: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors... 2 Cor. 5:18-19

Consider it an honor, a privilege to represent God! We have been committed with the Gospel message. The message to reconcile men and women, boys and girls with their Creator.

Assisting God to help them realize their need of the Savior - Jesus. Helping rescue them from an eternity apart from God.

*How precious you are to God!*  

**THE REAL REASON**

The Lord is at work. As a Christian He has come to live in you by His Holy Spirit. He is influencing you with the desire to help others come to experience what you have in Jesus.

Because of His love, Jesus wants them to experience the benefits of a personal relationship with Him.

He wants to save them from the unnecessary hardships apart from that relationship both now and forever.

**OUR GOAL:**

**TO GRACIOUSLY EXPOSE PEOPLE TO THE GOSPEL MESSAGE LEAVING THE RESULTS TO GOD**

Romans 1:16, Romans 10:17 and 1 Peter 3:15 set the framework for this goal.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes... Romans 1:16

- We’re not ashamed because we know the difference it's made in our lives. And exposing people to the Gospel message allows the power of God to impact their lives and save them for eternity.
So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ. Romans 10:17

- It is by hearing the Good News about Christ is the God's way of giving people faith to believe and make an informed decision.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect... 1 Peter 3:15

- As we pray and watchful for those God brings into our lives, we need to be alert and ready to graciously seek to share the Gospel message respectfully and confidently trusting the Lord with the results.

Let's be intentional in seeking to graciously share the Good News and trusting God to use it as He has chosen for His glory.

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEADING LESSON 1

Use the Leaders Notes to guide the session

Have participants use their Bibles to look up Scriptures

Make comments using notes provided and ask questions to illicit discussion

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