

REACH 101

Lesson One

Our Ultimate Purpose, Our Ultimate Priority, Our Ultimate Practice

Introduction

If someone wants to know what an organization stands for... if someone wants to understand why an organization exists and what that organization expects to accomplish... they would read its _____.

A Mission Statement is a concise, direct summary of an organization's agenda. It describes the all-encompassing focus of an organization's purpose and direction. It answers questions like, "What is the purpose of this organization?" "By what standards will I prioritize my activity?" "To what will I give my attention?" "How will I spend my time, invest my thoughts and share my resources?"

Well, in "The Church", it seems a very wise thing that we would understand our Mission Statement. It only stands to reason that as members of "The Church", as children of God, as a grateful people devoted to the One who died to save us, we would seek to clearly understand what our Mission is.

Scripture gives us several passages that outline these concepts. The Bible clearly outlines for us what Almighty God, what Jesus Christ, and what the Holy Spirit determined to be our ultimate purpose, our ultimate priority and our ultimate practice.

REACH 101 will look at each of those elements that make up the life of the Christian. In Lesson One we will dig into the Scriptures and define those elements and begin the process of applying what we learn to our lives.

I. Our Ultimate Purpose

What does the Bible say is our reason for existence? Why were we created? What has God purposed for our lives? As we look back into the book of Genesis, at the story of the creation of man, we hear God say,

“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness... (Gen 1:26a)”

In this scene we see God creating for Himself a people with which He can _____. He wanted us to enjoy Him and He wants to enjoy us in worship and fellowship. That this is true is further evidenced by the fact that God’s ultimate foe, Satan, directly attacked that reality. The devil deceived Adam and Eve into believing that God was holding out on them and tempted them into sin. The objective of the devil’s temptation and the result of that sin is clear.

“Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God... (Gen 3:7-8)”

The goal was achieved. The relationship between God and His most beloved creation... the people with which He could intimately manifest Himself and be perfectly loved in return... was _____. The devil saw to it that it was broken that he might thwart God’s ultimate purpose for our lives.

From this brief study we can then determine that our ultimate purpose was, and is, to _____.

One of the great creeds of our faith, the Westminster Short Catechism, has as the answer to its first posed question the following; **“Man’s _____ (or ultimate purpose) is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.”**

AMEN! Our ultimate purpose is to glorify God. But what does it mean to glorify God?

The great Christian thinker and writer C.S. Lewis further commented, “The (Westminster Short) Catechism says that man’s chief end is ‘to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.’ But we shall then know that these are the same thing. To fully enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him.”

John Piper further defines it for us. “What does it mean to glorify God? It does not mean to make Him more glorious. It means to acknowledge His glory, and to value it above all things, and to make it known. The chief end of man is to glorify God _____ enjoying Him forever.”

We like to define it this way, “We glorify God by intimately _____ to Him, obediently _____ in our knowledge of Him, and joyfully _____ and _____ Him to the world by everything that we _____, _____ and _____.”

Let’s allow Scripture to bottom-line the discussion:

“You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.” (Revelation 4:11)

“For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” (1 Corinthians 6:20)

“But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 4:7-11)

II. Our Ultimate Priority

Within every purpose are a set of priorities that when followed in the _____, ensure the fulfillment of the purpose.

TWO ILLUSTRATIONS

A vehicle's ultimate purpose is to carry people from one destination to another. To fulfill its purpose there are several priorities to be carried out. Some of them are: accelerating the engine, applying the brakes, steering the wheel and starting the ignition. Obviously, as critical as it is to properly steer a vehicle, if you do not prioritize the starting of the ignition, the steering will be meaningless and the ultimate purpose of the vehicle compromised.

A restaurant's purpose is to profit from the selling of food and the creating of an environment that causes the patrons to want to come back and refer others to it. To fulfill its purpose some of the priorities that must be carried out are cooking food well, purchasing quality products, keeping the restaurant clean, and being customer-focused and friendly. Now in this instance there is less clarity of the top priority as compared to the need to start a car first!

DISCUSSION POINT: What do you think is the highest priority for the restaurant?

The truth is... for every restaurant it might vary between one and another. To know, you would have to read their mission statement! McDonald's would prioritize speed of order delivery and cleanliness. The Roadhouse Grill makes discarded peanut shells an interior design so their priorities would differ.

Over the years there has been much discussion within the church regarding that point for the church. Evangelism? Discipleship? Caring for the poor? It's endless...

QUESTION: Since we know our ultimate purpose is to glorify God, what priority has been given to us to follow first that we might fulfill that purpose?

To know, we must again go to the mission statement... we must go to Scripture and seek to understand God's priorities for our lives. We asked ourselves this question...

“What verses describe what the Trinity considers to be His priority?”

Here is what we found!

1.) JESUS

Luke 19:10 “for the Son of Man _____ seek and to save that which was lost.”

2.) THE HOLY SPIRIT

John 16:8 “And when He _____, _____ convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment...”

3.) GOD THE FATHER

1 Timothy 2:4 “(God) _____ to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

It is abundantly clear... God is on mission! The priority of God's heart, as evidenced throughout the Trinity, is _____ the _____... telling people how to be _____ from their _____... evangelizing the world!

And there was a critical moment in time when Jesus spoke two little words that changed it from being His mission alone to it becoming our mission as well.

Those words? “ _____...”

God's Word is completely consistent. So when we look at a passage where Jesus is asked,

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?”

We can expect His answer to be consistent with what we know these mission statements to bear out. Matthew 22:37-40 records His response.

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall _____ your _____ as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

"On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." What Jesus is saying is, these two commandments provide the _____ of our purpose and priority in life. Everything hangs on what He is about to say. Everything ever written down and everything spoken out can be boiled down to this.

Love God – **GLORIFY HIM!** Love Others – **SAVE THEM!** Is there a more loving thing we can do than share the Gospel? The Bible says _____.

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay one's life down for his friends." (John 15:13)

The Gospel is the ultimate act of love and we are fulfilling our ultimate priority in sharing that Good News.

Listen to these great quotes from great Christians on the subject:

"Some wish to live within the sound of a chapel bell, I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of _____."

– C.T. Studd

"I'd rather have people _____ with the knowledge that I tried to save them."

– Keith Green, Contemporary Christian music artist.

**"If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to hell over _____.
If they will perish, let them perish with _____ about their knees. Let no one go there unwarned and unprayed for."**

– Charles Spurgeon

“Evangelism is not a professional job for a few trained men, but is instead the _____ of every person who belongs to the company of Jesus.”

– Elton Trueblood

“I care not where I go, or how I live, or what I endure so that I may _____ . When I sleep I dream of them; when I awake they are first in my thoughts... no amount of scholastic attainment, of able and profound exposition of brilliant and stirring eloquence can atone for the absence of a deep, impassioned, sympathetic love for human souls.”

– David Brainerd

“You have _____ but save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work.”

– John Wesley

III. Our Ultimate Practice

And as every purpose has a set of necessary priorities, so are there mandatory practices that focus energy and resources to those priorities.

What practices should the church be faithfully following so as to maintain her priorities as she seeks to fulfill her purpose? Once more (and always)... we seek Scripture’s direction.

The last words of Jesus Christ on earth become the benchmark for our understanding.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.”
Matthew 28:19-20

These two verses make up what is called _____
_____. We can chart the verses this way...

(1) **GO** therefore and (2) **MAKE DISCIPLES** of all the nations, (1) **BAPTIZING** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (2) **TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS** that I have commanded you...

In these verses Jesus emphasizes first of all, our ultimate priority...

GO – BAPTIZING!

But then He introduces us to our ultimate practice...

MAKE DISCIPLES – TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS

You are, in fact, taking this course and reading this material because you are choosing to be discipled... you are in the process of “observing all things” and have heeded the call of those two incredible words Jesus spoke on the shore of Galilee and still speaks today, “**Follow Me...**”

Our ultimate practice is to do the same. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:1,

“_____ me as I _____ Christ.”

What a bold and beautiful thing to say. **Question:** Can you say that? **YES** or **NO**

Statement: Our ultimate practice is to _____. Jesus said **M A K E** disciples. Here is an easy way to remember what that means. To MAKE disciples means to ensure they have...

- 1.) A _____ of their ultimate purpose.
(Glorifying God - **WORSHIP**)
- 2.) An _____ of their ultimate priority.
(Sharing their faith - **EVANGELISM**)

3.) The _____ to carry it out.

(Learning ourselves – DISCIPLESHIP)

4.) An _____ of themselves into others' lives.

(Teaching others – DISCIPLESHIP, FELLOWSHIP and MINISTRY!)

“Follow Me... and I will make you fishers of men.”

“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.” (Ephesians 5:1)

What's left to say but...

_____!

A COVENANT WITH GOD

I, _____ covenant with You Lord, to make the ultimate purpose, ultimate priority and ultimate practice of my life those things that you have established in Your Word for my life. I will glorify You! I will prioritize sharing the Good News of Your salvation with those given me to do so and I will grow in this and bring others along in this awesome journey!

Your Signature: _____

REACH 101

Lesson Two

The Roman Road Gospel Presentation

Introduction

In Lesson One we learned what God gave us to be our ultimate purpose, priority and practice. This week we begin learning how to fulfill that ultimate priority by actively sharing our faith.

It is God who draws. It is God who saves. And as you will learn in this lesson, He does this through the vehicle of His Holy Word.

Our goal here in Lesson Two is simple and straightforward... we want to empower you with the Word of God and in Lesson Three we will help you to marry that truth to the truth of your personal testimony. Revelation 12:11 tells us that we who overcome the desire and determination of the devil to keep us out of heaven overcome his schemes and strategies...

“...by the blood of the Lamb and the _____ of their (our)
_____...”

God can get His Word to a lost man in several ways. There are stories of how Bibles left by Gideons in hotel rooms helped many to be saved. We know of a story where a Bible left on top of a pay phone in a prison changed another man's life. The vast majority of the time however, it is a spirit-filled, obedient believer with the Word in his hand **and** in his heart that God uses to bring light into darkness and save souls.

That's the goal of REACH 101. The simple and beautiful Word of God comfortably and powerfully woven together with your story.

Let's get after it!

The Way To God

There is a road, a pathway, a way that leads to God. This "way" is not a method or a religious rite to observe. The "way" is a Person – Jesus Christ!

"Jesus said to him (Thomas), "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

The most important word in John 14:6 is "_____."

Jesus is **the** way, **the** truth, and **the** life! He is not a way, a truth, and a life. He is in fact the only way.

Peter later confirmed this when he spoke to the religious leaders of his day about salvation.

"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)

Jesus Himself taught that salvation was not obtained from many sources. He instructed us that the "way" was a narrow road.

"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 which leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matthew 7:13-14)

However, this narrow road is still wide enough that "whosoever will" may come!

Two Great Truths About Salvation

1.) Salvation is _____ alone _____ alone _____ alone!

“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)

It is God’s grace that _____ and _____ salvation.

It is our faith that _____ God’s offer of salvation.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” (Revelation 3:20)

2.) If you go to the _____ God you will die and go to Hell. If you go to the _____ God in the _____ way, you will still die and go to Hell.

“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,”
(1 Timothy 2:5)

You cannot go to God through the mediation of baptism, church membership, treating your neighbor well, tithing, etc.

THOUGHT: Jesus prayed three times the night before His crucifixion.

“And He said, ‘Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.’” (Mark 14:36)

YET! It was not the Father’s will to take the cup from Him. Why? Because there was _____ for lost humanity to be saved.

If there had been “another way”, then I suggest to you that God the Father is an extremely cruel Father to allow His Son to suffer the agony of crucifixion and the shame of dying like a criminal if there had been “another way.” If church membership could save then surely God would have spared Jesus the suffering of the cross. If baptism could save then surely the loving Heavenly Father would have allowed the “cup” to have passed and the Son to have been spared from drinking of it’s agony! The fact that our holy, omnipotent, omniscient God permitted the cross shouts the loud and compelling truth, “JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY!”

The Roman Road Gospel Presentation

❶ Romans 3:10, 23 – _____.

“As it is written, ‘There is none righteous, no, not one;’”

“...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

Everyone who has ever lived has sinned except Jesus. There are no other exceptions. The Apostle John taught...

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

(1 John 1:8)

It has been well said... the first step in getting someone _____, is getting them _____.

The Bible says in Psalm 19:7-8 that,

“The law of the Lord is perfect... the testimony of the Lord is sure... the statutes of the Lord are right... and the commandment of the Lord is pure.”

We can likewise claim to be perfect, sure, right and pure if we have _____ kept the law. But an honest look into our obeying the law – The Ten Commandments – and Jesus’ further explanation in the Sermon on the Mount of what it means to break those commandments clearly leaves us all nothing but _____!

It is very important to first share the Word of God on this matter and then to discuss with the person you are sharing whether they understand and can agree with God that they are a sinner. This is critical because Psalm 19:7-8 says more than we previously shared with you...

“The law of the LORD is perfect, _____ the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, _____ the simple; the statutes of the LORD are right, _____ the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, _____ the eyes;”

Once there is confession of sin and not until there is confession of sin can there be converting, rejoicing and enlightening! It is then we can move from guilt to _____.

② Romans 5:8 - _____.

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

It is a wonderful, marvelous thing to know that God loves us in spite of our sin. There is nothing we can do that would cause God to love us any less or any more than He already does.

This kind of love is based on a theological truth it would serve us well to understand. The love of God is a _____ love.

What is a covenant? Many people confuse it with a _____. The two are critically different. A contract between parties states that if one or the other party fails to hold up it's end of the agreement, the other party may break it's end of the deal and even seek to be compensated – paid back.

A covenant is quite different. A covenant says no matter what you do, I will always maintain my end of the deal. A marriage covenant (even though our culture too often treats it as a contract) is the closest thing we have to understanding God's view of covenant. God loves us with a covenant love. That's longsuffering. That's grace!

The most beloved verse in the Bible says it well,

“For God so _____ the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

③ Romans 6:23 – The final result of sin is _____ and _____, but God offers eternal life as a _____ through Jesus Christ.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Two key words:

_____ – Wages are what we _____.

If we get what we earn or deserve we will get death – physically and spiritually.

_____ – A gift is not earned. It is given out of _____ and _____. Jesus paid it all so that all you have to do is receive what He has already made available. The last thing Jesus said on the cross was,

“It is finished” (John 19:30).

What was finished? The work of salvation that He came to do (John 4:34) is finished. You see, we have a religion of “_____”; not a religion of “_____.”

④ Romans 10:9-10 – We must _____ Jesus as Lord and _____ in our hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead.

“...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Salvation means that you have to confess something with your _____ – The word “confess” in the Greek means “to _____ with”. When we confess, we agree with God that His view of our sinfulness is correct and that His way of salvation, through the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ, is indeed the only way. It is an action taken... a verbal overflow compelled by the reality of the situation.

Salvation means that you have got to believe something in your _____ – that Jesus died for your sins, He was buried, and that He rose on the third day for your justification. Many call this a fable... an “opiate for society”... but when the Spirit of God is drawing a person unto Himself... that which is fable to many becomes fact to that one. That which is mocked by many becomes a miracle for that one. That which is violently ridiculed by many becomes very real for that one!

Again, salvation is of the Lord (1 Chronicles 16:23, Psalm 98:2, Jonah 2:9) and it is not something we do. It is something He did. It is not something we will _____ people to do, but something the Holy Spirit will _____ them to do.

⑤ Romans 10:13 – We must _____ upon the name of the Lord.

“For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

To be saved you must call upon the name of the Lord. For He is the only one who can save. But what does it mean to call?

The Greek word for “call” is **EPIKALEO** and it has five important meanings within its definition:

1. To call upon for oneself. (middle voice – we do the calling)
2. To invoke or call upon one for assistance.
3. To call upon a person as a witness.
4. To appeal to an authority.
5. To call upon by way of adoration.

Many have criticized the use of The Roman Road as a credible Gospel Presentation because it never touches on the concept of repentance. But locked clearly within the idea of calling upon God is the idea of man’s recognition of his hopeless state, his adoring amazement at the grace and glory of God, the recognition of a witness – the Lord Jesus Christ our Mediator – and a crying out TO the only one who can save with a setting aside of selfish desire and thought.

One key word:

_____ - Because we are _____ we must repent.

Although the word “repent” is not literally written down in this verse it is certainly taught in the whole counsel of God, and as we just discussed, pictured clearly in this Scripture, as being necessary to come to God.

To repent means that we must turn from our evil ways and pursue God. Repent means to “_____.” Like a soldier who does an about face, we must do an about face by no longer walking toward the flesh, the

world, and our lusts. We turn away from those things and turn _____.
We begin to set a pattern of continually walking toward Him, His Word, and His ways.

“I (Jesus) tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:5)

⑥ Romans 10:17 – Now that we have heard God’s Word we are ready to _____
_____ in God for His salvation.

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Now that one has heard the Word of God, they can exercise faith in it and the truth contained therein. This verse is wonderful confirmation of what we have been taught. Salvation is of the Lord and comes by His Word. A person’s faith, which Hebrews 11:1 defines as; “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen” is then engaged in the reality God has drawn that person to and the reality He has made clear.

It is critical then to ask the person **DO YOU _____ WHAT I HAVE _____?** Be sensitive and ask God to help you discern the understanding they have of the reality and the seriousness of their sin, the breaking of God’s law, the degree of His grace... it is then you can move to...

The Revelation Reality Gospel Invitation

Revelation 3:20 – Jesus IS _____ at their heart’s door! Do they know that? Will they let Him in?

ASK: Is there any reason that you would not accept Jesus now?

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”

Prayer of Salvation

Dear Lord, I know that I am a sinner, have broken Your law and deserve hell. But as best as I know how, I repent of my sins and put my trust and faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. I ask You to come into my heart and save me and to be the Lord and Master of my life. Help me to live the rest of my life for Your honor and glory. Thank You for saving me. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

REACH 101

Lesson Three

Developing Your Personal Evangelistic and Sunday School Testimonies

Introduction

As a reminder, here are two key verses from our study last week...

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

That’s why we studied the Roman Road last week... because if we are to be used by God to see people come to Christ and to be saved, we need the word of God in our _____ and on our _____!

Tonight we take a critical step toward being able to fulfill our ultimate priority (sharing our faith) by weaving together the word of God with the story of our own personal _____.

The second key verse from last week is a proof-text for our need to do this...

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony...” (Revelation 12:11)

The Apostle John tells us that it’s the _____ blood of Jesus on Calvary... pictured and preached in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation... AND the _____ testimony of believers that cause us to overcome the relentless attempts of the devil to take us to hell with him.

The power of your testimony cannot be overstated. Listen to the Apostle Paul...

“And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom, declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 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 2:1-5)

The 3 W’s of Evangelism

The _____ of God...

The _____ of your changed life...

The _____ for another’s life to be changed...

Reviewing the Roman Road

Fill in the blanks to the best of your ability:

Exit 1 – ALL HAVE SINNED

Romans 3:10 _____

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

Exit 2 – GOD LOVES YOU ANYWAY

Romans 5:8 _____

Exit 3 – DEATH AND HELL vs. GOD’S FREE GIFT

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through
Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Exit 4 – CONFESS AND BELIEVE

Romans 10:9-10 _____

Exit 5 – CALL

Romans 10:13 _____

Exit 6 – EXERCISE FAITH

Romans 10:17 _____

Exit 7 – GOSPEL INVITATION

Revelation 3:20 _____

Your Personal Evangelistic Testimony

Tes·ti·mo·ny (tēs'tə-mō'nē) *n., pl. -nies.*

1. A declaration or affirmation of fact or truth.
2. Any evidence in support of a fact or assertion; proof.
3. The collective written and spoken testimony offered in a legal case.
4. A public declaration regarding a religious experience.

– *The American Heritage Dictionary*

Question: Which of the definitions above best describe what we're talking about?

To share your testimony is to _____ the _____.

It is not to share a religious experience... but to _____ a _____.

As we walk down the Roman Road... through the word of God... let us begin to insert your story into His story. Any journalist or writer will tell you a good story must answer the six classic investigative questions; **Who? What? Where? When? Why? and How?** We will use these as the framework of your testimony as we walk the Roman Road.

Exit 1 – ALL HAVE SINNED

WHO were you before God found you?

Exit 2 – GOD LOVES YOU ANYWAY

WHERE were you when God displayed His love to you?

Exit 3 – DEATH AND HELL vs. GOD'S FREE GIFT

WHEN was it that God clearly showed you the truth?

Exit 4 – CONFESS AND BELIEVE

WHY do you believe the claims of Christ?

Exit 5 - CALL

WHAT was the act of repentance like for you?

Exit 6 - EXERCISE FAITH

HOW has my life been different since accepting Christ?

A Brief Example

Exit 1: **WHO** were you before God found you?

I was a teenage alcoholic and poolroom manager with no meaning, purpose or direction in my life.

PRINCIPLE: Speak to the sin but do not _____ on it or mistakenly _____ it in any way.

OBJECTION: I am not that bad... I am a good person. **ANSWER:** _____!

Exit 2: **WHERE** were you when God displayed His love?

I was working at a hardware store for two Jewish men and a man named N.W. Pridgen would come in and repeatedly ask me to come to church with him. God used that man greatly as He began drawing me through those invitations unto Himself.

PRINCIPLE: Relate the circumstances God orchestrated in drawing you to Himself.

OBJECTION: _____! **ANSWER:** _____
_____!

Exit 3: **WHEN** was it that God clearly showed you the truth?

After finally going to Longleaf Baptist Church I was shocked at the conviction that came to my heart at the preaching of the word. I was lost! And I would weep during invitations and I could hardly contain myself. I knew if I died I would go straight to hell... on January 7, 1973 in the morning service, God drew a line in the sand for me. I knew I had to come back that night and go forward.

PRINCIPLE: Share the moment your heart became struck by your _____
_____.

OBJECTION: He's a God of love. **ANSWER:** Love and _____ MUST go together.

Exit 4: **WHY** do you believe the claims of Christ?

It was no longer something I needed to believe in... it was something that had come to be in me. There was no way to explain what was happening to me other than God drawing me. I could believe the tomb was empty because my heart had become full. A light had gone on in my heart and I realized His free offer of salvation simply needed my YES in return.

PRINCIPLE: Describe the miraculous reality of an unseen God becoming very real.

OBJECTION: You only believe what you've been _____. **ANSWER:** It's what I _____!

Exit 5: **WHAT** was the act of repentance like for you?

I was completely broken and I completely surrendered. I didn't make what seemed a better choice out of many. I made the only choice I could make. I went forward, publicly confessed Christ and was baptized with my wife one week later.

PRINCIPLE: Rejoice in the goodness of God that led you to repentance.

OBJECTION: You just wanted _____. **ANSWER:** Self vs. Savior – I wanted _____!

Exit 6: **HOW** has my life been different since accepting Christ?

I immediately changed. Not all do as radically... but I did. Where I was once selfish, on that snowy Sunday night in Wilmington, NC I scraped all the ladies' windshields. I began tithing and sharing my faith right away. I became a pastor and have never looked back even one time.

PRINCIPLE: Glorify God for the work He has done in your life since your conversion.

OBJECTION: You're brainwashed! **ANSWER:** I couldn't do this in _____
_____.

Now Build Your Own Story

Exit 1 – ALL HAVE SINNED

WHO were you before God found you? _____

Exit 2 – GOD LOVES YOU ANYWAY

WHERE were you when God displayed His love to you? _____

Exit 3 – DEATH AND HELL vs. GOD’S FREE GIFT

WHEN was it that God clearly showed you the truth? _____

Exit 4 – CONFESS AND BELIEVE

WHY do you believe the claims of Christ? _____

Exit 5 - CALL

WHAT was the act of repentance like for you? _____

Exit 6 - EXERCISE FAITH

HOW has my life been different since accepting Christ? _____

Sunday School Testimony

Next week we will go over our Sunday School Strategy in detail, but as we talk here at Exit 6 about how God has changed our lives... we must begin to develop the practical side of our testimonies. We must not only _____ - BAPTIZE, we must _____ - TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE. Sunday School is our plan A for discipleship.

Writing Your Sunday School Testimony

To assist you in developing your Sunday School Testimony, consider answering the following questions and then crafting those responses into a 2-3 minute statement.

- 1.) Have there been new _____ developed through Sunday School?
- 2.) How have these relationships _____ you in recent days?
- 3.) Has your class ever ministered to you in the midst of a _____?
- 4.) How has the class _____ outside of its own relationships?

5.) What have you learned as a result of the _____ that takes place?

6.) What stories come to mind as you reflect on class _____?

7.) How are you _____ to Jesus today as a result of your involvement in this class?

As you record answers to these questions, know that while scripting your testimony is of great long-term value, often, in the midst of witnessing opportunities, one of these questions will be more important to focus on than another as God steers the conversation and you think on your feet.

Let's Not Forget Exit 7

With the Who, Where, When, Why, What and How of your story woven into the Gospel presentation... we come to the need to ask one more question... _____?

Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart...

"Will you allow Jesus to come into your heart."

"Is there any reason you would not accept Jesus **now**?"

Coming Attractions

Week 4: Understanding the ABC Sunday School Strategy and applying the big picture to your witness.

Week 5: The Power of Prayer in Evangelism: What does it mean when I say you are a railroad track? You'll find out in Week 5!

Week 6: Overview of a visit and CELEBRATE! We will rejoice in what we have learned and the victories we have won and we are each going to bring ONE (only one) new person that night to introduce them to the curriculum and gain their commitment to come to the next REACH 101

cycle. Be thinking and praying _____ for who that person or that couple will be for you!

REACH 101

Lesson 4

The Antioch Baptist Church Sunday School Strategy

Introduction

- 1.) Can you quote the Roman Road?
- 2.) Have you become comfortable placing your personal testimony within the presentation of the Gospel?

Well... Let's practice!

PRACTICE: Step 1: Quoting the Roman Road Verses

- Romans 3:10**
- Romans 3:23**
- Romans 5:8**
- Romans 6:23**
- Romans 10:9-10**
- Romans 10:13**
- Revelation 3:20**

Step 2: Sharing Your Personal Testimony

Evangelism And The Sunday School

The evangelistic arm of the church and the assimilation arm of the church should be one and the same. The ministry that is reaching people should be the ministry that is walking them through the process of finding their place and getting involved. Therefore, evangelism and assimilation should always work hand-in-hand and should never be divorced from each other. This necessitates one ministry shouldering the responsibility of each. And that one ministry is the Sunday School.

5 Reasons Why Outreach Should Be Done Through Sunday School

1. Sunday School is the church organized to carry out the _____.

Sunday School is mandated with the task to reach people. No other organization within the church is mandated with the task of reaching people. Most all organizations and ministries within the church are for the purpose of assimilating, edifying, and placing into service those who have been reached.

Sunday School is the church in overalls!

- A. Sunday School is how we _____ and _____ flesh out the Great Commission.

Therefore, if Sunday School does not reach people then the whole church suffers because new people will not be brought in who can get involved in all of the church's Kingdom advancing ministries.

- B. Sunday School IS our _____ in accomplishing the Great Commission.

As a church we know *what* we are supposed to do – fulfill the Great Commission. The question then is not: *What* shall we do? The question is: _____ shall we do it? You see, Sunday School is not a program, it's a ministry; Sunday School not an event, it's a strategy! It is critical we all see the bigger picture!

2. Sunday School is the _____ ministry in the church.

Question: What is the number one priority that **Jesus** has for the church? Let's allow the Word of God to remind you of the answer...

Jesus said...

“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

“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)

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)

The ultimate priority that God has for the church is to win souls. Therefore, common sense would say that the ultimate priority should be given to the largest ministry in the church!

3. **Sunday School has classes that are...**

A. _____ – for assimilation, relationship building, and discipleship.

B. _____ – which makes for natural assimilation as new people are placed in a homogeneous group.

4. **Sunday School meets during _____.**

Most unchurched people who eventually attend church do so on Sunday mornings. Therefore, the Sunday morning ministry ought to be the reaching/assimilating arm of the church.

Remember _____!

5. **Our Bible studies will...**

A. _____ people to have a passion for the lost.

B. Help people come to _____ in Christ.

Observations about Outreach

1. Effective outreach will not develop without the _____ efforts and emphasis by church leaders.

- Three Areas of Intentionality

#1 _____

#2 _____

#3 _____

- There Must Be...

A) A person(s) assigned with the _____ of overseeing outreach endeavors.

B) A time that is _____ for ongoing outreach.

C) _____ for the outreach program.

2. Those who visit the church are the greatest _____ for church membership.

3. Most unchurched people attend church because of the _____ they have with a friend or family member.

4. Prospects should be visited and cultivated by those of their potential _____.

- Because of #3 & #4, prospects should be visited on a consistent basis by the _____ and not passed around between several people because if they are passed around...

- A) No relationship can be cultivated.
- B) No member is "owning" the prospect for Jesus.

(This has a great bearing on the decision/disciple principle)

5. Getting people zealous about outreach is rarely a " _____ " proposition; it is a long-term process requiring perseverance and focus.

6. Use people where they are _____.

Understand the Ladder of Outreach Responsibility (Everyone - _____)

- Visit and Share
- Visit and Invite
- Pray
- Call
- Write

7. _____ can be a great outreach tool if prospects are registered, visited, cultivated, and assimilated quickly.

VBS... Fall Family Festival... Living Christmas Tree... Student Conference should make you _____.

8. New members should be _____ quickly; they have many unchurched friends that they can bring with them.

The _____ of the world is _____.

_____ pull on _____ world is strong.

9. All the planning in the world will not replace an _____, _____ spirit to "go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

“Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.’”

(Luke 21-23)

10. The purpose of a visit should be two-fold:

Share the _____ and win the person to Christ.
_____ the person(s) in Sunday School.

In the last Sunday School Year (2003-2004) there were a total of 43,064 Southern Baptist Churches in the United States. Within all of those churches (including ours), during the course of the year there were just over _____ newly enrolled Sunday School members put on rolls.

11. Every prospect visited becomes a “permanent prospect” for your class. The “prospect sheet” should be kept in a “Class Prospect Book” so the person can be regularly _____ and _____.

**Ain’t hardly nobody been saved
what ain’t been went after!**

REACH 101

Lesson 5

The Power of Prayer in Evangelism

Introduction

PRACTICE: Step 1: Quoting the Roman Road Verses

- Romans 3:10
- Romans 3:23
- Romans 5:8
- Romans 6:23
- Romans 10:9-10
- Romans 10:13
- Romans 10:17
- Revelation 3:20

Step 2: Sharing Your Personal Testimony

BUT...

Have you ever thought about it before? The word “but” is a very significant word in the English language. It is most noteworthy for preceding big swings in the direction of a thought or statement.

“My doctor’s appointment went ok. He told me I’d be fine in time... BUT...”

“Our team had played horribly all day and were trailing late in the game. It looked like we were going to be embarrassed on homecoming... BUT...”

Over the past four weeks we have...

- 1.) ...learned what our ultimate purpose, priority and practice is.
- 2.) ...learned the Word of God as it specifically applies to us fulfilling our ultimate

priority and we have begun _____ those verses.

3.) ...learned to marry the powerful stories of our personal conversions to the power of the Word of God and are becoming _____ with it.

4.) ...learned that we have a strategy... a bridge in place... for everyone we meet called Sunday School. It's a time-proven strategy and when we _____ the Sunday School strategy, the Sunday School strategy _____!

Then at the very end of Lesson 4 we shared a great truth. There is no getting around the biblical or practical truthfulness of the last statement of that lesson...

Ain't hardly nobody been saved what ain't been went after!

BUT!

There it is! There's that very significant word ushering in for us a very important truth.

We can be the most diligent personal witness on earth and "went after" thousands...

We can memorize the entire Bible and quote the perfect verse at the perfect time...

We can have the most dramatic and best delivered testimony ever spoken...

We can have the best organized Sunday School ever developed...

...and still be woefully ineffective in leading people to faith in Christ if we do not

_____.

Our ultimate purpose... is to glorify God.

Our ultimate priority... is to share the Gospel.

Our ultimate practice... is to disciple people to the first two... and...

Our ultimate _____... is to pray!

Prayer and Evangelism

In mentoring his young preaching convert Timothy, Paul wrote two letters to him of which the Holy Spirit has granted us record. In the first letter, Paul spends chapter one greeting Timothy and admonishing him to “stick to the stuff” of love, faith and good doctrine in the face of many who had already begun to preach falsely and slip from the simplicity of the Gospel of Christ.

Then in chapter two he begins to talk and teach and train Timothy in the specifics of ministry. In 1 Timothy 2:1 we read these words,

“Therefore, I exhort _____ that supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all men... (v.3) for this is good and _____ in the sight of God our Savior who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

Paul supports what we have already discovered, that the ultimate priority of God the father... His desire... the hope of His heart... is that all men be saved.

Our role in that begins with prayer.

It has been said that no one can be saved until someone prays that they do. After much study on the subject of prayer, I would agree and take it even a step further.

No work of the Kingdom is _____ apart from prayer!

E.M. Bounds, “(The life of) **Jesus Christ teaches the importance of prayer by His urgency to His disciples to pray. But He shows us more than that. He shows how far prayer enters into the _____ of God. We must ever keep in mind that the relation of Jesus Christ to God is the relation of asking and giving, the Son ever asking, the Father ever giving.**”

One of the most poignant instances of Jesus asking of His Father comes in the Garden of Gethsemane prior to His crucifixion where He asks,

“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.” (Matthew 26:39)

What is summarized here is the entire point of prayer! The point of prayer is the _____ of God.

Jesus asked that there be another way than the cross. Jesus knew there was no other way than the cross. Jesus prayed in submission that God’s way be His way. He obeyed and the purposes of God were carried out and His Kingdom advanced... in fact they have advanced as far as the _____ in which you _____.

So while we are focusing on the power of prayer in evangelism, let me ask this question in general... **Why doesn’t God answer more of our prayers?**

In Matthew 21:22 when Jesus says, **“And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”** Did He _____ that? Or is He just _____?

We are told by Jesus that if we had only the faith the size of a mustard seed we could cause mountains to slide into oceans, we could walk on water... we could see the sick healed... we could see the lost saved.

Jesus said words similar to those many times throughout the Gospels.

Matthew 7:7-8, **“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, it will be opened.”**

John 14:13, **“And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”**

John 16:23-24, **“And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.”**

John 15:7, **“If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it will be done for you.”**

Here is a phrase the Lord gave me that sums up what we need to know about asking and receiving answers to our prayers...

**_____ God’s _____ and _____
God’s _____ then _____ God _____
and God’s _____ !**

When Paul exhorted Timothy to **“first of all”** pray for the souls of men, Paul said in verse three that it was **“acceptable”** to God. This means it was in keeping with His will.

Know God’s Will

Why do we have to pray? Is not God omniscient? Is not God omnipotent? Since God is almighty, why doesn’t God work directly? Why does He wait until we pray? Why does He need our prayers? If opening a door is God’s will, why must we knock first?

Watchman Nee said that God is a _____. He has the power to work at tremendous speeds carrying large amounts of cargo with Him. Yet it is His decision and desire that the prayers of His people be the _____ of the track upon which He runs. You... Me... Christians around the world... we are the very tracks upon which He moves. Nee said it this way... Heaven is _____ by earth! God condescends to involve us in it all. God doesn’t need us to ask for anything. He

knows it all. He just chooses to only move when we agree with Him to do so and ask Him to do so.

Statement: For our prayers to be answered, we must first KNOW GOD'S WILL. So how can we know God's will on a matter? The principle has four aspects.

WORD: First, if it's clear in his word (as it is with evangelism)... it's _____!

DESIRE: Second, for those harder issues, we must hunger and thirst for the Lord. We must desire to know God and His will not only for our life but the world in which we live. Psalm 73:25, "**Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth I desire besides You.**"

OBEDIENCE: Third, we must walk in obedience before God. Psalm 66:18, "**If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.**"

Romans 12:2 says that we are not to be conformed to the world if we are to be ultimately able to prove what God's good and acceptable and perfect will of God is.

Romans 12:2 also speaks to the last aspect of coming to know God's will in matters it speaks of...

TRANSFORMATION: Romans 12:2, "**And do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you might prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**" Transformation equals _____!

Then and only then can 1 John 3:22 become a reality in our lives, "**And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.**"

Will God's Will

We must remain true to his revealed will and then through prayer _____ to Him, (**Romans 11:36 all things are of Him and through Him and to Him**) we must WILL GOD'S WILL.

_____ is the ceaseless asking for the will of God to be accomplished.

Listen to Luke 18:1-8

“Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: ‘There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’” Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

I am not sure where the phrase, “Prayer is the _____” had its beginning, but this story and commentary by R.A. Torrey (great American evangelist and Bible teacher) in his book “The Power of Prayer” just might be where it comes from...

“One day the superintendent of a Brooklyn, NY Sunday School called on a man to pray. The man arose and said, ‘I am not a praying Christian; I am a working Christian.’ But praying IS working. It is the _____ work that anyone can do; that is, we can bring more to pass by praying than we can by any other form of effort we might put forth. Furthermore, prayer, if it is real prayer, the kind of prayer that ‘avails much’ with God, oftentimes is _____ than any other kind of effort; it takes more out of a person than any other kind of effort.”

We need to get a hold of the will of God and then keep a hold of the throne of God...
And then we are to trust in the character of God...

Know God Will

It's one thing to pray without ceasing... but that must be married with FAITH...

In Mark 9, Jesus comes down from the Mount of Transfiguration to a chaotic scene... a stricken boy, failed disciples, mocking scribes, watching crowds and a father. Jesus made a statement to the father of the epileptic young man in verse 23... **“Jesus said to him, ‘If you can _____, all things are possible to him who _____.’”**

Jesus could have just healed him in an instant and moved on... but he engaged the man. I can imagine the love in Christ's eyes – riveted to the Dad - as the madness was happening around Him. The disciples' feathers ruffled, the scribes mocking, the crowd shocked at the drooling young man, the boy's writhing and spitting and screaming... and Jesus looking deep into the man's heart. **“IF...”**.

It reveals to me as I read the story exactly why God waits for us to lay the tracks for His locomotive to run. He wants us that close. He designs the wrestling matches in prayer. He designs the dependency, the helplessness, the waiting for that soul to be saved, that visit to go well... that we might run to Him, abide with Him and become more and more like Him! It is indeed a matter of faith!

This is not about name it and claim it! The devil... our adversary... is described as many things in the Scripture. One of them is that he is sly. I believe that his tactics have caused evangelical Christians to become lazy, whimpering prayer puppies. We are told to approach the throne with _____.

When we understand God's will in a matter... when we have learned it from a life of abiding and obeying... when we have been faithful to pray His will back to Him... we must KNOW GOD WILL.

Listen to Hebrews 10:19-23. **“Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in _____ of _____, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us _____ the confession of our hope _____, for He who promised is _____.”**

It is summed up well again in 1 John 5:14. **“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we _____ that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.”**

What a beautiful verse from the beloved John. He is saying... Brother... all you need to know if it's God's will and you keep asking by faith... all you need to know is that He hears you. Because if he hears you... he's going to answer.

God's Will Will

When the three requirements just taught are met... KNOW GOD'S WILL, WILL GOD'S WILL and KNOW GOD WILL... we are bound by the Bible to understand this... GOD'S WILL WILL! God is going to get it done! It's a done deal...

But we have to agree on this. It will happen _____
_____!

And there are two other ways to say “In His timing.”

IN HIS _____.

IN HIS _____.

REACH 101

Lesson 6

Overview of a Visit, the Community Poll and Role Playing

Introduction

It occurs to us that 2,000 years ago, somewhere near Jerusalem, a lesson much like this one was given and Jesus led the meeting. He gave his class of 70 or so an overview of a visit. The lesson began like this...

Luke 10:1-5

“After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. Then He said to them, ‘The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road. But whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’”

In a nutshell, He said...

- 1.) When you go, _____ that I am coming right behind!
- 2.) Pray that your team would _____!
- 3.) It isn't designed to be _____: lambs vs. wolves!
- 4.) _____ in the Lord to provide what you need!
- 5.) Stay _____ on the task!
- 6.) Goal: _____ with God _____ Christ's blood!

We couldn't agree more! In this lesson, we want to be as practical as possible as we review and practice... step by step... through what can be an intimidating and unpredictable experience!

Where Do I Begin?

When you boil it all down, there are two kinds of visits... _____ and _____ . The former are visits to people we intentionally attempt to make contact with from which we have name, address and/or phone number. The latter are visits to people we have no information on... e.g., neighbors of the one we went to see, people at gas stations, coffee houses or in neighborhood recreational areas. Every time you go out, you should experience one or the other or both.

Answering the question, "Where do I begin?" varies a little in these two examples.

I. Planned Visits

Step One - _____ (Key Word: _____)

- 1.) Let them know who you are and where you are from. *(Act excited to meet them! With all the comments we get about people not being home... you should be! ☺)*
- 2.) Let them know you are visiting because they recorded their information with us at the church and that we care and were anxious to follow up!

Key Points:

- A.) Be _____! Do not try to emulate anyone else. God will bless who you are because He made who you are just the way you are!
- B.) _____! You will quickly develop your own style and you will become comfortable as you continue going!

Step Two - _____ (Key Word: _____)

- 1.) Have a short conversation! By observation, pick out interests that you can ask questions about. Is there a boat in the driveway? Are their children? Do they have a Tennessee Volunteer flag hanging from the door?

NOTE: If a planned visit is not home leave information and follow these three rules:

❶ Determine to _____ back, ❷ Plan to _____ back, ❸ but never _____ back without speaking to someone! Make unplanned visits... divine appointments!

Ask God where to go. He will tell you where to go and when to stop! He's working!

II. Unplanned Visits

Step One - _____

In much the same way...

- 1.) Let them know who you are and where you are from.

Then...

- 2.) Because there has been no initiation on their part to bring us there, we must utilize another technique for beginning a conversation. We will use a _____.

Let the person (wherever you meet them) know that First Baptist desires to be the best "neighbor" it can be. Ask the first three questions knowing that we indeed desire to know the answers to those questions and will factor those answers into the decisions that we make as a church. You can ask those questions with _____.

But also know that our adherence to what we know to be our ultimate priority is reflected in the fact that our greatest desire is to ask the fourth and final question of the poll!

NOTE: In an unplanned visit the Community Poll is the short conversation in nearly all cases and leads you directly into the Gospel Presentation. There is no need, unless God opens the door, to look for ways to develop a conversation around their

interests... often... if God allows a good conversation... that kind of relationship building comes near the end of an unplanned visit.

How Do I Turn The Conversation To Spiritual Things?

For both planned and unplanned visits, what happens next on a visit merges here.

There has been the Introduction...

We had a short conversation or asked the first three Community Poll questions...

Then to turn the conversation to spiritual matters, whether at the appropriate time in a planned visit or simply by asking Question #4 in an unplanned visit, we ask what is called the _____.

This question is, in our opinion, the very best question one can ask to determine whether a person is truly saved or not.

In your personal opinion, what do you believe it takes for a person to go to heaven when they die?

It is called the Key Question because it unlocks the reality of the condition of their standing with God.

There are a myriad of responses but they cluster into two categories...

They are in _____.

They are in _____.

Any answer to the Key Question other than a close variation of, **“A person goes to heaven when they, by faith, accept the fact that Jesus Christ died for the sins they are guilty of and**

condemned for, was buried and rose from the dead conquering death and hell,” places them in the second category.

Whether it be a cultish belief, utter rebellion, or as is most often the case, a belief that on the merits of their goodness and their works they will go to heaven, you then are faced with the greatest privilege on earth... your chance to _____!

How Do I Save Them?

That’s the good news... you don’t! You pray and you share the scriptures that prescribe how to be saved and you share your testimony!
God calls. God orchestrates. God convicts and God saves!

He just let’s you and I _____! We marvel at the miracles He performed on earth and miss the fact that He lets us in on the greatest miracle of all every day! So... Jesus told the 70 in Luke 10, and He likewise tells us, “**say, ‘Peace to this house’**”. Studying that verse in the original language, you might render it this way “**May _____ from all the _____ that result from _____ be with this family.**” You have the answers to grant that freedom. You know the remedy! You have experienced the cure! You have met the Freedom-Giver! It’s time, with their permission, to _____.

Remember... Rehearse...

Exit 1 – ALL HAVE SINNED

Romans 3:10 _____

Romans 3:23 _____

Your Story: Who I was before God found me...

Exit 2 – GOD LOVES YOU ANYWAY

Romans 5:8 _____

Your Story: How God displayed His love...

Exit 3 – DEATH AND HELL vs. GOD'S FREE GIFT

Romans 6:23 _____

Your Story: When God clearly showed you the truth and convicted your heart...

Exit 4 – CONFESS AND BELIEVE

Romans 10:9-10 _____

Your Story: Why the claims of Christ are believable to you today...

Exit 5 – CALL

Romans 10:13 _____

Your Story: What the act of repentance was like for you...

Exit 6 – EXERCISE FAITH

Romans 10:17 _____

Your Story: How your life has been different since accepting Christ...

Exit 7 - GOSPEL INVITATION

Revelation 3:20

Your Story: What prevents you from asking Jesus to save you today? Will you let Jesus in?

Reminder

Remember, if they do not pray to receive Christ, two things are still true.

- ❶ You were obedient and THAT'S your _____.
- ❷ On the authority of the Word of God, you _____ a seed and maybe did a little _____ of it as well! God is the Lord of the Harvest!

NEXT STEPS

When someone prays to receive Christ, there are Steps of Obedience that you may be able to help them follow.

- 1.) They must confess Christ publicly. Tell them you'll _____ with them!
- 2.) They must be baptized. Tell them you'll _____ up for them!
- 3.) They must spend time with God daily. Tell them you'll _____ them accountable!
- 4.) They must worship regularly. Tell them you'll _____ them at church!
- 5.) They must tell others about Jesus. Tell them they can _____ with you!
- 6.) They must give. _____ of the blessing giving has been to you!

COMMUNICATION

Here is an important statement:

A visit is not complete until you have communicated what happened on your visit!

Currently there are two ways to communicate to our Outreach offices what took place on your visit. Coming soon there will be five ways to communicate to our Outreach offices what took place. In February 2006 there will be three other ways added for your convenience.

There is no longer any reason for us not receiving information back from your visits!

- 1.) Bring visits back with information filled in and place in the basket in room C105.
- 2.) E-mail the results of your visit to tlwalmand@bellsouth.net.
- 3.) **February 2006:** Fill out all of your information and leave it in the Reach 101 Box located outside Tensley Almand's office door in C201.
- 4.) **February 2006:** You may leave the results of your visit in the Reach 101 Box located outside the Sunday School office in C108.
- 5.) **February 2006:** We will have a new Reach 101 Box placed outside the Education Building for you to leave the information about your visit in case the church is locked for the evening.

FINAL THOUGHT

Luke 10:17-24

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. All things have been delivered to Me by My

Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.”

Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, “Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it.”

And the church said!? _____!

