



# GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS

*A two session guide to help you train and equip your group to make disciples.*



Go

THEREFORE  
AND MAKE

*disciples*

OF ALL  
NATIONS,...

MATTHEW 28:19

# SESSION 1

## READ MATTHEW 28:18-20

Jesus says: “Go...make disciples”

The Gospel Conversations training will help you train and equip your group to answer 4 vital questions when it comes to disciple-making:

- 1 **WHY** make disciples?
- 2 **WHO** to reach?
- 3 **WHAT** to say?
- 4 **WHEN** to get started?

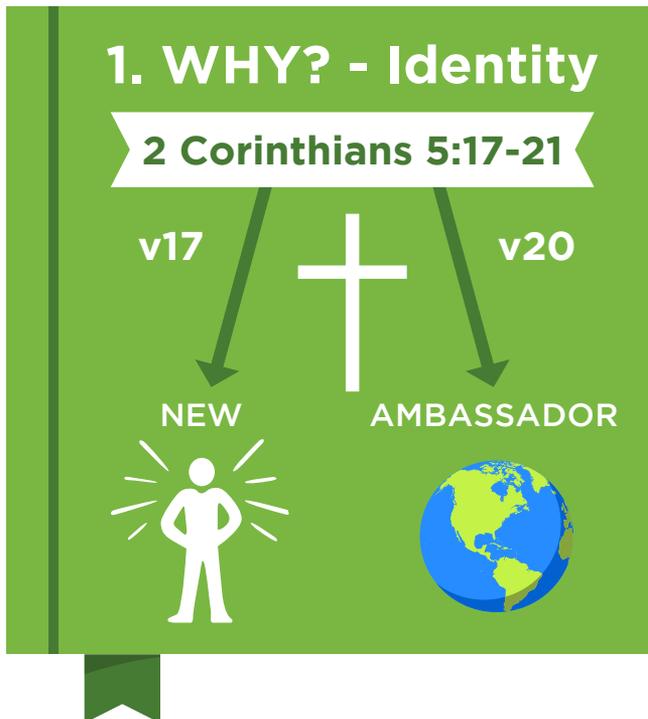
## TEACHING THE WHY?

1. Have your group take out a sheet of paper and fold it in half. On the front page write **1. WHY? - Identity** at the top. See the illustration on page 3.
2. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 and write the verse reference at the top of the page as pictured. Then, draw a cross below the reference and explain how we see in these verses that if you are in Christ Jesus, these two things are true of you because of Jesus.
3. v.17 - Draw the first arrow, the stick person radiating, and the word **NEW**. Explain that we have been made **NEW!** He has forgiven all your sins.

4. v.20 - Draw the second arrow, the globe, and the word AMBASSADOR. He has given you a new identity as an ambassador.
5. You cannot separate these two. You cannot become new without being an ambassador of Jesus and you cannot be an ambassador of Jesus without being made new.

## PRACTICE

The goal is training not teaching, so the desire is to equip every person with the tools and practice to be able to teach others. **Now stop there and have each person in your group team up with a partner and practice teaching this page to one another.**



# TEACHING THE WHO?

1. Have your group flip to page two and write **2. WHO? - Oikos Map** at the top of the page. Explain that oikos simply means your network of people including family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.
2. **Read John 17:20 and write this reference on the bottom of the page.** Explain Jesus' prayer strategy not only for the men that he was investing his life into, but was also praying for those whom they would reach.
3. Explain that this map is a tool to be used as a prayer strategy. Prayer is the tool that we use to watch God till the soil of individual hearts and prepare them to hear the gospel.
4. Have your group draw a circle in the middle of the page and put 'ME' or their name in the middle of the circle.
5. Then, draw 4 to 5 circles branching out from the circle in the middle and put names of people that are in your oikos that are far from God. Give your group a few minutes to think about this. If it is hard to think of people that are far from God, challenge them to pray and ask God to give them names for these circles this week.
6. Have your group pause for a moment and actually **pray in groups of 2-3** for the names on each others maps.

# PRACTICE

The goal is training not teaching, so the desire is to equip every person with the tools and practice to be able to teach others. **Now stop there and have each person in your group team up with a partner and practice teaching this page to one another.**

## 2. WHO? - Oikos Map

The diagram is an Oikos Map, a tool for identifying relationships. It features a central oval containing the word "YOU" in green capital letters. Radiating from this central oval are 20 smaller, empty white ovals, each connected to the center by a dotted line. These ovals are arranged in a roughly circular pattern around the center, providing space for individuals to write the names of people in their lives.

**JOHN 17:20**

# TEACHING THE WHAT?

1. Have your group flip to the 3rd page and write **3. WHAT to say?** at the top of the page.
2. **Read John 4:39**, and write this reference at the top of the page. Cast a vision for how God can use our 15-second testimony to be the bait on the hook that gets someone to a place where they are open to hear the gospel.
3. There are 5 simple components to the 15-second testimony. First, we begin with, “There was a time in my life..” Now, stop and have everyone look at their partner and say: “There was a time in my life..”
4. Then, list two words that would describe your life before you knew Jesus. Give the group a few seconds to fill these in, then have them practice looking at each other and repeating the intro and the two words.
5. The third component is the point of salvation where you **‘received Jesus’ forgiveness and began to follow Him’**. Feel free to put this in your own words, but make it no more than 3-4 seconds long. Have your group turn to one another and practice the first 3 parts.
6. Then, have everyone in the group think of two words to describe their life now after meeting Jesus. Then, have them practice the first 4 components with each other.
7. The fifth and probably the most important component is concluding the 15-second testimony by asking the person you are talking to, “Do you have a story like that?”

# PRACTICE

Have each member practice the entirety of the 15-second testimony. As a leader, begin by saying your 15-second testimony and asking someone in the group if they have a story like that. Have each person share out loud and then call on someone else until everyone in the group has had a chance to share. The key here is repetition and getting comfortable sharing.

## 3. WHAT to say?

JOHN 4:39

### 15-SECOND TESTIMONY

#### Intro

There was a time in my life ...

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_



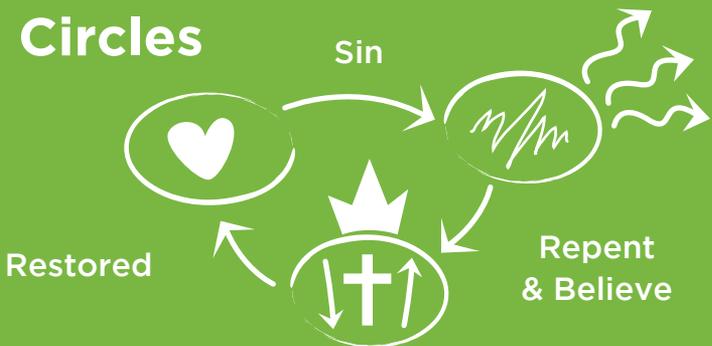
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

*Received Jesus' forgiveness & chose to follow Him ...*

#### Ask?

Do you have a story like that?

#### 3 Circles



8. Finally, we are going to learn a simple Gospel Conversation tool that can be explained in 3-5 minutes called 3-circles. As the leader, you share and draw out the 3-circles. Ask your group to give you any critical feedback so that you can continue to improve and get more comfortable sharing it. Encourage your group to bring these sheets of paper back next week for Session 2.

## **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT**

Tell your group to practice this week by telling at least one person their 15-second testimony. This can be their children, spouse, family, neighbors, co-workers, etc. Also, watch the video of 3-circles and practice sharing it to prepare for Session 2 next week. Let your group know that they can find a video of this resource at:

[\*www.namb.net/video/3-circles-life-conversation-guide\*](http://www.namb.net/video/3-circles-life-conversation-guide)

Complete your time in Session 1 praying that God would give your group the boldness to not simply learn and be trained, but to actually go put this into practice this week. Ask God to give you stories to tell so that you have something to report back to the group next week.

# SESSION 2

In Session 1, we learned why we make disciples, who we reach, and what to say. Today, we will be going back over some of these tools to train and get repetition, but also expanding on what to say, and finally putting a plan of when to start.

Simply begin your time together by asking your group if they have any stories of God using them to have Gospel Conversations this past week? Remember, your group will never do what you are not willing to do as a leader. So, make sure you come prepared with a story to tell to kick things off.

## **TEACHING THE WHY? Repeat**

Have someone come to the front of the room and volunteer to take the group very quickly through page 2 that we learned last week.

## **TEACHING THE WHO? Repeat**

Have another group member come to the front of the room and volunteer to take the group very quickly through page 4 and explain the Oikos Map prayer strategy.

Pause here and let group members get into groups of 2-3 and spend some intentional time praying over the people who are far from God on your Oikos Maps. We do not simply want to talk about a prayer strategy, but actually spend time as a group praying for these people.

# TEACHING THE WHAT? Repeat

1. As the leader, model your 15-second testimony for the group. Explain the power of how God can use our stories and testimony to compel people to listen to the fullness of the gospel. Then, have each person share their 15-second testimony out loud and then call on someone else until everyone in the group has had a chance to share. The key here is repetition and getting comfortable sharing.
2. The point is not to simply stop with our 15-second testimony, but hopefully get to a point where we have someone's undivided attention to be able to share the gospel in a simple way in 3-5 minutes or less. Last week we learned the 3-Circles tool for having Gospel Conversations.
3. Have someone volunteer to come to the front of the room and draw this out as they share the gospel with the group. Then, let your group give them feedback on how well they did.
4. Next, tell the group that everyone will have the opportunity to share the 3-Circles with each other in just a moment, but you want to give them one more opportunity to hear it. Then, you as the leader share the 3-Circles Gospel Presentation and ask your group for constructive feedback.

# PRACTICE

Have each group member find a partner. Encourage them to begin by each sharing their 15-second testimony again and then draw out and share the Gospel Presentation using the 3-Circles tool.

## TEACHING THE WHEN?

1. Have each group member get their sheet of paper that is folded in half and flip to the back page (page 4). Have them write **4. When? - Schedule Goals** at the top of the page.
2. If we do not make an intentional plan to pray, share, train, and make disciples, then we won't. **Read Matthew 7:24-27**, and have your group write this verse reference at the top of the page under the When?.
3. Cast vision for being a group of people who takes God's Great Commission seriously. What would happen in the CSRA if all of us not only heard these words and participated in this training, but actually put it into practice in our lives?
4. Have each group member mark three bullets with the following text below on page 4:

**PRAY** for Oikos

\_\_\_\_\_

(Daily Time)

**SHARE** the Gospel

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name/Time)

**TRAIN** this Training

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name/Time)

5. Challenge your group to get out their phones or calendars and actually schedule a reminder to pray at a specific time every day for their Oikos Map.
6. Encourage your group to put one name that they will commit to sharing the gospel with this week.
7. Finally, encourage each group member to commit to a person or time where they can train their children, family, neighbors, etc. with the Gospel Conversations Training tool to equip other believers to share the gospel.

End your time together praying once again for the boldness to be people who proclaim the gospel. Ask God to put divine appointments in your way this week and give you the boldness to step into these opportunities with faith and communicate the gospel that brings dead men and women to life in Christ.

**Encourage your group to make it a habit in the weeks ahead to spend the first 5-7 minutes of your group meetings reporting back stories from what God is doing in the harvest and spend the last 5-7 minutes praying intentionally for those who are far from God and continued boldness by God's Spirit.**

*All of the information in this training is produced by E3 Partners and the #NoPlaceNetwork at [411multiply.com](http://411multiply.com), but has been adapted and modified for Warren Baptist Church.*





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A WAY OF LIFE

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