

Course Outline

Part 1 (Missional Preliminaries)

- Our Calling: Salt, Light & Ambassadors
- 2. Our Context: Increasingly Hostile & Socially Distanced
- Our Attitude: Godly Distress vs. Personal Offense
- 4. Our Posture: How to Disagree Agreeably

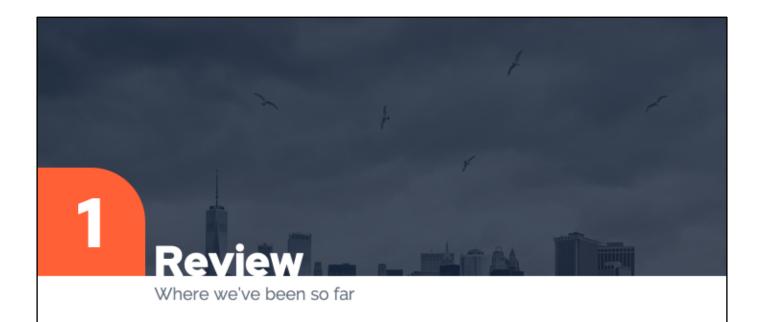
Part 2 (Pandemic)

- 5. Opportunities for Engagement
- 6. Meaningful Conversations
- Equipping for Sharing

Part 3 (Social Tension)

- 8. Biblical Justice & Critical Theory
- g. History & Context

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- God is committed to establishing his kingdom for his glory and our good
- God calls us into relationship with him to preview that purpose and partner in accomplishing it



- We live in post-modern, post-Christendom, pluralistic society where the biblical worldview is one option among many or even opposed as harmful
- The Bible calls us to live as godly "foreigners and exiles" who are ambassadors of the kingdom of God



Our Posture Disagree Agreeably

- We are called to share the gospel with people who do not yet accept it, which will inevitably lead to disagreement, but we are called to do so in a way that is respectful, full of integrity, and charitable as we represent Christ in our conversations.
 - Where do we agree? Disagree? Why?
 - Truly seek to respectfully understand, etc.

Opportunities for Engagement

- Opportunities in word and deed are all around us, but we need to "see" them and, perhaps, create space in our lives to engage them
- Grassroots where you live, work, and play
- Mercy & cross-cultural opps through GRC partners
 - The place and priority of kingdom prayer

Meaningful Conversations

- "Wondering questions" encourage relationship, allow reflective listening, and open the possibility of authentic dialogue
- Examples of <u>"Wondering Questions"</u>
- Introduced two "tools" for sharing the gospel:
 grace stories and The Three Circles gospel summary

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https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sfQ01KCJvuQY1-hRwNF1L5eGieVtKK0Z_zb0TCLTCY8/edit?usp=sharing



[READ LETTER TO CLASS]

2 Two "Tools" for Sharing the Gospel

Your Testimony (Grace Stories) & The Three Circles

1Peter 3

¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. 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, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Your testimony is a powerful witness to the transforming power of the gospel.

A testimony can come in many forms. It can be the story of how you initially became a Christian, or it can be a story of any way God has been at work to transform your life since your conversion. In both cases, it is a witness to the power of the gospel to give you hope and power for change.



- 1. "There was a time in my life when..."
 - Two adjectives that described your life before
- 2. What God did to change your life / how you met Christ
 - What you came to know/experience
 - A glimpse of some truth of the gospel
- 3. "What your life is like now
 - Two adjectives...
 - "Do you have a story like that?"

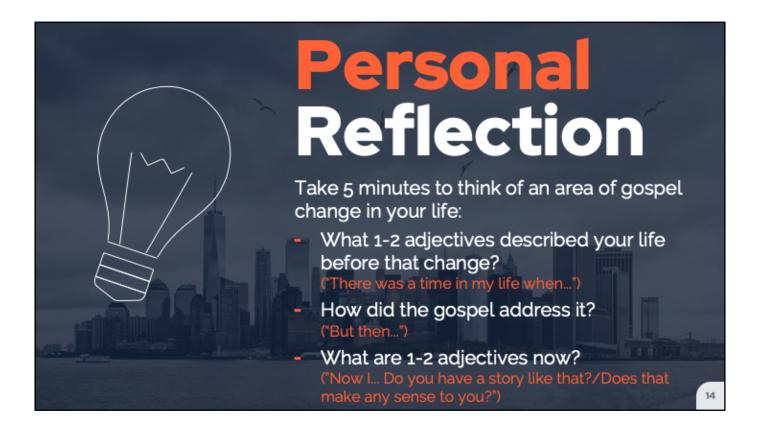
15 second testimony that can expand to 15 minutes, based on the situation and conversation.

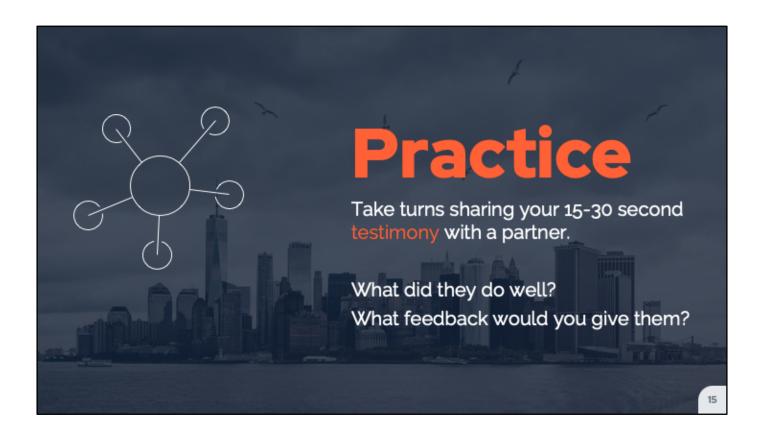
For me:

Perfectionist and competitive... Tensions with friends

Could never do enough, but Jesus did... And rather than holding that over my head, he laid down his life for me...

Freedom... Less focused on myself and more concerned for others...



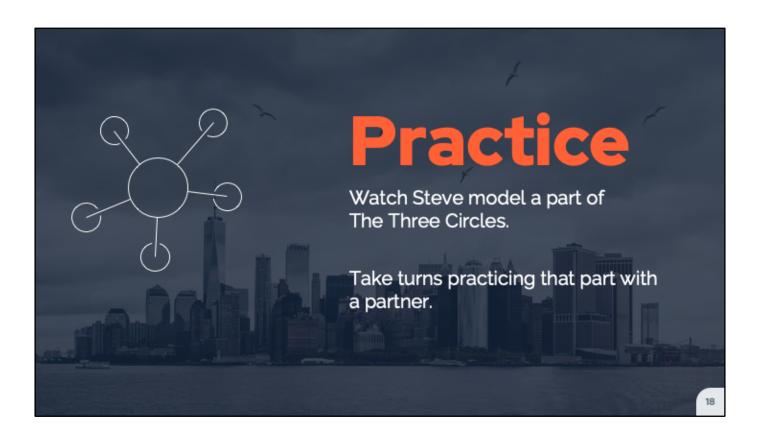




View the Three Circles video at https://youtu.be/v9iLg8DJbLg



- Relatively simple
- Graphical/picture
- Reinforces the same thing at least three times
- Addresses idols and self-effort
- Embeds our missional calling right into the gospel message



You can watch a video of Steve sharing The Three Circles at https://youtu.be/v9iLg8DJbLg

