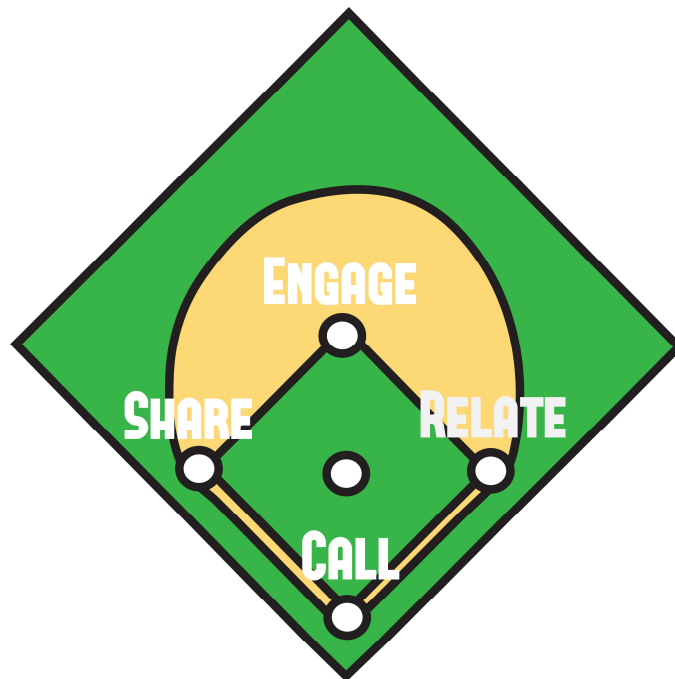


Session 3

SHARE & CALL

In this course we're covering four essential elements for evangelism: Relate, Engage, Share and Call. Now we want to cover those last two items: how to share the good news practically, and call people to repentance and faith.



An Issue of Identity

The place to begin in terms of actually sharing the gospel is in recognizing one of our essential identities: an authorized ambassador of the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

...we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Cor 5.20-21)

"The highest of missionary motive is neither obedience to the Great Commission (important as that is), nor love for sinners who are alienated and perishing (strong as that incentive is, especially when we contemplate the wrath of God), but rather zeal — burning and passionate zeal — for the glory of Jesus Christ. . . . Only one imperialism is Christian . . . and that is concern for His Imperial Majesty Jesus Christ, and for the glory of his empire." - John Stott

SHARE & CALL: The News & The Call

When it comes to sharing the gospel, it can be helpful to have this basic outline in mind: God, Man (i.e. – mankind), Christ, and Response. That is:

GOD

- God is Creator – he has made us to know and enjoy Him
- God is holy – he is perfect purity and goodness
- God is love – he is merciful and loving toward us

MAN

- We have all sinned – rejecting God’s love
- We are all guilty – violating God’s holiness
- We stand condemned – facing God’s right judgment and wrath

CHRIST

- Jesus is God who took on flesh and lived a perfect life – obeying in our place
- He died for our sins – enduring God’s just punishment in our place
- He rose and now reigns over all – calling us to respond to him

RESPONSE

- We must turn from going our own way in repentance
- We must trust in what Jesus has done to rescue us
- We are to surrender to a king who loves us - and embrace all that he has done to rescue us from our sin and the judgment we have earned

NOTE: our evangelism is not complete without this invitation to a saving response.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE: Partner up with someone and practice sharing the gospel using the above outline.

- **Use a Diagram**

Pictures help people visualize. Considering using your own words, but illustrate along the way. One sketch on the back of a napkin can be very useful in God’s hands!

Consider using a modified bridge illustration, which shows that we are storing up wrath against ourselves, per Romans 2.5

PRACTICAL EXERCISE: Partner up with someone and practice using a diagram to walk through God, Man Christ, Response.

- **Use Your Testimony**

People love stories, and it's take issue with the personal experience of someone you know and trust.

A winsome way to share the gospel can be to share your own story of coming to faith in Christ, while weaving in the essential elements of: God, Man, Christ, and Response.

For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come. (1 Thessalonians 1:8-10)

- **Use the Sunday service & Outreach events**

We're not building our Sunday worship service around the unbeliever; we're building every Sunday around the worship of God. But every Sunday we seek to make our service intelligible for the unbeliever. And every Sunday we seek to share the good news of Jesus in the sermon, and through the Lord's Supper.

The preaching of God's word and the taking of the Lord's Supper can be powerful means God uses to convert the lost in our midst!

So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." (Rom 1:15-17)

HOMEWORK:

- Write out a 30-second and 2-minute version of your testimony of coming to Christ. Consider how to weave in God, Man, Christ, Response into your testimony.
- Invite one person to church this week (see church invitations).
- Look for an opportunity to share: God, Man, Christ, Response. You can tell them it's your assignment for a class you're taking!