



SUMMER STUDY: WE ARE UNASHAMED.

So far in our journey of discovering more about our missional identity as the church - the SENT people of God, we have seen that we are called to be both PRAYERFUL and INTENTIONAL with those God has placed around us. Tonight, we are moving forward to focus on our calling to be UNASHAMED. We are talking about talking about Jesus!

Our hope is that all of our intentional prayer and investment leads to real Gospel opportunity. This is truly the climax of living on mission - we get to proclaim the truth of God to others and invite them into the abundant life that is only found in relationship with Him. We can't afford to stop short of this ultimate goal for all to have the opportunity to know Him!

This is right at the heart of our identity as disciples of Jesus. It is not only for pastors, missionaries, or professionals - it is part of the normal Christian life! We see this calling, commission, and commandment throughout the New Testament...

- Matthew 28:18-20
 - Acts 1:8
- Romans 1:16, 10:14-17
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
- 2 Corinthians 5:20
- Colossians 4:2-6
- 1 Peter 2:9, 3:15

We are by our very nature social beings, hardwired to communicate about the things we feel passion for. Based on some studies performed about 10 years ago, the average person has 27 conversations per day and says about 16,000 words per day. We talk about SO many different things! If the Gospel has truly and radically transformed our hearts and lives, shouldn't that at least be one of those many things?

Most of us are confident about WHAT we are called to do - share the Gospel! However, the question that usually remains is, "HOW do I do it?" While this is the most exciting part of living on mission, it also tends to be the scariest part.

DIAGNOSTIC QUESTIONS:

How confident do you feel in sharing your faith? (1-10)

What might help you to feel more confident?

3-step process for *Turning Everyday Conversations Into Gospel Conversations*:

1. Transition Question
2. Gospel Explanation
3. Invitation to Respond

TRANSITION QUESTION

As we have organic and authentic conversations, we pray and watch for Gospel opportunities to arise. Often, a transition question can help bridge the gap between an ordinary conversation and a Gospel conversation. Transition questions can most easily be asked in response to someone sharing a problem, issue, or concern. It may go something like this...

"I haven't been through that exact situation, but I have had similar experiences. Can I share something with you that has really helped me?"

OR

"Thank you so much for sharing that with me. It sounds hard, and I'm really sorry. Can I share something with you that has brought me a lot of peace and hope in hard times?"

These are just examples - not scripts. Remember that the purpose of a transition question is simply to lead the conversation towards the Gospel. Think of it as the hinge of the conversation!

GOSPEL EXPLANATION

If the answer to your transition question is “yes”, then you can move into a personal and accessible explanation of the Gospel. There are many different ways to do this (testimony, illustrations, Scripture, etc.), but for now we will learn the 3 circles tool. It helps to share the Gospel AND your story! Use the space below to practice...

INVITATION TO RESPOND

Of course, the Gospel demands a response. While we don't do the demanding, we do get to invite! This invitation can be as simple as asking some follow-up questions after sharing the 3 circles. For example...

“Does this make sense to you?”

If so, in which circle do you see yourself?

(If brokenness...) Do you have a desire to move to the next one?”

There are essentially 3 types of responses to the Gospel (as seen in Acts 17:32-34).

1. Red Light: NO

Thank them for listening and offer availability for future conversation if desired.

2. Yellow Light: MAYBE

Thank them for listening and ask about willingness to continue conversation, read Scripture, visit church, etc.

3. Green Light: YES

Celebrate, pray, explain repentance (turning from sin) and faith (trusting Jesus completely), and encourage connection to a local church for growth and discipleship.

REMINDER: Again, these are simply tools. The most important thing is that our hearts are eager to share the Gospel and invite others into relationship with their Creator. Once we have some tools, we can pray, practice, and give it a try!

RESOURCE: *Life on Mission* App by NAMB

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

What can I do with the tools we've learned?

What is my next step?

"Every Christian is either a missionary or an imposter." - Charles Spurgeon