

Setting a Foundation: Missions Why, How, and When



Week 2 How: Practical Foundations

Summary: This week's lesson will help you and your group understand the practicals ways that we can share the Gospel using three well-known tools. Our hope is that your group can dive deep into these tools, practice some of them, and figure out the tool that works best for each member. This isn't just a informative lesson, this is a lesson that works to equip you to share the Gospel.

Weekly Recap

In Week 1 - we learned three biblical foundations for why we share the Gospel. We discussed what the Great Commission is, what it means to be a witness, and the source of our faith. We looked at applying these concepts to our lives instead of just studying them.

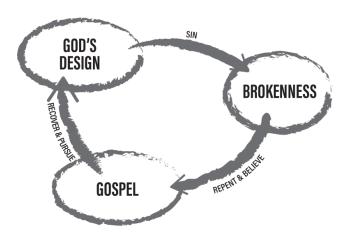
The 3 Cirlces

The 3 Circles is a Gospel Sharing tool that is a great starting point for beginners and a concise tool for "pros". Here are two reasons why this is a great tool:

- 1. Focuses on your personal story it's hard to refute what God has done for **you while also using scriptural truth.**
- 2. Easy to use in conversation this tool doesn't come across as a 2x4 of Scripture, it's a conversation.

Entry Tips

- Make sure you're **listening.** Don't just hear them speak, listen to what they are saying.
- You can use any circle that best answers the most pressing need
 - **Apathy** | God's Design
 - Struggle | Brokeness
 - Hopelessness | Gospel
- Once you know the "entry point" start sharing.



How you use it

- 1. **God's Design** was one of a perfect world, where humans were in a perfect relationship with God. But, **sin** entered the world through Adam and Eve and separates us from God.
- 2. **Sin** then leads to **brokenness**, which is the natural state that we are all in. Brokenness can make us feel like we are empty, or that we can feel the void by trying hard enough. Some people work too much, others turn to substances, and others may try to be "good enough". But Brokeness and the things we do within brokenness can never fill the void until we **repent and believe in the only way to salvation.**
- 3. You see, God's design was still real, and God still loves us despite our brokenness. So He sent his Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins on the cross. However, he did so much more than that. 3 days after his death, he rose from the grave so that sin and death could be defeated and that **all who believe in him would be saved.** That's the **Gospel** that through Jesus Christ, we can be forgiven of our sins.
- 4. Christ didn't just come for our forgiveness and salvation, he came to **restore** the relationship we have with God! **Jesus taught us how we can live holy lives** here and now so that we can pursue a restored relationship with God!

The 4 Spiritual Laws

The 4 Spiritual Laws are a Gospel Sharing tool that focuses on key truths from scripture to share the Gospel. It's a great tool for people who have internalized key verses of scripture.

Here's two pros of the 4 Spiritual Laws

- 1. Actually uses Scripture to answer questions we all have.
- 2. Has next steps (we'll cover this later)

Entry Tips

- This tool is best used in relationships where previous spiritual conversations have happened.
- It's helpful to have an understanding of what questions they are already going through so you know how to guide the conversation.
- A good entry question is: "do you feel like God loves you?"

The Key Scriptures

- 1.**John 3:16**
- 2. Romans 3:23
- 3. Romans 6:23
- 4. **Romans 5:8**
- 5.1 Cor. 15:3-6
- 6.**John 14:6**
- 7.**John 1:12**
- 8. **John 3:1-8**
- 9. Revelation 3:20

How you use it

- 1. God loves you, and created you to know him (John 3:16)
 - a. Question 1: Do you feel like / Did you know that God loves you?
 - b. Transition: If God really loves us, why does it feel like he doesn't?
- 2. Man is sinful and separated from God, so we cannot know him personally. (Romans 3:23, 6:23)
 - a. God created us to be in relationship with him, but our indifference to him called sin separates us. We aren't able to earn his love, because God is holy and will not be in relationship with sinful people.
 - b. Transition: I bet you're wondering how we can be in relationship with God.
- 3. Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin. Through him alone, we can know God. (Romans 5:8, 1 Cor. 13:3-6), John 14:6)
 - a. God loves us so much that he sent Jesus to die for us, and not just die, but defeat death the wage of sin through his resurrection. Jesus Christ is the only way to be in relationship with God.
 - b. Transition: That is a life changing message, but you have to do more than just believe it... you need to live it.
- 4. We have to individually believe in Christ as savior and Lord, and then we can experience his love (John 1:12, 3:1-8, and Rev. 3:20).
 - a. Accepting Christ means that we have to turn from our sins (**repent**) and start living with Christ in the center of our lives.
 - b. Transition: Are you ready to believe in Christ?

The Roman Road

The Roman Road is a time tested Gospel Sharing tool that focuses on using verses of scripture to share the gospel message. This is a great tool for people who have memorized Scripture, patient in asking questions, and persistent to get answers. Here are two notes to remember:

- 1. Uses scripture itself to answer questions
- 2. Much like a highway, it has onramps for wherever the individual is spiritually.

Entry Tips

- This tool is best used in relationships where previous spiritual conversations have happened.
- It's helpful to have an understanding of what questions they are already going through so you know how to guide the conversation.

How you use it

- 1. I'm a Good person, do I really need to salvation? (Romans 3:23, 3:10, & 5:12). Scripture tells us that everyone has sinned, even the "best of us" are not righteous and are sinners. When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, because everyone sinned.
- 2. I'm not really a bad person, is my sin really that bad? (Romans 6:23). I understand that you think you're not a terrible person, and I'd agree. Its not like you're a murder, you're sins are the "little ones" like lying, anger, etc. But Scripture tells us that the wages of sin is death. All sin, no matter how "big" or "small" leads to death.
- 3. I'm too bad to be saved / if only you knew what I did, how can there be any hope for me? (Romans 5:8). Once we understand sin, it's easy for us to be overwhelmed. The good thing is that death is not the end of the story. God shows us how much He loves us because he sent his son to die for us.
- 4. How then can I be saved? (Romans 10:9-10) We can't be saved by "being better" or "trying harder", it takes divine intervention to be saved from sin. We have to confess that Christ is Lord and believe it.
- 5. **Did God Accept me? (Romans 10:11-13)** It's okay to have questions, you've made a huge commitment. But if you truly repented and confessed Christ as Lord he accepted you! He tells us that "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved!"
- 6. What do I do now?

Next Steps

So you Shared the Gospel, and there WASN'T a decision of faith

THAT'S OKAY! Remember: only the Holy Spirit can bring someone to Christ. Sharing the Gospel with them planted a seed that the Holy Spirit can grow. You never know what that person will do with that information. Maybe they'll think about it all day. Maybe they needed more time. Maybe they wanted to get out of an uncomfortable conversation. Here's what you do next:

- 1. **Pray for them until you follow up** pray that God will work in that person's heart. **Ask your small group to pray with you!** You're not in this alone.
- 2. **Follow up with them soon** just ask "hey do you have any questions about what I told you? If they do, answer the best way you can.

So you Shared the Gospel, and there WAS a decision of faith

TAKE A SECOND TO CELEBRATE YOUR NEW BROTHER/SISTER IN CHRIST THROUGH

PRAYER!!! You just witnessed a miracle. You just saw someone make the best decision they will ever make in their life! This is a big deal, but it often comes with a "what's next". Here's a few things you can point the **new believer to!**

- Point them to a **local church!** Invite them to LifePark one Sunday. Offer to church hop with them for a month.
- Invite them to a small group. It will take a community of believers to help this person grow. You can't do it alone.

HERE IS A FREE CHURCH LOCATOR! Plug in their address, and they will find a like-minded church to LifePark in their area!



Important Caveats:

- 1. Regardless of how you share the Gospel (with one of these tools or not), remember that the **Holy Spirit** is the one that enables life transformation.
- 2. Sharing the Gospel is not about "saying the right thing" or "being eloquent"; it's about **being obedient** and taking the step of faith **to share your faith.**

Additional Resources

You covered **A LOT** today, these links will take you to websites that goes in deeper detail about the same tools you learned about today!



https://www.namb.net/evangelism/ life-on-mission-app/

3 Circles Website Contains a 4 minute video lesson & an app!



https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=SUaJCh-EPVA&t

4 Spiritual LawContains a 7 minute video



<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=d3L8VXjhTcw</u>

Roman Road
Contains a 6 minute video