

Personal Instruction: Equipping our Youth for Peer Evangelism

- How do we equip our youth for evangelism?
- How do we create and facilitate an atmosphere where God lives in our youth?

Equip – supply with the necessary items for a particular purpose; prepare (someone) mentally for a particular situation or task.

Evangelism – the spreading of the Christian gospel by public speaking or preaching or personal witness.

Which brings us to... **The Great Commission**

Instruction • Assignment • Job • Project • Undertaking • Mission

The Great Commission was Jesus' last recorded instructions to His disciples and to us as His followers to share the Good News of salvation with everyone. He left directives for us to use.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV) *“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’”*

How can we help equip youth for their part in seeking out those who don't know Jesus (*the unchurched*) - reaching out to friends, family, classmates and co-workers.

Tell It - The Truth about Evangelism

- Some people just don't know or believe in Christ. Everyone you know is not saved, they are not aware of what Jesus has done for them or that God loves and accepts them just as they are.
- Some people will reject you for what you say and do. Don't take it personal, retaliate or get an attitude!
- Evangelism is not a passive activity. You have to do something and you may have to do it more than once.
- Not about you! Your motivation for seeking to bring others to Christ must be Jesus' motivation – **love**. We seek to bring lost people to Christ because, we **love** them.

Jesus' instructions were to love one another and to treat each other like we want to be treated.

“Love one another. As I have loved you...” John 13:34 (NIV). Jesus wanted us to share the good news of salvation. He called us to be like Him.

Tell It – YOUth have to Get Ready

- Know Christ for yourself - read and study the Word
- Pray
- Seek a relationship with Jesus in the Holy Spirit, so that you might share in Jesus' love for lost people.

When we have Jesus' love in our hearts, we are led to take action and seek out those who don't know Him. We seek to usher in the love and presence of God because His presence brings change.

YOUth need CPR

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation – Pump it Up!

Cultivate • Plant • Reap

Cultivate Friendships

Plant Gospel Truth

Reap a New Follower of Jesus

Cultivate Friendships - *Introduce friends and peers to a relationship with Christ.*

- Establish friendships with those who do not know Christ.
- Let them know that you are there for them; you've "got their back".
- Pray for them; *if opportunity arises introduce and encourage them to pray too.*



CAUTION: We're **in** this world but we don't have to be **of** this world. When cultivating friendships and acquaintances don't let others influence you to do the wrong things; they should be following your example.

You can open the door but only God can open their heart to accept what we want to share with them.

DARE-2-SHARE: Share how your life and attitude was before you followed Christ, how you came to know Christ and what has happened since. Share how you came to realize you needed Christ and what Christ means to you now.



1. Are we asking and teaching our youth to consistently pray for their lost friends to experience salvation and know Jesus?
2. Are we challenging our youth regularly to make new unchurched friends?
3. Are we providing regular events designed to help our youth build friendships with the unchurched?

Plant Gospel Truth - *Much of the impact we have on others comes through our actions.*

- We have to express care and concern for others.
- We have to pair our actions with the Word of God.

Matthew 25: 35-36 (NIV) "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me..."

Ours deeds and words help the unchurched develop a positive outlook on Jesus.

- Share your testimony; good and bad, because there will be times of difficulty and pain. This is the time that words of encouragement and comfort will help, letting them know that God loves them and is there for them.



CAUTION: Even if what you say is not positively received (rejected) our love for the unchurched remains unconditional and we must continue to cultivate and plant as long as circumstance allows. Don't force it; trust the timing and outcome to God.

DARE-2-SHARE: Remember to (1) Let God lead you (2) Make it personal (3) Be honest (4) Concentrate on what Christ has done, not on your sin or experiences.



1. Are/do our youth share their testimonies in evangelistic ways at school? Have you asked them?
2. Do we host activities where unchurched youth can be exposed in positive ways to truths about Jesus?
3. Are you encouraging and equipping your youth to have on-going "truth based" dialogues with their unchurched friends?

Reap a New Follower of Jesus - *The reaping of a new follower involves sharing the Gospel.*

John 3:16 (NIV) *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

- Explaining that God gives salvation through Jesus' death and resurrection, and that they need that salvation. You experience salvation by turning to God in repentance and faith.
- Invite the new follower to respond.



CAUTION: Our goal is not to pressure our youth to be evangelists but to help them experience the joy of knowing Jesus and the privilege and blessing it is to share that gospel with a friend.

We have to make sure our youth understand the basics of the gospel of salvation in Christ and are able to explain it to others in age-appropriate ways.

DARE-2-SHARE: Share how you came to relate personally to Jesus as your Lord and Savior; share people who influenced you and your early Christian experiences; share special areas where Christ has made a difference in your life and where He is still working.



1. Do you regularly equip your youth with the ability to share the gospel? How can we do this?
2. Do our youth "own" the conviction that everyone needs salvation and that Jesus is the only way for salvation?
3. Do we regularly share the gospel in relational ways with non-churched visitors to your youth group?

Jesus was trying to teach us to love and care for each other as a Christian community through love, service, respect and even forgiveness for one another. God wants us to live in obedience to His commandments and glorify Him. Don't seek after programs and formulas. Seek the heart of the unchurched!

These teachings were all put into place to prepare us for Jesus' last instruction, to "Go".

As YOUth, prepare to "Go" out as Ambassadors for Christ by following His instruction. Remembering we're not perfect beings and this is not a perfect world, but we are to strive for perfection: "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.*" Matthew 5:48 (NIV). With Christ as our example and the Holy Spirit to empower us, we can keep striving to do our best and follow the instruction set before us.

From Our Youth Study Book

Unit 3: Personal Instruction

"Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future." Proverbs 19:20 (ESV)

Lesson 8

Personal Instruction

The View

Jesus' final instruction to his disciples was to "Go" and spread the gospel. It was important then and remains important now. What is your take on what we were called to "Go" and do?

The Real

Isaiah 6:8 (ESV) "*And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."*

Matthew 9:37-38 (NLT) "*He said to his disciples, 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few.' So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."*

Matthew 28:19 (ESV) "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*

The Talk _____