

Session 3 – Good News I Can Share

I Can Tell My Own Story

An effective testimony seeks to express Christian experience in terms that a non-Christian can easily understand. Thus, avoid Christian jargon and buzz words.

• **Five Fine Factors:** After each point below, write one or two points or ideas that could be used in your personal testimony.

1. Common area that can be used to lead into the gospel.

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*

2. What my life used to be (before meeting Jesus).

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3. Factors that led me toward Christ.

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4. Key Scripture truth that influenced me to receive Christ.

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5. Positive changes Christ has made in my life.

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• **Seek Permission to Proceed**

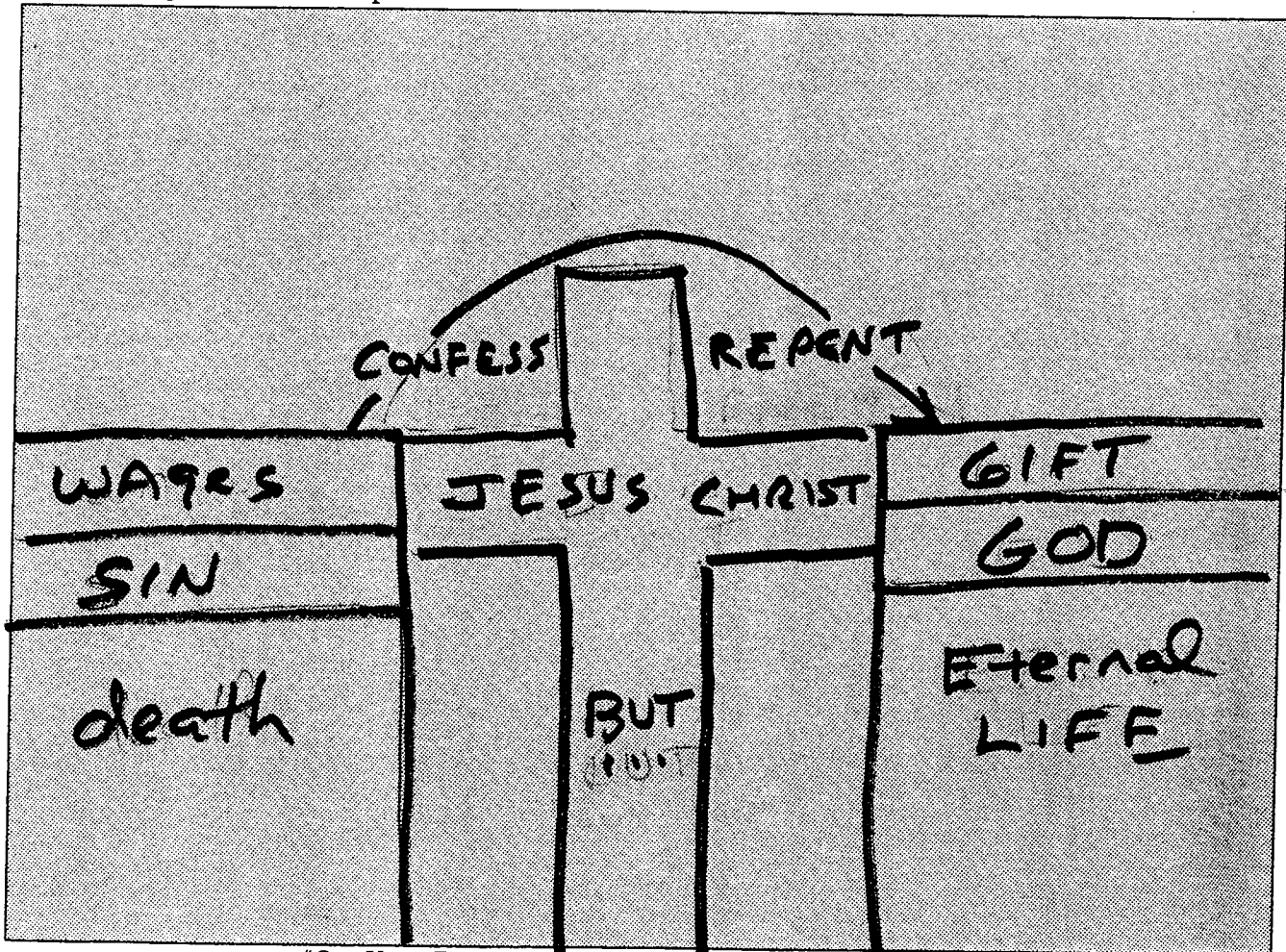
Questions I can ask to encourage my neighbor to express interest:

Explaining How to Become a Christian – “One Verse Evangelism”

*“For the wages of sin is death
but the gift of God is eternal life
in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

(Romans 6:23)

Copy the diagram as the leader presents it.



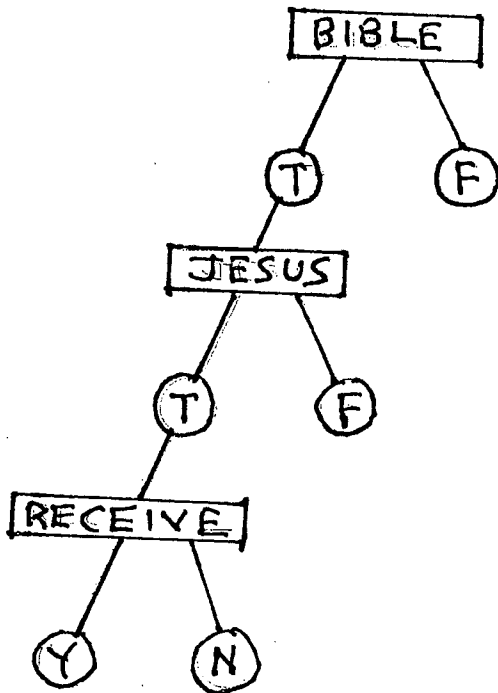
“One Verse Evangelism” used by permission, Randy Raysbrook, Colorado Springs, Colorado

What About The People In Africa?

- If you were drowning in the Atlantic Ocean and someone you never met was drowning in the Pacific Ocean and someone offers to save you, would you refuse the offer because of the other man drowning?
- Romans 1: 18-20 Nature → God → Jesus John 6:45
- Stories of God reaching out to searching souls. Don Richardson, Eternity in Their Hearts.

It all boils down to 4 True/False questions:

1. God can contradict Himself.
2. The Bible is not a historically reliable manuscript.
3. Jesus was a liar or a madman.
4. I choose to reject/ignore His offer of eternal life.



I Don't Believe in Heaven or Hell.

- I appreciate that...
- Heaven/Hell/Butterfly/Cow/Nurse in Argentina/Die when I die...
Can a person wish/create their own personalized eternity?
- Life after life stories - Heaven and Hell

I Don't Believe in the Bible.

- I appreciate that...
- What do you understand the Bible says about eternal life? ...That's what I thought you might say (works).
- 20,000 manuscripts dating to oldest 80 AD - all in harmony
343 BC - Aristotle - earliest manuscript= 1100 AD & 5 manuscripts
Iliad - second highest number of manuscripts at 643.
- Sir Frederic Kenyon, director and principal librarian at the British Museum and second to none in authority on authenticity of manuscripts, concludes: "The interval then between the dates of original composition and the earliest extant evidence becomes so small as to be in fact negligible, and the last foundation for any doubt that the scriptures have come down to us substantially as they were written has been removed. Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the New Testament may be regarded as finally established." Sir Frederic Kenyon, The Bible & Archaeology.

The Bible is Just a Book of Legend Written by Men.

- 8 Prophecies - From time of writing to today= 10¹⁰ to 17th power
Whole earth covered with 1½" square tiles - one red bottom
- 48 prophecies = 10¹⁰ to 157th power
One atom in 1 trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, billion universes our size.
- With these odds, invest in a business?

Jesus Was Just a Great Prophet.

- He could not be just a great prophet.
Lunatic, Liar or God?
- Disciples - 11 of 12 martyred - die for a lie?

What Makes You Think You're Right and Every Other Religion is Wrong?

- 360° of choices
- God ~~cannot~~ contradict Himself
- You may choose to ignore the fact that not all religions could possibly be true.
- Satan's best strategy = 1 million toy soldiers

But That Sounds Too Easy

- Rich/Smart/Strong
- Would God create a way to Heaven through works and then create individuals without the ability to achieve eternal life?

How to Share the Gospel Without an Argument

How many times have you wanted to share your faith, but didn't?

Success is acting out your Christian life, sharing the Gospel and trusting God for the results ... success is not bringing someone to Christ.

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations."

Mt. 28: 18-19

Principles:

"By grace you have been saved through faith ... this isn't from yourself."
Eph. 2:8

"I came to you with much weakness and fear and much trembling." I Cor. 2:3

"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with the Spirit's power." I Cor. 2:4

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him." Jn. 6:44

"This is why I told you no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him." Jn. 6:65

Truth:

God does the work. We cannot fail. It is all God's work.

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors as though God were making his appeal through us." II Cor. 5:20

"The Words never come back empty."
Isa. 55:10

How Can I Share My Faith Without an Argument?

THE APPROACH

1. Do you have any kind of spiritual belief?
2. To you, who is Jesus?
3. Do you think there is a heaven and a hell?
4. If you died right now, where would you go?
5. If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it?

THE BIBLE

1. Romans 3:23
2. Romans 6:23
3. John 3:3
4. John 14:6
5. Romans 10:9-11
6. Revelation 3:20

THE CLOSE

1. Are you a sinner?
2. Do you want forgiveness of sins?
3. Do you believe Jesus died on the cross for you and rose again?
4. Are you willing to surrender yourself to Christ?
5. Are you ready to invite Jesus into your heart and into your life?

Bible Reading

God prepares you for ministry through the study of His Word.

Suggested Bible reading schedule:

Start with...

1. **Proverbs** - 31 chapters. Daily read the chapter that matches the day (on May 15 read chapter 15). Keep it going month after month, year after year.

If you want to add to that, go on to #2 below...

2. **4 Gospels** - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Read one chapter a day. Start in Matthew and when you finish John, go to Matthew again.

If you want to add to that go on to #3 below.

3. **Psalms** - 150 chapters
There are 150 chapters in Psalms. Daily read the chapters that match the date in multiples of 30 - meaning that on May 2, you read chapter 2, 32, 62, 92, 122. Keep it going month after month, year after year.

If you want to add to that, go on to #4 below

4. **Acts to Revelation** - read one chapter a day. Start in Acts and go through Revelations. When finished, start again. And if you want to add to that, go to #5 below.

5. **Genesis through Malachi** (excluding Psalms and Proverbs)
Read one chapter a day. Start in Genesis and read through Malachi. When finished start again.

Please don't try to start all of these at once. Start with one and when you are ready for more, go to the next level. Remember, God won't love you any more for doing this. Don't let this become about works.

Form No. Eternal Revenue Service

0002 Great Commission Exemption Form

To be filled out by all who believe they qualify for exemption from Commandment Mt. 28:19 and Statute Acts 1:8:

Your name

please print or type.

Present home address (number and street, including apartment number, or rural route)

City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code

Check the appropriate box under which you claim exemption:

- 1. I am 100 percent disabled and unable to comply.
- 2. I have received nothing, therefore I can give nothing.
- 3. I don't like this Law—too much centralized power.
- 4. My neighbor doesn't comply.
- 5. I am applying for a 20-year deferment. I need time to think it over.
- 6. I recently completed a 20-year deferment and am applying for an extension.
- 7. My ship sails from Joppa at five tomorrow.
- 8. I have never gotten a personal call from the Boss telling me that this law applies to me.
- 9. Since I did not qualify as a "child of God" under Eternal Revenue Form 0001 (and Law John 1:12), I am not under the jurisdiction of Commandment Mt. 28:19 and Statute Acts 1:8, and realize that I serve another master.
- 10. OTHER. Would you believe _____?

If you need more information about the Law of the Great Commission as stated in Commandment Mt. 28:19 and Statute Acts 1:8, please refer to subsidiary Statutes Mk. 16:15; II Cor. 5:19; Rom. 1:1; Mt. 24:14; Mk. 13:10; Lk. 24:47; Acts 26:18; and Rev. 15:6. You will find all of these in the supreme government publication entitled "Bible," the handbook for all mankind.

Please complete and bring Form 0002 with you to your pre-heaven placement interview with the "Lord of Lords." He will then determine if you indeed qualified for exemption.

Please Sign Here

Your signature

Date

1. If you were to die tonight, do you know for certain that you would go to heaven?
2. Suppose you did die tonight and stood before God and He would ask you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What would you say?

Grace

Heaven is a free gift. Rom. 6:23

We can't earn it or deserve it. Eph. 2:8-9

Man

Man is a sinner. Rom. 3:23 (3 sins a day & court).

God

God is merciful. 1 John 4:8

God is just. Exo. 34:7b

Jesus

What He did. (book transfer)

"It is finished."

Faith

The devil believes. James 2:19

The chair.

Receiving

The gift (gift pen)

Savior and Lord

Assurance

You can know. John 6:47

The books will be opened. Rev. 20:11-15