

BE
SENT BY
JESUS



DISCIPLESHIP
BOOKLET

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THE MISSION OF CHRIST

This booklet is designed to help walk a discipleship group through key theology and practice of the Great Commission. The first few lessons are focused upon the command itself—how can we be confident because of Jesus’ authority and promise? What does faithfulness to the Great Commission entail? The following four lessons present a framework for sharing the gospel faithfully and effectively, while the final lesson focuses on Biblical principles for engaging unbelievers in conversation and transitioning conversation to the gospel.

There is nothing like joining Jesus in his mission to save sinners! There is nothing like seeing his power on display as his Kingdom moves forward. If you will give yourself to the Lord and his command in faith, you will experience great joy and see how faithful and powerful he truly is.

THE AUTHORITY AND PROMISE OF CHRIST

Read Matthew 28:18-20

Mission begins with confidence in Jesus. When we truly believe the power and promise of our Lord, we realize that nothing can hinder his Kingdom from being established. Great acts of obedience to the Great Commission are not rooted in our abilities, personalities, or strategies. Courage and obedience are rooted in the sovereignty of Jesus and the power of the Spirit. The purpose of this week's focus is to ground your faith in this reality: *The authority of Jesus and the presence of Jesus ensure certain success for those on mission.*

THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST

Read Acts 16:13-15

1. What aspect of Christ's authority do we see on display in the conversion of Lydia?

2. How are you personally encouraged by this story? How should it affect your approach to sharing with others?

Read Acts 8:26–38

3. In what ways is Jesus' authority on display? Notice both the actions of the Spirit as well as the timing of the meeting between Phillip and the Ethiopian man.

4. How should this passage affect the way we view/perceive the unfolding of circumstances and relationships in our lives?

In Revelation 7, John sees a vision of the future where a “great multitude that no one could number, from all tribes and peoples and languages” were standing before the throne of God, worshiping Christ for his salvation. Jesus’ authority, rooted in his resurrection and ascension, guarantees the salvation of the people he has come to save. The future is sealed, and Jesus wins!

When we put these aspects of Christ’s authority together, there should be great courage stirred within us. Jesus is the one who changes hearts by the power of his word. Jesus is the one prompting us to move, speak, and engage. Jesus is the one who is in control of all human circumstances—nothing in our lives is random. And Jesus certainly ensures the future establishment and peace of his kingdom. We have a perfect confidence in his authority.

THE PROMISE OF CHRIST'S PRESENCE

"...and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b)

"...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self control." (2 Timothy 1:7)

"No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous..." (Joshua 1:5-6a)

Read Luke 24:13-27

5. For what reasons do we need the Holy Spirit in evangelism and discipleship?

6. What are the fears you have when thinking about sharing the gospel with others or investing in others? How do the truths above put those fears in their place?

NOTES

THE GREAT COMMISSION

The Great Commission is Jesus' final command to his disciples before ascending into heaven. He charges them, and us, to go to all nations and make disciples. Making disciples certainly includes sharing the good news of Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection. A person becomes a disciple when they repent of their sin and put their faith in Christ! However, making disciples involves more than evangelism and conversion alone. This lesson is geared to unpack Christ's command that we might be faithful to carry out his mission.

THE COMMAND OF CHRIST

Read Matthew 28:18-20

1. What does your current engagement with Jesus' command look like? How do you need to grow or respond?

CARRYING OUT THE MISSION

In the Greek text, there is only one true imperative or command in this passage: “Make disciples.” The words ‘go,’ ‘baptizing,’ and ‘teaching’ are all in the form of participles. This is helpful to know and instructive to our understanding of the command—it tells us that while making disciples is the central focus, ‘going, baptizing, and teaching’ is the way the command is carried out. Below, we will focus on breaking down each part of the command.

*“**Go** therefore and make disciples of all nations...”*

2. For a person to become a disciple, what must they hear? Be specific (feel free to bullet point).

3. For someone to hear, we must go! What does this look like practically in your life? Write down some ideas of how you can be faithful in intentionality and engagement with others for the sake of sharing Christ.

“Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

For help, see also: Colossians 2:11-12, Romans 6:1-4

4. Why is baptism such an important part of making disciples, and what does it symbolize? How does baptism relate to salvation?

Chuck Lawless, commenting on this passage, said, “A process of making disciples that ends with only the conversion of the evangelized is incomplete at best, disobedient at worst. In fact, the results of this omission can be disastrous.” If we only share the gospel but fail to disciple those who repent and believe, we are not only failing to obey this passage, but we are opening a foothold for the enemy and depriving God of worship. Disciples must be taught!

“Teaching *them to observe all that I have commanded you.*”

5. When someone comes newly into a relationship with Jesus, what are some key things they need to be taught to be effectively established in the faith?

SHARING OUR LIVES

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8

6. How does this passage help demonstrate what discipleship should look like? Why are relationships so important in this process?

The Great Commission is for the church—for all believers. This does not mean that every single individual Christian will be called overseas. However, every single Christian must strive to make disciples and share God's heart for the nations. It is insufficient and unbiblical to assert that the Great Commission only calls us to make disciples where we currently are. While of course that is true, we are commanded to go places we otherwise would not go, speak to people we otherwise would not speak with, and build relationships we otherwise would not build. Jesus came for us, and we are sent to others!

Beautifully, the Bible ends with the result of what faithful obedience to this task looks like (Revelation 7:9). However, there are currently 3.3 billion people that are considered unreached, meaning that they have little to no access to the gospel. The task is not yet finished! How is the Lord calling you to obedience now? How will you faithfully pray for the nations and for laborers to be sent out into God's harvest?

CHALLENGE

- As a D-Group, commit to regularly praying Luke 10:2. Pray that God would raise up laborers from your D-Group, from your Community Group, and from our church!
- Write down the names of those you could potentially share the gospel with or disciple in the future.

NOTES

FAITHFULLY PRESENTING THE GOSPEL

There are many methods and strategies that can be employed in evangelism. You may have even been trained in a certain evangelism method in the past and find it greatly helpful—if so, that is wonderful! While certain methods and strategies often change and are adapted, the message of the gospel never changes. The Gospel remains the “power of God to salvation” for all who believe (Romans 1:16). This means that the most important thing we must endeavor to do is memorize God’s word and practice articulating the key truths of his word. An important question is: What truths must someone hear to know and believe in Christ for salvation?

The next four lessons will be focused on the key Biblical truths that must be present when sharing the gospel. You may be familiar with the fourfold focus in which the Gospel can be effectively framed: God—Man—Christ—Response. Each of these words represents a core category of truth that must be established for the gospel to be coherently presented and understood.

GOD

Understanding the gospel begins and ends with God himself. There are key truths of who God is that must be known by all who would seek relationship with him. It can sometimes be easy to assume that it isn't necessary to lay a biblical foundation of who God is when in conversation a person confesses to 'believe in god' or 'have been raised in church.' However, it is often the case that people have not actually been exposed to God's word. Therefore, they haven't been exposed to the one true God at all. Our role in sharing with others is to present who God is directly from the Scripture—otherwise, the gospel will ultimately be unintelligible.

HE IS CREATOR

Read Genesis 1:1 and Revelation 4:11

1. Why is it important that a person understand and believe that God is creator and designer of all things? How does knowing this truth change how a person sees their life and purpose?

Having worked through the passages above, take some time by yourself or with a friend/family member to read some of the passages out loud and practice articulating their meaning. Practice sharing as if you are talking with someone who is hearing these truths for the first time. Often, we may think that we understand certain truths in Scripture very well—until we begin to try and articulate them. Don't be discouraged if you find it difficult at first! We must work hard to effectively share and teach the Word to others.

For example, if someone wanted to share truth about who God is to a friend, they might say:

“The Bible teaches that God has not only created all things and all people, but that he created them for his glory and purposes. Revelation 4:11 says, “Worthy are you our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” We all exist because God caused us to exist! It means that we not only find our purpose and understanding of life through him, but it means we are designed to be in relationship with him. God is holy, which means he is morally perfect and separate from his creation. It is great news that God is perfectly good! At the same time, this means he does not tolerate evil but his goodness leads him to bring justice—to set things right that are wrong in the world by judging sin...”

CHALLENGE

- Continue to practice articulating and thinking through the truths above.
- Be intentional to share the gospel with someone this week!

NOTES

MAN

“Man never achieves a clear knowledge of himself unless he has first looked upon God’s face, and then descends from contemplating Him to scrutinize himself. For we always seem to ourselves righteous and upright and wise and holy—this pride is innate in all of us—unless by clear proofs we stand convinced of our own unrighteousness, foulness, folly, and impurity.”

- John Calvin, Institutes

Knowledge of God is the necessary precursor to knowledge of self. It is in first knowing his character that we understand both our existence and our ultimate dilemma as sinners. This means it is essential in sharing the gospel that the presentation of God is first clear. Until one establishes who he is, it is impossible to dig into concepts of what it means to be “made in his image” or to “fall short of his glory.” Yet, when his identity is established, it is critical to bring forward a proper understanding of who we are before him and why we have been separated from relationship with him because of sin.

WE ARE ALL MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

Read Genesis 1:26–28

1. Why is it critical to help people understand this truth in sharing the gospel? What does this teach us about our design, relationships on Earth, and relationship with God?

WE ARE ALL SINNERS

Read Romans 3:23

2. How could you share the truth of Romans 3:23 with a friend in a manner where you humbly recognize your own sinfulness in the process of sharing?

3. How would you help someone understand how sin entered the world? When does a person become a sinner?

**WE ARE ALL DESERVING
OF GOD'S JUDGMENT**

Read Romans 6:23

4. In sharing this truth with a friend, how would you explain or illustrate “the wages of sin is death?”

5. How would you relate the truth of judgment to God's character? Look at last week's lesson on God for help.

WE ARE ALL GOING TO BE JUDGED

Read 2 Corinthians 5:10

6. Do you think sharing of coming judgment is necessary in presenting the gospel? Why?

7. Some claim that causing “fear” by presenting truths of God’s judgment is a bad thing, or is manipulative. What do you think of this? Looking to scripture, what kind of example does Jesus set for us?

Having worked through the passages above, take some time by yourself or with a friend/family member to read some of the passages out loud and practice articulating their meaning. Practice sharing as if you are talking with someone who is hearing these truths for the first time.

For example, if someone wanted to share truth about Man to a friend, they might say something like this:

“The Bible teaches in Genesis 1 that God made us in his image. This means God made us to be like him, to represent him, and to be in relationship with him. Yet, we all experience brokenness in life because of our sin and what

it has done to sever our relationship with God. I can readily tell you in my own life, I've experienced so much hurt and pain because of my own sin against God. I've done many things that have been wrong against the Lord and against others. I share these things with you because we have this in common—the Bible says we all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. This is a big deal because the Bible also says in Romans 6:23 that the “wages of sin is death.” God is just, therefore we are all going to be judged for our sin, to pay for our sin, unless a solution is provided to change our current standing...”

CHALLENGE

- Continue to practice articulating and thinking through the truths above.
- Be intentional to share the gospel with someone this week!

NOTES

CHRIST

The core of the gospel is, of course, Jesus! We must be intentional and well-reasoned in our presentation of who Jesus is and what he has done for sinners. Both the person of Christ and the work of Christ are critical to understand. We share Christ with joy and excitement because there is no greater news than the news of his salvation!

THE PERSON OF CHRIST

Read Isaiah 7:14, John 3:16, and John 14:6

1. What truths of the person of Christ should we seek to emphasize when sharing with someone?

2. Why is it important to the gospel to know Jesus is God?
To know he is Man?

THE WORK OF CHRIST - CHRIST'S SACRIFICIAL DEATH

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 and 1 Peter 2:22-24

3. How would you explain that Jesus was “made to be sin,” (2 Corinthians 5:21) or that he “bore our sin” (1 Peter 2:24) to a non-Christian?

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

Read 1 Corinthians 15:14

6. Why is the resurrection essential to gospel presentation and the truth of the gospel itself? (See *Romans 4:25* for help)

Having worked through the passages above, take some time by yourself or with a friend/family member to read some of the passages out loud and practice articulating their meaning. Practice sharing about the person and work of Christ as if you are talking with someone who is hearing these truths for the first time. Talk through God's holiness and our sin. Talk through who Jesus is and how that his work at the cross accomplished the justice of God. Explain how a person can be declared righteous because of Jesus.

For example, if one was sharing the truth of Christ, it might sound something like this:

“Considering the gravity of our sin and our inability to be holy in our own strength, it becomes clear we need someone to rescue us, to save us from our condition. The only one who can solve our sin problem is Jesus. This is the good news! The Bible teaches that Jesus is not only the God who created all things, but that Jesus became a man so we could know him personally. Isaiah 7:14 tells us that Jesus is “Immanuel” which means “God with us.” Jesus came to do what we could never do. First, we know that Jesus “committed no sin” according to 1 Peter 2. He was perfect according to God’s standard and God’s law. Second, in Jesus’ sinlessness, he suffered and died in our place to take the penalty of God’s wrath for our sin. 1 Peter 2:24 goes on to say that Jesus “bore our sin in his body on the tree that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.” Jesus both fulfilled God’s standard of holiness and paid the debt that sinners owe in his death on the cross. All of this is proven and shown to be effective and real because Jesus was raised from the dead. This means Jesus is who he says he is!...”

CHALLENGE

- Continue to practice articulating and thinking through the truths above.
- Be intentional to share the gospel with someone this week!

NOTES

RESPONSE

The Gospel is not only a message of truth, it is an invitation to respond to Jesus! If we present the truths of God, Man, and Christ biblically and precisely, yet fail to call for a response, our presentation is incomplete. Throughout the New Testament, the call to respond to the gospel is a call to repentance and faith. From the beginning of Jesus' ministry to the last words of Revelation, we see the heart of God is to change the hearts of men and women in his image.

IDENTIFYING SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING AND CONVICTION

As we share the truth of Scripture with others, we must be sensitive and prayerful about evaluating someone's current understanding and openness to the gospel. In some cases, it is not yet appropriate to call for a response to repent and believe the gospel. For example: If a person does not yet understand who God is or what sin is, calling for repentance will only bring a sense of confusion. The appropriate categories are not yet in place to respond to Jesus.

We first want to make sure someone understands who God is, who they are, and why they need Christ. We also want to be sensitive to observe when a person is coming under conviction of the Holy Spirit. Conviction ultimately holds a Biblical connotation of being convinced by the Spirit that God's word is true. Though we cannot see someone's heart, there are certain aspects of conviction that will be present when the Spirit is at work. These things are often observable in relationship and conversation.

Read John 16:8–11

1. If someone is coming under conviction, what things will they be convinced of by God? How do these relate to the truth of the gospel?

BIBLICAL REPENTANCE AND BELIEF

Read Mark 1:14–15 and John 3:16

2. How would you describe what it means to “repent” to someone unfamiliar with the Bible? What is a person repenting of?

3. How would you describe to someone what it means to “believe” the gospel?

4. How does genuine repentance and faith relate to these areas, and why might it be helpful to speak to these areas with an unbeliever?

Mind (Intellect)

Emotions (Feeling)

The Will (Volition)

7. Upon hearing the gospel, someone says to you: “I want a relationship with Jesus, I want to be forgiven of my sin. What do I do?” How would you respond to them?

Having worked through the passages above, take some time by yourself or with a friend/family member to read some of the passages out loud and practice articulating their meaning. Practice calling for a response as if you are talking with someone who is hearing these truths for the first time. Practice articulating how a person must respond if they desire to be saved.

For example, in calling for and explaining gospel response, you could say something like this:

“It seems that you understand what I am sharing with you about who God is, who we are as sinners, and the good news of Christ. Knowing these things is essential, but even more important than knowing the truth of the gospel message is that we respond to it. There is a great urgency to the problem of our sin. As we have already talked about: “the wages of sin is death (Rom. 6).” The Bible teaches in 2 Corinthians 5:10 that we all are going to stand before Christ and be judged. If we stand before him in our condition as sinners, we are going to be condemned forever in hell. It is for this reason that I am sharing with you—this doesn’t have to be the result of your life! Jesus has paid the penalty for sin at the cross and lived sinlessly so that

he can put us in right standing, or justify us, before God. Jesus offers this to all who would come to him for forgiveness and life! John 3:16 says “God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him would not perish but have eternal life.” Jesus is so clear: If you will turn away from sin and unbelief and put your faith and trust in him, he will immediately forgive you! Jesus will put you in right standing before God and fill you with his Holy Spirit, giving you eternal life. But, you must respond to him. What do you think about all of this? Do you want to respond to Christ, do you want to put your faith in him? ...” (If affirmative, one could walk through Romans 10:9–11 and help a person cry out to Jesus in faith).

CHALLENGE

- Continue to practice articulating and thinking through the truths above.
- Be intentional to share the gospel with someone this week!

NOTES

BUILDING GOSPEL BRIDGES

Often the hardest part about sharing the gospel is turning an ordinary conversation into a gospel conversation. So far, you have seen the authority and promise of Christ, the command of the Great Commission, and how to faithfully present the gospel using the framework of God, Man, Christ, Response. With these truths in mind, this lesson will help you put everything into practice by giving practical ways to get into gospel conversations. We should always be looking for opportunities that gospel bridges can be made. A gospel bridge is a simple statement or question that moves the conversation from ordinary to spiritual in focus, hopefully bringing an opportunity to share the gospel. One can think about gospel bridges through the method:

EXPLORE – STIMULATE – SHARE

Explore: Seek to genuinely understand the person you are talking to, or the environment of people you find yourself within, through making observations, initiating conversation, and asking questions.

Stimulate: Use a gospel bridge to shift the conversation from an ordinary focus to spiritual focus.

Share: Share the gospel using the framework God, Man, Christ, Response.

First, we will look to examples from Scripture to see these principles at work. Following time in the Scripture, ideas for gospel bridges can be found below.

3. How should this passage shape how we share the gospel?

4. List a few people or places you currently spend time around, and brainstorm ways you can be more intentional in exploration and stimulation through gospel bridges.

7. Why do you think it is so difficult for us to turn conversations toward spiritual matters?

A gospel conversation is just that: a conversation. Yes, we are called to share and proclaim truth—but this typically happens in a format of dialogue. It is so important to spend a lot of time listening and asking questions. You will notice in both passages above the gospel was contextualized to the current circumstance of its hearers. Paul and Jesus took time to understand the people they were talking to, and then they built a bridge to the gospel based on what they learned.

GOSPEL BRIDGES

Below are some examples of gospel bridges to use in everyday conversations to naturally transition the conversation to spiritual matters. These can help open a door for you to share the gospel, but you must be intentional. There are times when gospel opportunities fall in your lap, but most of the time we must intentionally guide the conversation toward spiritual things.

BROKENNESS BRIDGE

“Thank you for sharing with me how you are struggling, it means a lot! How do you find hope during times like this?”

“How I view brokenness is one of the defining factors of my life, would you mind if I shared a bit about how I think through these kinds of things?”

CHURCH/RELIGION BRIDGE

“Do you go to a church anywhere?”

“What does your church teach about the way a person can have his/her sins forgiven?”

“What do you think about the idea of church and religion generally?”

PRAYER BRIDGE

“Is there something I could pray about for you?”

PERSONAL OPINION BRIDGE

“In your personal opinion, what is a Christian?”

“In your personal opinion, what does it take for a person to get to heaven?”

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE BRIDGE

“Do you consider yourself a spiritual person?”

“Where are you in your own personal search for meaning and purpose in life?”

INTELLECTUAL BRIDGE

“Has anyone ever shared with you the main message of the Bible?”

“Has anyone ever shared with you how to have a personal relationship with God?”

FELT NEEDS BRIDGE

"You know, I still have my share of problems, but having a relationship with Jesus Christ has completely changed how I view them. What do you know about Jesus personally?"

WEEKEND BRIDGE

"What did you do this weekend?... Sunday, I went to church and learned about _____."

8. Which of these bridges do you find most helpful, and why?

CHALLENGE

- Have a conversation with an unbeliever this week and use the **Explore - Stimulate - Share** method to transition the conversation into a gospel conversation.

NOTES

TESTIMONY GUIDE

When we share our testimony, we are communicating what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His cross and resurrection! We testify about what Jesus has done in our lives and how the truth of the gospel has changed us. Note how the Apostle Paul shares his testimony and then write out your own testimony with corresponding points.

Read Acts 22:3-21

Paul's testimony may be broken down into 3 statements that are helpful when considering the content included in a testimony.

LIFE BEFORE CHRIST (22:3-5)

Paul includes a clear confession of sin (he was a persecutor of the church).

- Make it clear that you believe yourself to be a sinner separated from Christ prior to believing the gospel.

HOW HE MET CHRIST (22:6-10)

Paul gives a clear articulation of how Christ revealed himself as Lord and Paul followed.

- It is not essential that you remember the exact date and time of your conversion, but you should be able to communicate when you repented and believed in Jesus as Lord. The focus of this point is to share an accurate understanding that salvation is by faith alone in Jesus' death and resurrection alone.

LIFE SINCE ACCEPTING CHRIST (22:11-21)

Paul highlights how Christ changed his life (he went from

persecuting the church to preaching the gospel).

- For the Christian, there are new desires that are brought about by a changed heart.
- Answer: How has Christ changed your life since you began following him?

COMMUNICATING YOUR TESTIMONY

Now write out your testimony using the same structure seen in Acts 22.

1. Life Before Christ

2. How You Met Christ

3. Life Since Accepting Christ

CHALLENGE

It's time to be sent! As you prayerfully share the gospel and your testimony with others, ask the Lord to give you favor with the lost. Ask Him to make it plain who you should spend time investing in so they would become disciples who make disciples.

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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. – Matthew 28:19-20

APPENDIX

CONTENT FOR AN EVANGELISTIC BIBLE STUDY

This guide is designed to help you share the gospel with a friend in a Bible-study style format. Each lesson coincides with the God—Man—Christ—Response framework. Utilize each lesson as a general guide or prompt to focus your time. One could use the content below over the course of several weeks, or this could be used as a tool to quickly access relevant Scripture for certain topics of discussion.

GOD

Objective: During this conversation we want to discover what the Bible says about God. Who is God? Does he exist? What is God like?

GOD IS THE CREATOR

Read Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 44:6, Acts 17:24-27

1. Do you believe there is a God who made all things?
2. If God created all things (including you), do you believe you are accountable to him?

Read Revelation 4:11

3. Because God created all things, creation gives him glory and praise. What does this teach us about our purpose as human beings?

GOD IS LOVE AND GOD IS HOLY

Read 1 John 4:7-12, Psalm 5:4

4. What do you think it means to be “holy?”
5. If God is holy, what must he do with unrighteousness and disobedience to his commands? What does that mean for us?

The Bible teaches there is a God who made you. Your purpose is to live for him. He loves you, and he is holy. His nature will not allow him to overlook unrighteousness. For this reason, we need to come to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ.

MAN

Objective: During this conversation, we want to discover what the Bible says about mankind. Are we “good people?” What is our standing before God? Do we have a problem?

MANKIND IS MADE TO REPRESENT AND REFLECT GOD

Read Genesis 1:26–28

6. What do you think the world would look like if we lived within God’s original design? What would your life look like?

MANKIND IS SINFUL

Read Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

7. Do you believe people are inherently “good?”
8. Do you believe you are in right standing with God? How would you justify your answer?

Read Matthew 22:36–40

9. Have you fulfilled what Jesus says is the great commandment?

MANKIND STANDS GUILTY AND HELPLESS

Read Ephesians 2:1–3, Romans 6:23, and John 5:25–29

10. What sticks out to you in these passages?
11. What does the Bible say sinners should expect from God?
12. How does all of this hit you personally?

Mankind’s nature is fallen; we are naturally rebellious to the God who made us. This is a major problem because sin brings brokenness, death, and judgment from God. For this reason, we need to be reconciled back into right relationship with God through his Son, Jesus Christ.

CHRIST

Objective: During this discussion we want to discover what the Bible says about Jesus. Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus come to earth? What did Jesus do to save us from sin?

JESUS IS THE PROMISED MESSIAH, TRULY GOD AND TRULY MAN

Read Matthew 1:21-23; Romans 1:1-4; Philippians 2:5-8

13. Who do you believe that Jesus is?

JESUS LIVED SINLESSLY AND DIED SACRIFICIALLY

Read Hebrews 4:15, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, 1 Peter 2:22-24

14. Why is it important that the Savior be perfect and without sin?

15. Since the punishment for sins is death, do you understand why Jesus had to die on the cross for sins?

16. How does it impact you to know Jesus did this out of love for you?

JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND IS ALIVE TODAY

Read Matthew 28:1-7, John 20:19-29, Ephesians 1:19-23

17. Knowing Jesus rose from the dead, what does that mean for how we face death?

18. Knowing Jesus rose from the dead, how should we respond?

Jesus is the Son of God. He died on a cross to pay for your sins and reconcile you to God. It is only through Jesus Christ that you can be forgiven of sins and made alive to God. For this reason, we should come to God through his Son, Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE

Objective: During this discussion we want to establish how to enter a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

WE MUST REPENT AND TURN TO CHRIST

Read Acts 2:37-39, Acts 3:19, and Mark 1:14-15

19. What is repentance?
20. What sin(s) would you need to turn from to follow Jesus?
21. Is there any reason why you will not repent of your sin and trust Jesus for forgiveness and new life?

WE MUST PUT OUR FAITH IN CHRIST

Read Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 2:15-16, Philippians 3:8-9

22. What is the difference between (1) faith that Jesus is real, and (2) faith in Jesus and his death for forgiveness and right standing with God?
23. Do you trust the blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins?
24. What evidence would you give that you are trusting in the blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins?

REPENTANCE AND BELIEF LEADS TO LIFE.
REJECTION LEADS TO DEATH.

Read 1 John 5:10-12 and John 3:16-19

25. Are you ready at this time to repent from your sins and trust in Jesus as Savior?

