

Sharing Your Story - Fishing Tools

Welcome to a simple way to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people. This will encourage us to know the Biblical purpose of evangelism and how Jesus calls each of His disciples, including us, to share the Gospel with others as a command, not a choice. First, let us look at the Biblical Foundation of evangelism.

Biblical Foundation

- **READ, Matthew 28:19-20**

Jesus has given us a command to make disciples of all people. This is not a suggestion, but a COMMAND.

- **READ, Matthew 4:19**

Jesus said, "Follow ME and I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS of men."

- **READ, Peter 3:15-16**

Peter tells believers to "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the REASON for the HOPE that you have." (NIV)

- **READ, 1 Corinthians 15:3-9**

The Apostle Paul reinstates the GOSPEL message that has been shared throughout the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament times.

This foundation is what should MOTIVATE you to share!

Do you love to GO FISHING or CATCH fish the most?

Every effective fisherman has a number of tools that are used depending on a variety of factors. At least three tools that every follower of Jesus Christ must have to be an effective personal witness are:

1. **A well-thought-out and sharp presentation of "your testimony" that focuses on your personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.**
2. **A marked Bible to present the Gospel truths.**
3. **A memorized Gospel Conversation that clearly shares the Gospel truths and opens doors for dialogue and explanation of those truths.**

Questions?

Which tools do you have? Are you proficient in using these tools? Which tools do you need to develop greater proficiency?

1. YOUR PERSONAL STORY

- **A Biblical Example, Acts 22:3-15**
 - I have not always been a follower of Christ (vv. 3-5)
 - I committed my life to follow Christ (vv. 6-13)
 - My life in Christ is Different (vv. 14-15)

- **Reminders:**
 - **Romans 8:16** tells us the Holy Spirit will HELP us speak
 - **1 Peter 3:15** commands us to be ready to give a REASON for the hope we have in Jesus
 - **Colossians 2:6-7** encourages us to rooted in your faith, not in emotions

- **Guidelines for Sharing Your Personal Salvation Story** (*see worksheet*)
 - Key Factors:
 - Focus on how JESUS has changed your life.
 - Relive your story as you tell it.
 - Be TRUTHFUL but keep it to the point – only share the important parts while not making it confusing, but keep your story relatable to the person with whom you are talking with.
 - Avoid church WORDS that may be more confusing than clear about trusting in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
 - Avoid using specific places and people unless it is relevant to the person you are sharing with.
 - K.I.S.S. – KEEP IT SHORT and SIMPLE

2. MARKED BIBLE VERSES

ROMANS ROAD

John 3:16 - God loves you

Romans 3:23 - You are a sinner

Romans 5:8 - Christ died for your sins

Romans 6:23 - Sin leads to death in Hell

Romans 10:9-10 - Confess & Believe to be saved

Ephesians 2:8-9 - God's Grace alone saves us

Romans 10:13 - Jesus saves you when you trust in Him

3. GOSPEL CONVERSATION

STEP 1: GET CONNECTED (3-7 minutes) “Who are you?” and “How are you?”

STEP 2: GET TO A GOD CONVERSATION “Are you Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Atheist, or Christian?” or “What are your religious beliefs or spiritual heritage?” There are similarities in our religions”, or “Almost all religions are alike, aren’t they?”

- We’re trying to please God, and we’re trying to have our sins forgiven.
- We’re all sinners, aren’t we?

STEP 3: GET TO LOSTNESS “What are you doing to pay off your sins?”

- Listen and ask inquisitive questions.
- Ask the three “admission questions”
 - Are your sins paid off (forgiven) yet?
 - When will they be paid off (forgiven)?
 - On Judgment Day, will they be paid off (forgiven) then?

STEP 4: GET TO THE GOSPEL (The First and Last Sacrifice Story, Tools, or Testimony)

... “That’s why I know my sins are forgiven, because God Himself made a way for our sins to be forgiven through Jesus.”

STEP 5: GET TO A DECISION (Draw the net and Arrange follow-up)

- It makes sense doesn’t it that we can’t pay off our own sins, but God made a way for our sins to be forgiven through Jesus Christ?
- Have you ever heard this story before?
- Do you believe what I’ve told you about Christ paying for our sins?
 - If they aren't open, summarize what makes faith in Christ's sacrifice different from almost all other religions, and then move on.
 - If they are open, but not yet professing faith, continue the conversation or set the follow-up visit.
 - If they claim to believe the gospel, lead them to repent from sin and surrender themselves to Christ using Romans 10:9-10, and then pursue baptism.

Tools for Sharing the Gospel

“[The Big Story](#)”, The “[BRIDGE](#)”, The “[3 Circles](#)”, The “[ANY-3 On One Page](#)”,
“[HealthyDisciple](#)”, The “[HOLY BIBLE in Vietnamese](#)”

MY PERSONAL STORY/TESTIMONY WORKSHEET

This will help you share your testimony personally, but quickly and clearly with others. Share your life before and after you became a follower of Jesus. The most important part of your testimony is "how Jesus saved you". This lets the hearer understand how they can receive Jesus by hearing Bible verses. Always remember, your story is worth just as much as anyone else's because Jesus is the main character in your story!

My life before I made a commitment to follow Jesus:

How I came to know Jesus personally: (age, time, place, specifically what I did, etc.)

My life since I came to know Jesus personally:

Any-3 on One Page

1. **GET CONNECTED** (3-7 minutes): “Who are you?” and “How are you?”

2. **GET TO A GOD CONVERSATION:** “Are you Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist or Christian?” or “What are your religious beliefs?”

There are similarities in our religions”, or “Almost all religions are alike, aren’t they?”

- I. We’re trying to please God, and we’re trying to pay off our sins (get our sins forgiven)
- II. We’re all sinners, aren’t we?

3. **GET TO LOSTNESS:** “What are you doing to pay off your sins (get your sins forgiven)?”

- I. Listen and ask inquisitive questions.
- II. Ask the three “admission questions”
 - A. Are your sins paid off (forgiven) yet?
 - B. When will they be paid off (forgiven)?
 - C. On Judgment Day, will they be paid off (forgiven) then?

4. **GET TO THE GOSPEL:** (*The First and Last Sacrifice Story*)

“What I believe is different. I know my sins are forgiven, not because I’m a good person, although I do try. My sins are forgiven because God Himself made a way for our sins to be forgiven.” ...

Tell the First and Last Sacrifice Story

... “That’s why I know my sins are forgiven, because God Himself made a way for our sins to be forgiven through Jesus.”

5. **GET TO A DECISION:** (*Draw the net and Arrange follow-up*)

- It makes sense doesn’t it that we can’t pay off our own sins, but God made a way for our sins to be forgiven through Jesus Christ?
- Have you ever heard this story before?
- Do you believe what I’ve told you about Christ paying for our sins?
 - i. *If they aren’t open, summarize what makes faith in Christ’s sacrifice different from almost all other religions, and then move on.*
 - ii. *If they are open, but not yet professing faith, continue the conversation or set the follow-up visit.*
 - iii. *If they claim to believe the gospel, lead them to repent from sin and surrender themselves to Christ using Romans 10:9-10, and then pursue baptism.*

<https://www.missionfrontiers.org/issue/article.any-3>

FIRST and LAST SACRIFICE STORY

1 John 1:9, Jeremiah 33:8 I know my sins are forgiven, and it is not because
Romans 3:10-12, Psalm 14:1-3, Psalm 53:1-3 I am a good person, although I do try to do good.
Matthew 1:21, Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 10:45 I know my sins are forgiven, because God Himself has already
made a way for our sins to be forgiven.

Jesus Was Sinless

John 1:1 Jesus, the Word of God, was in Heaven with God from the beginning.
Matthew 1:21 Then Jesus was born into the world through the virgin Mary.

Sura 5:46, Sura 10:94-95, Sura 19:19 Even the Quran says this.

Hebrews 4:14-16, 2 Corinthians 5:21 Jesus never sinned.
Matthew 4:1-11 He once fasted 40 days and 40 nights without eating anything. During this
time he was tempted in every way imaginable, yet he did not sin. He never
killed anyone. He could overcome His passions, so He never married.
Luke 1:26-38 He was born into a normal family (not rich or a religious
religious hypocrite). He was an ordinary person like us.

Jesus Performed Great Miracles

Matthew 8:28-34, Mark 5:1-17 He cast out demons.
Matthew 8:14-16, Luke 4:38-41 He healed many people.
Mark 12:27, Luke 7, John 11 He even raised the dead.

Jesus Prophesied His Death

Luke 9:22-24, Luke 13:33 It is interesting that, although Jesus was not old yet,
Matthew 16:21, Matthew 17:22 he began prophesying to his followers, "I must die and
Mark 8:31-38 will rise again." Do you know why Jesus said, "I must die?"

Why did Jesus have to die? (Adam and Eve Story)

Genesis 1-2 The answer is in the books of the Law (Torah). The Law tells us about the first person, Adam and his wife Eve. In the beginning, God created Adam and from his rib, God created his wife Eve. God put them in a perfect paradise, called the Garden of Eden. They were given the responsibility of taking care of the garden. They were also given great freedom to eat fruit from all of the trees of the garden, except for the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God promised that if they ate that fruit, they would be punished severely – They would die.

Sin, Guilt, Shame, Fear = Leaves for Clothes

Genesis 3 One day, the Devil (in the form of a serpent) tempted Eve to eat the fruit that God had forbidden. Eve ate from the fruit, then she gave it to Adam, and he also ate from it. Suddenly, they were embarrassed and felt ashamed, so they made clothes from leaves to cover their nakedness. They were also afraid, so they hid from God.

Severe Punishment

Genesis 2:17 Then God, who is all-knowing, came to them and brought severe punishment. God cast Adam and Eve out of the garden like Paradise, and they could never return.

Romans 3:23 Finally they died. God's intention was for them to live forever, but because of sin,
Romans 6:23 they had to die.

Genesis 3:6 That is interesting, because as far as we know, Adam and Eve were responsible, good people, maybe better than us. We are not told in the Scripture, but perhaps they had already done many good works. However, how many times did Adam and Eve sin before God judged them? Just one time, and that was a small sin.

Genesis 2:17 They hadn't killed anyone, committed adultery, or stolen anything. They merely ate a fruit which God told them not to eat. Sometimes we think that if we do more good things than bad things, that our sins will be forgiven, but that is not what the Bible says.

Promised Savior and New Clothes

Genesis 3:14-21 After judging Adam and Eve, God also judged the serpent (Satan) who had deceived them. God promised that a Savior, whom He had anointed, would be born of a woman's seed, would defeat Satan, and would suffer to redeem people from their sins.

Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 11:1-9 Many prophets over a period of hundreds of years promised
Genesis 12:3, Jeremiah 23:5, Zechariah 9:9 the coming savior, who would pay off our sin debt

Genesis 3:21 God still loved the people that he had created. So He made a way for their sins to be forgiven. God did something interesting. He changed their clothes. Formerly, they wore leaves for clothes. Do you know what kind of clothes God gave them?
Zechariah 3:4 God replaced their clothes with animal skins. It appears that God himself offered
Leviticus 17:11 the first sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins. The teaching of the Torah, Psalms,
Hebrews 9:22 the prophets and the Gospel is that if there is no shedding of blood, sins are not
John 1:29 forgiven.

“That is Why Jesus Had To Die!”

All of our ancestors offered blood sacrifices to have their sins forgiven: Adam and Eve, Abel, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, etc. Then Jesus came, like I told you earlier. He was born of a virgin. That is interesting, Jesus was a woman's descendent. He lived sinlessly and performed great miracles.

John 1:29 One day a prophet named John said this about Jesus, “Look, the Lamb of God, which takes away the sins of the world.” That is interesting, isn't it? A person was called God's lamb. WHY? Because a lamb is a sacrificial animal. **THAT IS WHY JESUS SAID, “I MUST DIE.”**

1 Corinthians 15:3-8 Jesus came to be God's sacrifice to pay off our sin debt. Therefore Jesus
Romans 6:23 surrendered himself to evil people. They crucified him and his blood
Romans 5:8 poured out. Before Jesus died, He said “It is finished.” Then he bowed his
Romans 6:5-6 head and died. Our sin debt was paid off. Then Jesus came back alive on
the 3rd day after his death. He appeared to his followers for 40 days, then
Luke 24:51 He was taken up into heaven. Some day Jesus will return to the earth as
Matthew 25:31-46, John 5:25-29, Acts 17:31 Judge over all mankind.

That is Why I Know My Sins Are Forgiven

The Bible says that if we surrender to Jesus as Lord and believe that He died for our sins and was raised from the dead, our sins will be forgiven. **That is why I know my sins are forgiven.**