

How to Lead Someone to Christ

“Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.” Mark 1:16-18, KJV.

Main Thought: When you follow the Lord, He will enable you to reach people for Him and lead them into the knowledge of salvation through Jesus Christ. You can lead people to Christ!

“And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.” Mark 4:30-32, KJV.

THE MIRACLE OF THE NEW BIRTH (understanding the product)

“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:3, KJV.

We cannot disciple people into heaven. Discipleship is what happens AFTER a person receives Christ. Each person must come to a point of decision to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Without the new birth they cannot SEE the kingdom of God. Once they receive Jesus, then we can help them to grow in Christ.

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:” John 1:12, KJV.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17, KJV.

LOVE IS THE GREAT KEY TO EVANGELISM (preparing the soil)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” John 3:16, 17, KJV.

We see Jesus meeting the needs of people—physical needs, emotional needs, social needs. He fed, them. He healed them. He loved them. This opened the door to minister to them spiritually. When you are meeting people’s needs, loving them, helping them, you are in a great position to lead them to Jesus.

Some people religion makes them mean. You don’t see that in the ministry of Jesus. He forgave people and then challenged them to go and sin no more. He ate with the sinners and showed them a better way. Be nice!

Pray and tell the Lord, I’m open for business today! Lord, open the door, open their heart, open my mouth.

Use something to transition to a spiritual conversation. Like Jesus with the woman at the well. Or you might use the direct approach, especially after you have built a relationship with them. Ask them, “Have you ever thought about where you will spend eternity?” If they say heaven, you may want to ask them why they believe that. Some people have a false assurance based on church membership, baptism, or confirmation. Others may believe that everyone goes to heaven. Study these scriptures to prepare yourself. John 14:6, John 1:12, Hebrews 9:27

Do what works for you. It’s based on who you are and what Jesus means to you and what is comfortable and normal in the situation. You are unique and the person you are sharing with is unique. The Holy Spirit will help you to grow in this! The key is to release the love of God to the person you are ministering to.

If you are speaking to a group include the Gospel message and perhaps part of your testimony in your presentation, then transition to talking to them about their salvation.

SHARING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE (planting the seed)

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.” 1 Corinthians 1:18, KJV.

Story: At a meeting Billy Graham preached and has little results. He failed to preach the cross. No one ever got saved without the Gospel.

Here is a basic presentation of the Gospel that you can use in conversation or when speaking to a group. Get these thoughts and scriptures in your heart so you can share them without notes.

1. CREATION—God created everything and made man in His image perfect and sinless Genesis 1:1, 26-28

2. FALL—Man disobeyed and invited sin and brought death into the human race. Genesis 3:1-8, Romans 5:12, Romans 3:23

3. SALVATION—Jesus Christ the Son of God died on a cross to pay the penalty for our sin and rose from the dead. John 3:16, John 14:6, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Romans 6:23

4. RECEIVING JESUS—When we receive Jesus as our personal risen Lord and Savior (repent and believe), He forgives us, comes into our lives in by the Holy Spirit, transforms us into children of God, and gives us divine purpose. John 1:12, Romans 10:9-10

SHARING YOUR PERSONAL STORY (facts tell, stories sell)

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:8, KJV.

Witness (definition)—a. One who can give a firsthand account of something seen, heard, or experienced: a witness to the accident. b. One who furnishes evidence. c. Something that serves as evidence; a sign. Your personal story is the greatest testimony to the power of the Gospel.

Tell them what God has done for you. Tell them how God gave you peace, healed your marriage, delivered you from drugs, revealed His love, etc.

Illustration: Jim Gilbert and Denny Long talk about By the Yard Furniture.

LEADING PEOPLE IN A PRAYER OF SALVATION (bringing in the harvest)

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Romans 10:9, 10, KJV.

Ask them: Would you like to know that your sins are forgiven and that you will go to heaven when you die? If you are speaking to a group you can share Romans 10:9-10 and ask them to bow their heads and then ask those who would like to know that they are forgiven and going to heaven and the raise their hands.

A prayer for salvation: Dear God, I have sinned and I need forgiveness. I believe Jesus died for my sins on the cross and rose again. Today I turn from my sin and I receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Thank you for forgiving me and making me your child today. I call you Father, in Jesus name. Amen.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Share your testimony with one other person. Include Jesus' death for our sins, burial and resurrection, and lead them in a prayer of salvation.