How to Witness One-to-One

Setting:

While preaching the gospel, and winning souls the opportunity will often arise to present the gospel individually with unbelievers. This is an opportunity to lead the soul to Christ. It is best to witness in a team of at least two. One would pray and support while the other lead in presenting the gospel.

Goal:

To present the gospel so that the person can receive Jesus Christ at that very moment, at any location.

I. Approach:

- Begin with an introduction. Introduce yourself and your purpose.
 Example: Hello Sir/Madam, I am here in the community to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with you.
- 2. Ask an opening question.
 - a. Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior?
 - b. Do you have eternal life?

Following Questions Can Help to clarify and Open the door to present the gospel

- c. Have you committed your life to Jesus Christ?
- d. If you should die, where will you spend eternity?
- e. Have you experienced the life-changing miracle of a new birth in Jesus Christ

II. Message

After the initial approach, proceed to presenting the gospel. The Presentation of the Gospel should include the following elements

1. Problem: Mankind's Problem is sin -

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. Consequence of sin -

Roman 6:23 For the wages of sin is death.

The consequence of sin is death, meaning:

- a. Spiritual Death soul is separate from God
- Eternal separation Body and soul eternal separated from God in torment, experiencing God's anger and wrath in hell (Rev. 20:14)
- c. Physical Death with no hope again of having eternal life

3. Solution: God's Gift - Eternal Life - Romans 3:23; I peter 3:18

- a. Given through Jesus Christ, who died for our sins.

 Romans 6:23 ..but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- b. Jesus Christ died for our sins to bring us to God. I Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. John 3:16 For God so love the world that he gave His only begotten Son

4. Action: Receive Christ by Faith

a. If you believe that Jesus died for your sins, and rose again, then you will have eternal life.

John 1:12 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:

b. Confess Jesus Christ

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thy heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

5. Share the Result:

- a. Eternal Life (John 3:16; John 10:10; John 3:36)
- b. Relationship with God (John 14:6)
- c. Freedom from the guilt of sin (Romans 8:1; I John 1:9; Isaiah 1:18)
- d. Freedom from the bondage of sin (John 8:32)
- e. Changed, new life (2 Corinthians 5:17)

6. Emphasize the Message

Use the following to emphasize the message of salvation.

- a. Share your personal testimony
- b. Give an example of another person's testimony
- c. Use prophetic fulfillments, illustrations or current events

<u>Prophecies and Fulfill</u>ment: Go to youtube.com/harvestarmy for many current prophecies revealed by Jesus Christ with current fulfillments. Present these to the unbeliever.

<u>Illustration Examples</u>: Bridge illustration: Man is separated from God because of sin. God is on one side and man is on the other. Sin is a gulf in the middle. Only Jesus Christ is the bridge that connects man to God.

<u>Current Events</u>: The calamities, violence and insecurities in the world today means that we all need to have the assurance of eternal life

III. Invitation to Salvation

- 1. Say to the person; You can receive Jesus Christ right now by praying and confessing him as Lord and asking him to come into your life.
- 2. Tell the person that you will help them to say the prayer, and ask them, "are you ready to receive eternal life in Jesus Christ?"
- 3. Lead them into a prayer of repentance:

Prayer of Repentance:

Tell the person to pray after you the following:

Dear God, I am a sinner. I need eternal life, but I cannot save myself. But I believe that Jesus Christ died for me so that I may have eternal life. I confess all my sins to you now, and make a decision to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

IV. Assurance & Follow-Up

Ask the Person:

Do you believe that Jesus Christ has forgiven?

Do you make a decision to follow him?

Once the person answers yes to the above questions, then do the following:

- 1. Pray for them
- 2. Tell them that they now have eternal life. Their sins are forgiven and they are now a child of God (John 1:12; I John 1:19; Romans 10:9).
- 3. Tell them to begin doing the following 4 things:
 - a. Attend church regularly. Hebrews 10:25
 - b. Read the Bible Daily (St. John is a good book for them to begin)
 I Peter 2:2
 - c. Tell friends, and family that they have received Jesus Christ.
 - d. Pray Daily. Matthew 23:41

- 4. Take their contact information (Name, phone number, address, email) so that you can contact them to invite them to church and fellowship with them.
- 5. Tell them that they need to get baptized as soon as possible.
- 6. Recommend a bible-believing church.
- 7. If possible, leave them with information or materials for them to attend the next church service or to encourage them about their new life in Christ.

If the Person Refuses to Accept Jesus Christ

- a. Do not argue with the person (2 Timothy 2:24).
- b. You may use other testimonies, current events or illustrations.
- c. Offer to pray for the person. Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict them to salvation
- d. Offer to take their contact information to follow up with them at a later time.

Handling Objections

Sometimes objections will arise. In that case ensure to keep an attitude that focuses on winning the person to Christ. Keep Jesus Christ and the person's need for eternal life as the focus.

I. Maintain a Positive Attitude

1. Avoid Arguments (2 Timothy 2:24; Titus 3:9)

It is best to avoid arguments and striving with the unbeliever.

2. Focus on the Goal

Keep the focus on receiving eternal life in Jesus Christ. Arguments on topics non-related such as "which day to worship", "what church to go to" and soon will bear no fruits.

II. What to do?

1. Prayer & Spiritual Warfare.

If you are evangelizing with someone else then they should be praying. If you are by yourself, softly whisper a prayer while the person is speaking. Rebuke and bind every spirit of deception, confusion, lying, blindness, etc.

2. Be Proactive in Your Presentation of the Message

As you become aware of common objections, plan beforehand to deal with them in the presenting the gospel. You may anticipate certain objections based on what you know about the person that you are speaking to, the location you are evangelizing in, the culture, etc.

3. Postpone the Answer

If the person brings up a matter that is not essential to the gospel message, then politely ask the person if they can hold the question until later to give you the chance to complete the message. Leave it to the person to bring up the matter again later; if he does not bring it up again, then don't answer.

4. Answer Quickly

If the matter is important and would need answering for the person to understand the gospel, then answer it as quickly as possible using the word of God.

Answering Common Objections

It is impossible to bring up every possible objection here, but three examples will be presented, and scriptures will be provided for a few other objections.

1. I Don't Believe the Bible

- a. <u>Approach One</u>: If the person brings this up at the beginning your approach then:
 - (1) Point out that the Bible is the Most Read Book in the world, and as such even if they don't believe the Bible they should at least know what the message of the most read book is.
 - (2) Ask: What is the Bible's teaching on how to have eternal life?
 - (3) The person will either say "live a holy life", follow ten commandments or something similar. Respond by saying: "You still do not know the Bible's main message on salvation, let me at least tell you what it is". Then proceed to present the gospel.
 - b. Approach Two: Prophetic Evidence

The Gospel is Reliable Because of the many Prophecies and Fulfillments Over 300 Bible Prophecies fulfilled by Jesus such as

Prophecies of Jesus	Fulfillments
Betrayal Psalm 41:9	John 13:18-21
Sold for 30 Pieces of Silver Zech. 11:13	Mathew 26:15
Nailed to the Cross - Psalm 22:16	John 19:18
HIs Resurrection - Psalm 16:10	Luke 24:6
Place of Birth - Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1-6
Virgin Birth - Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:23
Not a Bone of Him Broken Psalm 34:20; Exodus 12:46	John 19:34,37
Garments Parted and Lots Cast for Vesture - Psalm 22:18	Matthew 27:35

2. I Don't Believe in God

- a. Every Effect has a Cause
 - The things we see happening around us must have been caused by someone God. (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:20)
- b. The Design of Things
 - The design of the human body, the things on the earth, the equilibrium inherent in so many things shows that there must have been a Designer (Romans 1:20).
- c. The Presence of Personality
 The fact that mankind has personality and people express themselves
 creatively in different ways show that the cause of this must be a Personal
 Being. This person showed His love to us in Jesus Christ. (Genesis 1:27)

3. I Don't Believe in the Resurrection of Christ

The Resurrection has historical evidence of being an actual event

- a. Empty Tomb
- b. Many Credible Witness (I Cor. 15:1-5)
- One witness was a murderer of Christians, but after seeing Jesus converted (Acts 9)
- One Witness was James the brother of Jesus. Before Christ's resurrection he did not follow him, but did afterwards.

4. I Don't Believe in Hell. Hell is right here on earth

Scriptural Response:

Isaiah 57:21; Ezekiel 33:11, 2 Peter 2:4,6,9; Romans 2:4-5;

Jesus taught of punishment for sin

Mark 16:16; Luke 13:3; John 3:18

5. The Church has too many hypocrites

Scriptural Response:

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

6. I have more time. I don't have to receive Jesus now.

Scriptural Response:

2 Corinthians 6:2 now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation Hebrews 3:15 To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts

Prophetic Insight

While you are witnessing, God will give you insight, knowledge and words (utterance) to minister to the unbeliever.

I Corinthians 14:24-25 But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: 25And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

Luke 21:14-15 Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: <u>15</u>For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

- 1. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you and direct your steps (John 16:8; John 6:65).
- 2. Use Biblical prophecies. There are many prophecies in the Bible that reveals how humankind's behavior will be in the last days. Prophecies such as:
 - Man's rebellion in the last days 2 Timothy 3:1-5
 - Increase in fear Luke 21:26
 - Days of Noah (Violence, giving into marriage, sexual perversion) Lk. 17:26
 - Earthquakes, wars, rumors of wars Matthew 24:6
- 3. Use the recent prophecies and fulfillment from the YouTube Harvest Army Channel as evidence of God's voice. Go to www.youtube.com/harvestarmy

- 4. Be open to **prophetic insight and word of knowledge** concerning the person that you are witnessing to. Ask God to give you prophetic insight and word of knowledge when witnessing (John 4:17-19,Jesus did this with the women at the well).
- 5. Keep the focus on Jesus Christ (Revelation 19:10). Utilize the prophecies to show the person Jesus Christ.

For more information go to www.harvestarmy.org
Get a copy of the book Witnessing Revolution and Every Believer a Preacher
You can also call 718 -696 – ARMY
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