EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHP

Outline: Click on a topic below to go to that topic

I. Objectives of this Module
II. Relationship Between Evangelism and Discipleship
III. Why Evangelize and Make Disciples?
IV. Who Should Evangelize?
V. Reward for Evangelizing
VI. Who are the Prospects?
VII. Where Should We Evangelize
VIII. How to Evangelize
    A. The Master Plan
    B. Personal Evangelism
    C. Relationship Evangelism
    D. Evangelistic Sermons
    E. Mass Evangelism
    F. Saturation Evangelism
    G. Intentional Evangelism
    H. Overcoming Hindrances
IX. Discipleship
    A. Process of Discipleship
    B. Spiritual Multiplication
    C. Discipleship for Leaders and Followers
    D. Curriculum and Related Resources
X. Requirements for Students
XI. Exam

Copyright ©2006 MissionsTraining.org All rights reserved.

For a loose translation of this website and all of the linked websites in other languages, go to http://www.google.com/translate and enter the URL of this website:

www.missiontraining.org

Select the language, and click “translate.” Then you’ll see the Missions Training website and all
other linked websites in the language of your choice. A similar translator tool is found at:

http://babelfish.altavista.com/tr
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

I. Objectives of This Module

On completion of this module, you should:

- Be able to define the terms *convert*, *disciple*, and *discipleship*
- Know the relationship between evangelism and discipleship
- Understand the Biblical basis for making disciples
- Know the rewards and persecution involved with making disciples
- Know what prospects will generally respond best to our witness
- Begin praying that God would reveal where he wants you to make disciples
- Understand the master plan for evangelism
- Know the process of personal evangelism
- Understand what the acronym FIRE represents
- State the two diagnostic questions of evangelism explosion
- Write your personal testimony
- State the Four Spiritual Laws
- Memorize the Scripture references from the Romans Road
- Be able to lead a person to Christ using John 3
- State the five ways for spiritual growth as given on an evangecube
- Know the Scripture reference for “speaking the truth in love.”
- Respond to the objection that one needs to work their way to salvation
- Explain why Christianity is a relationship
- Know why pluralism cannot be true
- Understand the importance of relationship evangelism
- Know the meaning of *mass evangelism* and *saturation evangelism*
- Know the process of discipleship
- Be able to explain *spiritual multiplication*
- Name three principles that Paul exemplified in making disciples
- Know five practical ideas from Waylon B. Moore for training disciples
- Develop a brief outline for a six-month-long curriculum to train disciples
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

II. Relationship Between Evangelism and Discipleship

Evangelism is proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to the lost. The “lost” are those people who do not believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. They are like lost sheep, which a good shepherd seeks and brings to safety (Matt. 18:12).

The goal of evangelism is to win converts. A convert is one who becomes a believer in Christ; he is converted from being a non-believer to being a believer.

A disciple is a convert who adheres to the basics of the Christian faith. The word “disciple” means “a pupil, someone who learns by following.” Such knowledge is more than head knowledge—it is also “heart-knowledge.” True disciples not only know about Christ, they also follow the teaching of Christ. In Christian theology, discipleship is the process of training individuals to become mature disciples. Discipleship is more than just sharing information—it involves developing individuals to love and obey God.

Evangelism and discipleship are linked together. Evangelism results in converts, and converts are trained to become disciples. Disciples evangelize to reach more converts, who are trained to become disciples. So evangelism leads to disciples and disciples evangelize until the Gospel is spread throughout the world.

Whenever possible, discipleship should follow evangelism. Evangelism results in people being spiritually reborn (see John 3:3), so new converts are “spiritual babies.” Converts need discipleship in order to grow to maturity. It is not right to create a physical baby and then abandon it. In the same way, it is not right to create a spiritual baby and then abandon it. Converts need to be trained by other Christians.

Consider the relationship of evangelism and discipleship with missions. Christian missions involve proclaiming the Gospel across cultures. So a missionary spreads the Gospel to a people group or culture different from his own. Evangelism and discipleship are the processes by which mission work is accomplished. Evangelism and discipleship also occur within one’s own culture, so not all evangelism and discipleship falls within the context of missions.
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHP

III. Why Evangelize and Make Disciples?

Consider the Biblical basis for evangelism and discipleship.

A. Christ Commanded It.

In each of the four Gospels and in Acts, Jesus commanded his followers to make disciples. The Great Commission is found in the following Scripture:

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20 NIV).

15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. 16Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:15,16 NIV).

46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (Luke 24:46-48 NIV).

21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." 22And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:21-23 NIV).

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. (Acts 1:8,9 NIV).

The importance of the Great Commission is emphasized by its appearance as part of the last instructions of Christ to his disciples in all four Gospels. And in Acts, the Great Commission is the last words of Christ prior to his ascension.

B. To Save Sinners.

Christ commands evangelism and discipleship so that sinners may be saved from hell. Hell is a place of suffering (see Luke 16:19-31). Christ said to fear God, who is able to cast sinners into hell.

4 "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. 5But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him
who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. (Luke 12:4,5 NIV).

Apart from Christ, people are condemned to die and go to hell (see John 3:16-18; Rev. 20:15). Those who are not saved during their one life here on earth will be eternally separated from God. Scripture says that each person lives once on earth, and then faces judgment.

27 Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, 28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:27,28 NIV).

Jesus died on a cross to pay the penalty for sin, so that sinners could be saved from hell. He said that he came to seek and save the lost (see Luke 19:10). He wants people to have the joy of eternally living with God. That joy is expressed in the following Scripture.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (Revelation 21:3,4 NIV).

Christ died to save sinners from hell, and he expects his followers to proclaim this Good News and warn of the danger of hell. If we do not obey the Great Commission, we are responsible for lost souls going to hell. God held Ezekiel accountable for preaching repentance.

8 When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, that wicked man will die for [a] his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. 9 But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his ways and he does not do so, he will die for his sin, but you will have saved yourself. (Ezekiel 33:8,9 NIV).

[a] Ezekiel 33:8 Or in

Just as Ezekiel was accountable for preaching repentance, God holds his followers accountable for making disciples. The Apostle Paul recognized this, and said that he was innocent of the blood of all men because he proclaimed God’s word (see Acts 20:26,27).

When sinners are saved, God is glorified. God is victorious over sin and death. Those who were opposed to God repent and worship God.

C. To Expand the Kingdom

Christ commanded that his followers evangelize and make disciples in order to expand the Kingdom of God. At his first advent on earth, he ushered in the Kingdom. When Christ returns, he will establish his rule over the Kingdom. See “Kingdom of God” in the training module, “Theology.”
The church is to expand the Kingdom of God in the power of the Holy Spirit. When the church completes this Commission, Christ will return.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14 NIV).

As the Kingdom of God expands, God receives the worship from the peoples of all nations. So expanding the Kingdom gives glory to God (see Rev. 5:9,10,13).

Expanding the Kingdom provides more fulfilling lives for those who receive Christ (see John 10:10). Christ provides eternal security, love, guidance, and hope. When people receive Christ, they see their lives transformed. Alcoholics who commit to Christ give up alcohol. Sex addicts who commit to Christ give up sexual immorality. Greedy people who commit to Christ share their riches with others. Those who are spiritually poor commit to Christ and find themselves spiritually rich.
IV. Who Should Evangelize?

Who has the responsibility for evangelizing? Missionaries? Pastors? Teachers? According to Scripture, all Christians should evangelize. Jesus gave the Great Commission to his eleven Apostles and a few other disciples with them. Obviously this small band of followers could not proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth and make disciples of all nations. So the Great Commission is for you and me and all other believers.

Someone might say, “But isn’t it the job of evangelists to spread the Gospel?” Yes, evangelists are responsible for spreading the Gospel. They have the gift of evangelism. So they are effective in winning souls for Christ. But evangelists are not the only ones who should make disciples. Every Christian who is able to witness is commanded to witness for Christ. Only a small portion of the church has the gift of evangelism, but every Christian that can think and speak can testify that Christ is Lord. It is through the witness of the multiplied millions of Christians that the Gospel can be spread quickly to every people group on earth. Christians serve as a daily witness to their families, friends, and co-workers.

Every believer is a priest, and a priest leads people to worship God.

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9 NIV).

We serve as Christ’s ambassadors to non-believers (see 2 Cor. 5:20).
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

V. Reward for Evangelizing

It is human nature to ask, “What reward will I get for evangelizing?” The Apostle Peter asked what would be his reward for following Christ. Jesus responded:

“... everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother [a] or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. (Matt. 19:29 NIV).

a. Matthew 19:29 Some manuscripts mother or wife

There is great satisfaction in leading people to Christ. The greatest gift that one can give is to lead a person to receive eternal life. So the work of evangelism is fulfilling. Also, as Christians travel to various countries and lead people to Christ, such converts open their homes to the evangelists. So those who have left homes are welcomed into a hundred times more homes. Those who have left family are blessed with the love of a hundred families. And those who leave their home for Christ have an eternal home in heaven.

While there is great reward in leading people to Christ, an evangelist may also experience persecution and hardship (see John 15:18-21). But for those called to the purposes of God, the Lord brings good out of bad experiences (see Romans 8:28). The Apostles evangelized and made disciples, so the Jewish leaders had the Apostles flogged. Then the Jews ordered the Apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus. Consider the response of the Apostles.

41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. 42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. [a] (Acts 5:41,42 NIV)

[a] Acts 5:42 Or Messiah

The Apostles rejoiced in their suffering for Christ! Proclaiming the Gospel is not easy, but there is joy in such work. Also, converts to the Christian faith experience joy, and sometimes persecution.
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

VI. Who are the Prospects

Which people should we share the Gospel with? We must be willing to make disciples of anyone. Jesus taught his disciples to witness in their hometown, in their country, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). He said, “Make disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28:19). But not all people will be equally responsive to our witness. So we should focus on sharing the Gospel to those who are most likely to convert to Christ.

Through prayer, we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us to the best prospects for evangelizing. Within our own culture, we may be led to witness to family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, or other people that we have some relationship with. We find that certain people respond best to us. An older man may be effective in speaking with other older men. A young girl may be most effective in speaking with other young girls. Often, people of our own race may respond better to us than people of other races. We love people of every age, sex, and race, and we want to fellowship with all people. But we also want to see the church grow as fast as possible. So we seek out those who respond readily to the Good News. As missionaries to other people groups, we follow the Spirit and see which people respond to the Gospel. **We may then be led to focus on evangelizing the people group that is most responsive.**

Jesus sent disciples to evangelize and told them if the people in a city did not respond favorably that the disciples should move on to other areas (see Luke 10:10,11). In the same way, if you evangelize in the proper way, and people in a particular place do not receive Christ as Lord, simply go to another area.

**The Apostle Paul gave priority to evangelizing people who had not heard the Gospel (see Romans 15:20-21). We strive to do the same.**

BACK TO OUTLINE »
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

VII. Where Should We Evangelize?

As a missionary, where is the Lord leading you to evangelize and make disciples? As you prepare to go to a mission field, pray repeatedly that the Lord will lead you to the place that you should go. To guide you in praying, see the website below. The U.S. Center for World Mission provides this website that identifies people groups to evangelize.

http://www.joshuaproject.net/index.php

Operation World at the following website asks for prayer to be directed toward various nations of the world.

http://www.24-7prayer.com/ow/?skin=247

For additional ideas regarding places to evangelize, talk with people at a mission-sending agency.

A. Where the Holy Spirit Leads.

The Spirit led the Apostle Paul and his companions to avoid certain places and to go to Macedonia for mission work (see Acts 16:6-10). The Holy Spirit warned Paul of danger, but compelled him to go as a witness to Jerusalem (see Acts 20:22-24). The Spirit can also guide you to the right mission fields.

B. Where the People Are.

It is generally better--but not always better--to evangelize in cities and towns rather than in rural areas. People in the cities and towns carry the Gospel to the country. And people in cities serve as witnesses when those from rural areas come to cities to transact business. Notice that Jesus sent disciples to evangelize in towns (see Luke 10:1). Paul went to population centers to evangelize. See “Strategy of Missions—Go Where God Wants You to Go” in the module “Missiology.”
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

VIII. How to Evangelize

A. The Master Plan.

The overall plan of evangelism is to conduct evangelistic training, pray, rely on the Holy Spirit, go and witness, and leave the results to God.

1. Leaders Must Train People to Evangelize.

Missionaries and pastors should prompt their congregations to evangelize. Leaders set an example by evangelizing. Someone wrote, “Evangelism is more caught than taught.” In other words, disciples catch onto evangelism by going to evangelize with more experienced witnesses. It is good to learn the basics of evangelism in a classroom, but most evangelistic skill is learned through practice. When an experienced witness evangelizes together with a less experienced disciple, the disciple participates in witnessing when he feels comfortable in doing so. The disciple will learn more with each household visited.

In many places, door-to-door personal evangelism produces many converts. In other places, other forms of evangelism may be more effective.

Churches that have strong outreach and discipleship programs often are the churches that grow. If a church has an insufficient number of people to support the work of the church, and to support the pastor, that church may be weak in evangelism. So the pastor may need to concentrate on outreach.

2. Pray.

As with all ministry, the work should be preceded by prayer. Pray before going, while evangelizing, and after evangelizing. The Apostle Paul said that we should put on the whole armor of God to combat spiritual enemies. A key part of that armor is prayer.

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

18And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. 19Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. (Ephesians 6:12,18-20 NIV).

One of the greatest needs in evangelism is willing workers. The harvest is plenty, but the workers are few. Before Jesus sent out the seventy-two disciples to evangelize, he told them to ask the Lord of the Harvest to send workers (see Luke 10:2).
3. **Rely on the Power of the Holy Spirit.**

If we believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we have received the Holy Spirit. So we now rely on the Spirit to go ahead of us and provide opportunities for us to share the Gospel. We rely on the Holy Spirit to convict people of their sin, and to lead them to the truth of Jesus Christ (see John 16:7-11).

One of the ways that the Spirit leads people to Christ is by performing miraculous signs such as healing. I know of a group of Christians who share Christ among Muslims. According to the Muslim faith, Jesus was a prophet. The Muslim Scripture--the Qur'an--teaches that Muslims should study the Gospels in the Bible. The Bible teaches that Jesus miraculously healed many people. So this group of Christians simply goes to the Muslims and prays in the name of Jesus that their sick people be healed. When the sick are healed, some of the Muslims believe in Christ. The Muslims have seen the power of Christ working through the Holy Spirit.

Jesus ministered in power.

37 You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached-- 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. (Acts 10:37-38).

The Apostle Paul spread the Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit.

4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. (1 Cor. 2:4,5 NIV).

I have seen and heard of people being miraculously healed by the power of the Holy Spirit. But not all people are physically healed. It is not God’s purpose that people be continually healed so they live forever in this world. So we **pray in the name of Jesus for healing according to the will of God.**

4. **Take the Church to the People.**

Evangelism generally is not bringing people to the church. Rather, **evangelism is taking the church to the people.** Evangelism involves going out and presenting the Gospel, and winning converts. Once the people are believers, they will want to meet with other Christians of the church.

5. **Leave the Results to God.**

We **pray and evangelize** in the power of the Holy Spirit. We follow evangelism with **discipleship. Then we leave the results to God.** We can’t save the lost. We can only present the Good News, and rely upon God to save sinners.

B. **Personal Evangelism**

Mass evangelism occurs among large numbers of people, but **personal evangelism**
involves sharing the Gospel with one person or a small group of people.

When Christians intentionally go out to evangelize, they should go in pairs (see Luke 10:1). Two men may go together. Two women may go together. Or a husband and wife may go together. Going in pairs is more secure and effective in evangelizing strangers. Generally, it is not recommended that a single man and a single woman go together to evangelize. Christians should avoid even the appearance of impropriety.

In addition to planned evangelism, personal evangelism may occur on a daily basis, as we go about our routine activities. The Great Commission as given in Matthew 28:19 says, “Go and make disciples.” But the Greek word translated as “go” implies that we are also to make disciples as we go. We should pray that God opens our minds for opportunities in witnessing to anyone that we encounter.

In order to evangelize as we go about our daily activities, we need to know how to turn a conversation toward spiritual things. Following are some examples:

If you are talking with someone on a beautiful day, you might remark, “God certainly provided a lovely day for us to enjoy, didn’t he?”

If a person complains of their sickness, you may say, “I’m sorry that you are sick, and I want you to feel better. Jesus has healed many people.”

If a person is worried, you might say, “Most of us worry about things, but I’ve found a way to relieve my stress. I ask Jesus to remove my anxiety, and he certainly helps me. Could I share some Scripture that explains this? (Then share Scripture such as Luke 12:22-31).

If the listener seems responsive to spiritual things, you should proceed to share more. It is generally better to proceed slowly when sharing the Gospel. The evangelist speaks and allows the listener to respond. Then the evangelist speaks again, in response to what was said. Someone compared evangelism to feeding pigeons in a city park. A young boy took a loaf of bread and threw the whole loaf to the pigeons, scaring them so they flew away. Then an old man picked up the loaf of bread, and asked the young boy to sit together quietly with him on a park bench. The old man proceeded to break off a few crumbs of bread from the loaf and tossed them out onto the ground. Soon a pigeon flew down and began to eat the bread. The man tossed a few more crumbs out, and more pigeons came and began to eat. Within a few minutes the whole flock of pigeons was eating. In the same way, we can offer a little spiritual truth to a person, and see if that person is interested in receiving more.

The acronym FIRE is a useful tool to remember in opening a conversation and proceeding to evangelize. FIRE stands for the following terms.

Family. Begin by asking, “Do you have a family?” Most people like to talk about their family—especially their children and grandchildren. But it is not good to pressure someone if they don’t wish to talk about a divorce or some other family issue. After talking with them about their family, you may then briefly talk about your own family.

Interests. Ask, “What do you do when you have free time?” Notice the person’s household or surroundings. Does the person appear to have a hobby? Talk about what interests the person.
Religion. Ask, “What is your religion?” Or, “Have you thought much about spiritual things?”

Evangelism. If the listener is not a Christian, you may have an opportunity to share the Gospel. You can judge this by the listener’s responses.

1. Evangelism Explosion.

If you are not sure that a listener is a Christian, you may wish to ask two diagnostic questions. Dr. James Kennedy offers these questions as part of an evangelistic method known as Evangelism Explosion. The questions follow.

1. **Do you know for sure that you are going to be with God in Heaven?** Depending on how the person answers this question, you may need to ask question 2.

2. **If God were to ask you, “Why should I let you into My Heaven?” what would you say?**

These questions and the evangelistic methods that accompany them are available in five languages. Click on “Do you know?” at the following link:

http://www.eeinternational.org/

The evangelism explosion tract is available online in an easier-to-follow format at:

http://www.menorah.org/eetract.html

The two diagnostic questions help you to know whether or not the listener is a professing Christian with at least a basic understanding of Christian theology. And they give you an opportunity to share the Gospel.

2. Personal Testimony.

Instead of going directly to Scripture when a listener responds to the two diagnostic questions, you may sometimes share your personal testimony. If the listener is unsure that he would go to be with God when he dies, you can say, “May I share how I received assurance that I will go to heaven when I die?” Generally the listener will allow you to give your testimony. Your testimony should be organized as follows.

a. **What my Life was like before I became a Christian.**

b. **How I became a Christian.**

c. **How my life has changed as a result of my trusting Jesus as my Lord and Savior.**

d. **How you can become a Christian.**

In order to be more organized, I recommend that you write out your testimony. Develop a written testimony that you can present in about three minutes. Also develop a version of your testimony that you can present in about five or six minutes. If you have a lot to say, you may also want to develop a longer version.
of your testimony. The longer version might be useful when you speak to groups of people who are prepared to listen. Practice giving your testimony to other Christians, and ask for suggestions to improve your delivery. In evangelism, it is important to communicate essential information, and avoid boring a listener with irrelevant information. Your written testimony is primarily for your own use, since you will generally give your testimony orally. Sometimes, however, it is helpful to have your written testimony available to give to people who may speak another language. The testimony can be translated in advance into their language.

At the close of your testimony, you may ask the listener if he would like to have the assurance of eternal life with God. If he says, “Yes,” you can then lead him through the Scriptural plan of salvation. There are various Scriptures that can be used to present the plan of salvation. The evangelism explosion tract is referenced above.

3. **Four Spiritual Laws.**

Another tract is “**Four Spiritual Laws**,” which is available online in many languages.  

http://www.greatcom.org/laws/languages.html

Click on the appropriate language to see the complete Four Spiritual Laws tract. Also, click on “more” to watch the Jesus film. This film tells the story of Jesus in more than 800 languages. You may want to order one or more copies of the Jesus film prior to going to a mission field.

A summary of the four spiritual laws follows.

1. **God loves** you and offers a wonderful plan for your life. (**See John 3:16; John 10:10**).

2. **Man is sinful** and separated from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life. (**See Romans 3:23; 6:23**).

3. **Jesus Christ is God's only** provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life. (**See Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-6; John 14:6**).

4. **We must individually receive** Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives. (**See John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 3:1-8; Revelation 3:20**).

The Four Spiritual Laws Tract then explains that receiving Jesus means allowing him to take charge of one’s life—to allow Jesus to sit on the “throne” governing one’s life, rather than a person being in charge of their own life.

If a listener is willing, the evangelist leads the listener to pray to receive Christ. A suggested prayer from the Four Spiritual Laws tract is:

"**Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me**
the kind of person You want me to be."

The Four Spiritual Laws show the elements generally presented in various tracts showing the plan of salvation.

4. Romans Road to Salvation.

Another way to present the plan of salvation is the Romans Road. This tract is available in various languages at the following website.

http://www.gotquestions.org/Romans-road-salvation.html

A summary of the Romans Road to salvation using Scripture from the New International Version of the Bible follows.

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

Romans 6:23. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9,10,13. 9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. . . . 13 For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

An easy way to remember the location of these verses of the Romans Road is to memorize the first reference: Romans 3:23. Double the chapter number 3 and you have Romans 6:23. Then memorize the reference: Romans 5:8. Double the chapter number and you have Romans 10. This helps you to remember Romans 10:9,10,13. Know these four Scripture references and you can use the Bible to lead a person to salvation.

After sharing Romans 10:13 with a listener, ask him if he would like to pray with you to receive eternal life with Christ. If he agrees, you may choose to allow the listener to repeat a prayer after you—one sentence or one phrase at a time. Then say the prayer, keeping the sentences short and simple.

The Romans Road also includes some Scripture showing the results of salvation—having peace with God and having the security of a believer (see Romans 5:1; 8:1,38,39).


My favorite way method of leading people to Christ is using Scripture in John 3. This chapter explains that in order to enter heaven, a person must be born again.

I first get to know a person, following the process outlined by the acronym FIRE. I may share my testimony. I explain that I have received assurance that when I die, I will go to be with God. Then I may ask, “Would you like to receive the
assurance of eternal life today?” If the person agrees, I then open my Bible to John 3.

I explain, “It says in John 3 that a religious leader named Nicodemus came to Jesus and said that because of the miracles that Jesus performed, God must be with him. Jesus replied,

“I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again” (John 3:3 NIV).

I then paraphrase the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus.

“How can that be?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely a person can’t be physically born a second time.”

Jesus replied, “In order receive eternal life, you must be born of the Spirit. Consider this: you know that the wind is real, because you can feel it. You can see the leaves on trees move as the wind blows. But you don’t know where the wind comes from or where it is going. In the same way, when you receive the Holy Spirit of God, you know that the Spirit is real. (You will experience his guidance. The Spirit will teach you spiritual truth, opening your mind to truths taught in the Bible.)

I then read the following verses.

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, [a] that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. [b]

[a] John 3:16 Or his only begotten Son

[b] John 3:18 Or God's only begotten Son

“The Scripture teaches that in the beginning, the first man and the first woman had fellowship with God. The Lord explained that if they disobeyed him, they would lose that fellowship and die. The first man and woman disobeyed—they sinned—and so they died. Everyone since that time has inherited the tendency to disobey God. We all sin and we all physically die.”

“We have nothing except our lives to offer God to pay for sin. But God loves us so much that he sent his only Son to die in our place. Jesus was without sin, so he offered his sinless life as payment for our sins. Jesus was crucified on a cross 2,000 years ago. On the third day, he arose from the grave. He is now with God, his Father. If you trust in Jesus, you will receive eternal life today; so that when you die your spirit will go to be with God. Would you like to receive eternal life now?”

If the listener agrees, I then say, “I’m going to pray, and I ask that you repeat each sentence after me.”
“Father God, I have disobeyed you. Forgive my sins. I believe that Jesus died to pay for my sins. I believe that he was raised from the grave. Give me eternal life today. I now receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.”

The Bible teaches that in order to be saved, we must be willing to confess Christ before men (see Matthew 10:32,33). So I like to have the convert confirm that he believes in Christ. I may ask him this, “If you truly believe the words that you just prayed, shake my hand.” Then the convert shakes my hand, showing that he believes in Christ. This is a sign—a confession of faith—to anyone else in our presence that the convert means what he says. And it is a confirmation for the convert to remember.

I then explain some things to the convert. “When we are born again, we are spiritual babies. God wants us to grow to maturity in the faith. As we grow, we learn spiritual truth and experience the joy of knowing God. There are five things that we need to do to grow in faith.”

a. **Love God and love your neighbor as you love yourself.** These are God’s two greatest commandments.

b. **Study the Bible. Begin by reading the Gospel of John.** (I show the convert where to find the Gospel of John in the Bible. If the convert does not have a Bible, I provide a way for him to study—by giving him some Scripture or by inviting him to a church. If the convert does not read, I explain that the church can teach the Scripture.)

c. **Pray daily in the name of Jesus.**

d. **Meet together each week with other Christians that teach the Bible.**

e. **Tell others about salvation in Jesus.**

(These five ways of growing in faith are shown in the video presentation of an evangecube below.)

I then try to follow up with the convert or see that someone from a church quickly follows up with the convert. It is best if someone visits the convert within a day, or at least within a week. As explained previously, we don’t leave physical babies alone, and we don’t want to leave spiritual babies alone. The convert has much to think about. He may have questions regarding the Scripture that was shared with him. Perhaps some key Scripture was omitted in the presentation. He needs to be reminded of Scripture assuring him of salvation. In time, as he matures, he will experience the Holy Spirit guiding and assuring him. In the meantime, he needs help from other Christians. The convert needs encouragement to meet with other Christians for worship and study. If he is unable to come to church, someone from the church should go and meet regularly with him for discipleship.

6. **Evangecube.**

An evangelistic method using a tool called an evangecube is shown on the website below. **I recommend that you watch the video presentation.**
The presentation of an evangecube shows that a Christian matures by:

1. Loving God and one’s neighbor
2. Reading the Bible
3. Praying and listening to God
4. Meet together regularly with other Christians for worship, prayer, Bible study, and helping each other
5. Evangelizing

An evangecube is a useful tool in presenting the Gospel across cultures and language barriers. It shows the way to salvation using pictures. It holds peoples’ attention—especially children’s attention. It is a useful aid in guiding an evangelist in his presentation.

7. Additional Information on Personal Evangelism.

The following website offers online training materials in personal evangelism, and has videos of witnessing in the USA.

http://www.mercystreet.com

8. Objections to the Gospel.

When presenting the plan of salvation, listeners may raise various objections. Sometimes a listener is sincerely seeking the truth, and needs an answer. Sometimes a listener is merely trying to divert the conversation because he is not interested in knowing Jesus. Often, listeners want to divert us from the plan of salvation because they don’t want to admit they are sinners and change their lifestyles. We need to be able to address objections, and return to presenting the Gospel. Having a good knowledge of Scripture and where to find Scripture in the Bible is the way to answer most objections. It is important to memorize key Scripture.

Then pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you to answer people’s questions.

Speak the truth in love (see Ephesians 4:15).

Alex Strauch teaches that we are to love those that we witness to. Consider the quotes below from the following web page.


Evangelist Bob Smith says, “Ninety percent of evangelism is love.” Evangelism involves loving people, wanting to reach out to them, being friendly and open to them, and serving them. We must not be argumentative in witnessing—conveying the impression that we have all the answers. We must not be obnoxious and proud, dominating
every conversation. We must learn to relax—to simply give people the gospel and let the Holy Spirit unleash its power. If the Holy Spirit does not work in a person’s heart, all of our arguing is not going to help. Answer questions the best you can, and if you do not have an answer tell the person to whom you are speaking that you will try to find it.1

Paul says, “Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt” (Col. 4:6). When you know that you’re to be gracious and seasoned with salt, then you don’t get so frightened and think, “I’ve got to argue them into Heaven. I’ve got to show them I’m right. I’ve got to show them I’m orthodox and not in one of the cults.” It is an amazing thing when you seek to be gracious and winsome. You don’t get concerned when the unbeliever argues and calls you names. You can quietly respond, “I understand your perspective, but I want you to know my sins have been forgiven. I have a new hope because I know that God’s new life is in me.”2

With this attitude of love, let us consider how to answer some objections.

a. Good Works.

Most people feel that they must do good works in order to earn favor with God. Every major religion of the world except Christianity encourages good works in order to earn one’s way into heaven or to advance to a higher spiritual state. Christianity is unique. Christianity holds that Christ has already done the good work. Christ died to save us from the penalty of sin. To be saved, we simply need to believe in Jesus. When we have such Biblical faith, we repent of our sin (turn away from our sin) and follow the teaching of Jesus. We are saved by the grace of God through faith in order to do good works.

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:8-10 NIV)

When a person thinks that his good works will get him into heaven, I say, “God is perfect and he expects that anyone who enters his Kingdom will be completely without sin. But we are all sinners. None of us are perfect. Trying to be perfect is like trying to swim across an ocean. All of us fail at some point. Only Christ lived a perfectly sinless life. By trusting in Christ, we are saved. And as we love Christ, we then want to do good works.

Christianity is more of a relationship than it is a religion. A religion typically presents a set of rules to follow in order to be holy. Christianity is about a relationship of faith with God through his Son. Christ is the unique Son of God. He is always superior to us. But believers are adopted children of God (see John 1:12; Romans 8:14-16). Christ is our Elder Brother, and we are joint heirs of eternal life with Christ (see Romans 8:17). We are children of God through faith, so good works do not make
us more of a child or less of a child. I explain it this way, “A child is born to a father. If the child does not do good deeds, is the child not his child? The child is still his own. If the child does good deeds, is the child his in some greater way? No, the child is his child without regard to good deeds.” But if the child loves the father, the child wants to do things pleasing to the father. Christianity is about a relationship of love between God and his children. When a person believes in Christ, that person is adopted into the family of God. This adoption is more than a legal adoption. When a child is adopted into God’s family, the child is born anew—he is spiritually born again.

**Even though we can’t earn salvation, we must still repent of our sins.** We repent by turning away from a sinful lifestyle. While we are in the body, we always will sin, but we can mature so that we sin less and less. Three words that summarize coming to Christ are **repent, believe, and confess.** We repent of sin, believe in the sacrifice of Christ, and confess that Jesus is Lord.

### b. Other Ways to Salvation.

A person may believe in pluralism—saying that there are many religions and many ways to salvation. I explain that Jesus claimed to be the one way to salvation.

**Jesus answered, ”I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6 NIV).**

I explain that Jesus was God in flesh (see John 5:18; 10:30; Col. 1:15-20; 2:9). No other major religion has a founder who claimed to be God. If Christ is who he claimed to be, he is Lord and Christianity is the one way to salvation. If Christ is not who he claimed to be, he is a liar or a lunatic and Christianity is not the way to salvation. But there is no middle ground; Christianity and other major world religions disagree so they cannot all lead to salvation. The Christian writer, C. S. Lewis, made this argument that Christ is Lord, liar, or lunatic.

### C. Relationship Evangelism

**Relationship Evangelism or Relational Evangelism is sharing the Gospel with people that you have a relationship with.** Often people come to Christ through friends or family. In the United States, historical data suggests that more than 75 percent of people who come to Christ do so through the influence of friends or family.

The Bible gives examples of relationship evangelism. John the Baptizer introduced two of his disciples to Jesus, and they in turn each introduced a brother or friend to Jesus (see John 1:35-51).

We can use our knowledge of personal evangelism to witness to friends and family. We should pray for opportunities to witness. Since we already have a relationship established with friends and family, at appropriate times we can go directly to sharing our testimony and sharing the plan of salvation. Or we may be able to go directly to
praying together with a friend. The preliminary work of establishing a relationship has already been done.

Relationship evangelism is effective in reaching people of other faiths who resist other methods of evangelism. For more information, search the internet for “relationship evangelism.”

D. Evangelistic Sermons.

Preaching is an excellent way to make converts. On the day the church began, the Apostle Peter preached and 3,000 people became Christians (Acts 2:41). Down through the centuries, preachers have led countless numbers to become Christians. In the twentieth century, the evangelist Billy Graham led many thousands to receive Jesus throughout the world. In churches around the globe, pastors today preach and millions are baptized.

In order to reach converts through preaching, sermons need to be evangelistic. Pastors do not always preach evangelistic sermons. Evangelism is directed to those who have not come to faith in Christ. So pastors may choose when to preach evangelistic sermons and when to focus more on discipleship.

An evangelistic sermon is designed to bring people to a decision to receive Christ as Lord and Savior. So the selection of a Biblical text should be appropriate for evangelism. Many passages in the Gospels or Acts, for example may inspire people to come to Christ.

Evangelistic sermons should address the concerns of people in a congregation. The evangelist Billy Graham often presented the world’s problems that are reported in the headlines of newspapers, and then he presented the Good News that Jesus can solve such problems. Jesus can overcome loneliness, crime, broken relationships, hopelessness, and any other problem.

An evangelistic sermon closes with an invitation to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. That decision should be immediate. The Scripture teaches that today is the day of salvation (see 2 Cor. 6:2). One of Satan’s great deceptions is to make people think that there is no hurry in becoming a Christian. So people put off the decision to receive Christ and their hearts grow cold as they grow old. Today may be the last time some people have to receive Christ. When they turn away from an invitation, they may not have the opportunity again. They can die. They may not be open to evangelism in the future. A preacher should admonish people to consider the brevity of time.

E. Mass Evangelism.

In contrast with personal evangelism, mass evangelism targets many people in open-air meetings or in other large gatherings. This type of evangelism can be effective if much preparation is made. It may require substantial funds to secure meeting places and advertising. The website below has a chapter on mass evangelism. Click on “Course Download Center,” then choose the course “Leaven Like Evangelism.”
Street Preaching —preaching in open-air meetings on a relatively small scale may not require funds or extensive preparation. This method of preaching is highly effective in some places.

F. Saturation Evangelism.

Saturation evangelism seeks to present the Gospel to every person within an area or country. The following website suggests various tools for saturation evangelism.

http://www.ad2000.org/gcowe95/satevang.html

The tools suggested at the above website for saturation evangelism are:

- Radio and Television Broadcasting.
- Bible and Christian Literature Distribution
- Itinerant Evangelists, Special Speakers, and Group Evangelism
- United Campaigns of Personal Evangelism
- Film Evangelism Using the "JESUS" Film
- Leadership Training Available.

Saturation evangelism follows the command to preach to all creation (see Mark 16:15). And it follows the principle of sowing generously in order to reap generously (see 2 Cor. 9:6).

G. Intentional Evangelism.

Whatever methods of evangelism are used, they must be intentional—that is, we must develop a plan to evangelize. If personal evangelism is practiced, then it may include a daily pattern of looking for opportunities to share Jesus. But a church should also set aside special times in which its members go out to share Christ. Relational evangelism includes intentionally thinking of people that do not know Christ, and planning ways to share Christ with them. Mass evangelism and saturation evangelism require much planning.

H. Overcoming Hindrances

1. Fear.

One of the greatest hindrances to evangelism is fear. People are afraid of evangelizing because they don’t want to be rejected. They don’t want to look foolish. Or in some countries, they may fear persecution by authorities or by the culture around them.

Scripture teaches Christians to expect some rejection (see John 15:20; Matthew 24:9). What appears as foolishness to the natural man is wisdom to God (see 1 Cor. 2:14). So we should obey the Great Commission. As we obey, we become more comfortable in evangelizing.

While in prison, the Apostle Paul asked that the Ephesian church pray for him so that he would fearlessly proclaim the Gospel (see Ephesians 6:19,20). We should pray that each of us boldly shares Christ.
2. Other Priorities.

Unless we give priority to evangelism, other priorities will quickly take up our time. There is a tendency for churches to focus on their own needs and become a social club. Church members have many needs, and they can easily forget that the world is dying around them. **When a local church forgets about the dying world, the local church dies.**

---


A disciple is a “learner” or “pupil.” The Great Commission teaches us to make disciples. In Christian theology, the process of making disciples is called “discipleship.” Scripture teaches disciples to become mature. The Apostle Paul wrote that people within the church should work together to bring disciples to maturity. Disciples become mature by becoming like Christ.

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

(Ephesians 4:11-16 NIV)

It is the job of the whole church to make disciples. Some in the church focus on evangelism, some on teaching, and some on various other tasks. By working together, church members bring disciples to maturity. And churches and mission organizations plant new churches, making more disciples.

A. Process of Discipleship.

A church should have a plan for developing disciples. The plan should include the following elements.

1. Evangelism and Immediate Follow-Up.

The church plans and conducts evangelism, and then quickly visits people who pray to receive Christ. Preferably within a day or at a minimum, within a week, a couple of people visit the new convert. Ideally the person who led the convert to Christ will be one of the people who go back to visit. The visitors from the church should assure the convert of his salvation by sharing Scripture (see 1 John 5:13). Visitors should encourage the convert to attend church meetings, and help the convert to get there.

2. Confession and Baptism.

Soon after a person professes faith in Christ, that person should make a public profession of faith by being baptized. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are two ordinances of Christ for the church. The convert should also verbally confess his faith. Confession is an important part of the salvation experience (see Romans 10:9 above ).
3. Developing a Devotional Life.

The convert should be trained to spend “quiet time in prayer” with God daily. Christians should not only pray, but also listen to God as he guides their thoughts. If the convert can read and has a Bible, the convert should be taught to study the Bible daily. Christians may start by reading the Book of John, then the other Gospels, then the rest of the New Testament, and then the Old Testament. Christians should memorize key verses that have an impact on them as they study and meditate on Scripture.

4. Bringing Converts into a Local Church.

Every Christian should be integrated into the life and work of a local church (see Hebrews 10:25). Disciples should be encouraged to discover their particular spiritual gifts. Disciples are not to be given responsibilities greater than their spiritual maturity, but they should be given some work in the church. Either a church uses disciples or loses them. Each convert should be in a small group that meets for Bible study and fellowship.

5. Disciples Should be Taught to Bear Fruit.

Jesus said, “This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples” (John 15:8 NIV). There are three types of spiritual fruit: converts, character, and conduct. As soon as possible, a new convert should be invited to go with a more experienced disciple to learn to evangelize and win converts (see Romans 1:13). The convert should be encouraged to develop character—the fruit of the spirit (see Gal. 5:22,23). And the convert is encouraged to conduct himself in a righteous manner (see Romans 6:21,22).

6. Transmitting a Vision for a Church Planting Movement.

Each convert should be given a vision for a church planting movement (see the training module “Missiology”). Converts must learn that one of the objectives of a local church is to reproduce itself.

B. Spiritual Multiplication.

Spiritual multiplication is the Biblical way to make disciples among all peoples. Spiritual multiplication involves making disciples, and sending them to make other disciples. Spiritual addition is making disciples without sending them to make other disciples. The following link compares church growth by multiplication with church growth by addition.

http://biblestudycd.com/spiritualmult.html

The website above shows that if a church converts and disciples 100 people per day but fails to get the new disciples to make disciples, it would take 164,000 years to make disciples of the 6 billion people on our planet. The Great Commission cannot be fulfilled through spiritual addition.

But if an individual converts and makes a disciple each 6 months, and if those
disciples convert and train 1 person each 6 months, the entire world would be converted in 16.5 years! Spiritual multiplication is the process by which disciples reproduce themselves. Like cells in a human body, one becomes two, two becomes four, four becomes eight, and so on. A small body grows to be a large body.

To fulfill the Great Commission, we need not only to reproduce individual disciples; we also need to reproduce churches. The training module “Missiology” gives strategies for reproducing churches.

C. Discipleship for Leaders and Followers.

Different levels of training are given to disciples, depending upon their gifts and willingness to learn. Everyone in the church is important and has an important role in carrying out the work of the church. But relatively few members of the church are leaders, church planters, and evangelists. More extensive training is needed for these disciples who will plant and lead new churches.

Paul shared the Gospel with thousands of people, but he took only a few people with him on mission. He provided extensive training to a few people so that they could plant and lead churches. Timothy was one such disciple. Paul wrote the letters 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy to train and encourage this disciple.

Jesus taught crowds of people, but he gave extensive training to twelve disciples. Eleven of the Twelve Disciples then proved faithful and were able to reproduce themselves by making many other disciples.

How can we find church leaders to train? First, we pray intensely. Jesus prayed all night before selecting twelve disciples to train.

12 One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles. (Luke 6:12,13 NIV)

Dr. Hudson Taylor, founder of China Inland Mission, was asked how he was able to recruit a thousand missionaries in the late nineteenth century to go to China. Taylor replied, “First, ‘Pray ye the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest.’”6-Second, to get laborers, ‘deepen the life of the layperson in the Scriptures, so they won’t say no to God.’”7

How can we “deepen the life of the layperson in the Scriptures?” Wayland B. Moore, who spent many years making disciples, writes that the Apostle Paul showed how to make disciples. Read Acts 20:17-38, in which Paul is talking to the leaders of the Ephesian church. Paul’s work in Ephesus reveals three principles for training disciples. First, there must be our penetrating presence—our fellowship. We must spend time in the world of the disciples. We adapt to their environment and culture. Paul spent three years training disciples in Ephesus. Second, we must have a parent-heart—building a loving relationship with the church family. Paul was like a father to the church—providing spiritual food and training for its members. Acts 20:17-38 shows the love between Paul and the church. Third, we must be the pace-setter—modeling the faith. Acts 20:17-38 reveals that Paul was an excellent role model for the church [see also Philippians 4:9]. Disciples observe the lifestyle of the teacher. Jesus told his disciples, “Follow me” (Matt. 4:19), rather than “Just listen to
1. **Progress.** Moore suggests an initial six-month long training in which you meet once weekly with a disciple. [Of course, some disciples may be with you much more than once weekly.] You check on the progress of the disciple, and make sure that all assignments are completed. At the close of six months, the disciple should be ready to train another disciple. Periodically, you then check on the progress of the two disciples.

2. **Principles.** You relate Scriptural principles to life, and discuss pre-assigned Bible study and Scripture memory.

3. **Problems.** You listen to the disciple, and use Scripture to solve problems.

4. **Prayer.** You pray together with the disciple, increasing the length of prayers as you know each other better.

5. **Practice.** You regularly take the disciple together with you for personal evangelism and other ministry.

As we pray for leaders to train, we also observe to see who is willing and able to lead. When we develop cell groups or house churches, and ask people to help in the church, some people will appear to have gifts in leading and teaching. We can then ask them to help us with certain tasks, and see how they perform.

We need to see the potential in ordinary people. God often uses people of low rank to accomplish his work (see 1 Cor. 1:26-29). Jesus chose common people to be his Apostles.

Remember that those who we train one-to-one will be of the same sex as ourselves. We can train people of the opposite sex in small groups. Typically, people our age or younger will respond best to our training.

In addition to training leaders, we need to make disciples of the rest of the church. Such discipleship may occur through sermons and through small group Bible studies. Teachers within the church may lead such small groups. Also, we encourage each member of the church to be involved in the work of the church. We encourage the members to follow the Holy Spirit in choosing where they can best utilize their gifts in meeting the goals of the church. Also, we ask people to take certain roles within the church.

### D. Curriculum and Related Resources.

What curriculum is appropriate for making disciples? Different training plans are used for disciples with different roles within the church. Basic training in essential doctrine is offered to all church members. Of course, such training must be given in accordance with the age level and learning abilities of disciples. Following are some sources of discipleship materials.

1. **The training modules on this Missions Training website.**

   The whole church can benefit from knowing material offered in the modules.
   - Call to Missions (how to be guided by the Holy Spirit)
• Evangelism and Discipleship
• Missiology (understanding the mission of the church and strategies for church planting)
• Theology
• Church Leadership and Administration (knowing the organization of the church)
• Teaching and Preaching (the section on interpreting Scripture)
• Pastoral Ministry (ordinances of Baptism and Communion)
• Messianic Prophecy (knowing a few prophecies that validate Jesus as the Messiah and show the reliability of Scripture)
• Apologetics (always being prepared to make a defense for the Gospel)

2. Basic Discipleship Training offered Online.

Kenson Kuba, who served twelve years with Campus Crusade for Christ (a conservative international evangelistic organization), offers five free discipleship Study Books online.

a. How to Be Sure You are a Christian, Grow in Your Faith, Share Christ with Others and Reach This World for Christ!

b. How to Live the Spiritual Life and Defeat Your Spiritual Enemies.

c. How to Study the Bible and Teach it to Others!

d. How to Devote Your Heart Completely to Christ!

e. Discipleship Principles

These five online books can be accessed at the following website.

http://biblestudycd.com/

Use the zoom-in feature (symbolized by a magnifying glass) on the tool bar of your computer to enlarge the online books for reading.

3. Discipleship in Small Bible Study Groups.

The following link to a Campus Crusade for Christ website provides information on how to organize small Bible study groups. It has information under the heading “Beginning and Leading a Small Group” that may be adapted to the culture in which you work. It also has some good information on the initial discipleship of converts under the heading “Getting Started in the Christian Life: Life Concepts Followup.”

http://godsgroup.com/discipleship/index.htm

4. Longer Term Training— Ames Bible College.

Ames Bible College offers a Survey of the Old and New Testaments, Creative Bible Study Methods, as well as other theological classes at the website below. To access the classes, click on Course Download Center.

http://www.amesbible.org/virtualcampus.html
If our theology differs in some respects from that offered on the above website and on other websites, we are free to use the materials that are useful to us, and disregard the rest. But we should base our theology on Scripture, not on tradition or some other authority.

5. Longer Term Training

ChristianCourses.Com, one of the RBC Ministries, offers free online studies of the Old and New Testament, as well as classes on Christian Living. See the website below. In order to use this site, you will need to register and give your e-mail address and enter a password.

http://cc.christiancourses.com/

Cathedral University offers basic Bible training for students, and also training for pastors at the following web site:

http://www.cathedraluniversity.com/index.asp


The following website gives a one sentence overview of each Book of the Bible.

http://www.bibleplace.com/biblebks.htm

7. Chapter-by-Chapter Training.

One way to disciple all Christians is simply to select a Book of the Bible and teach through it, starting at the first chapter and ending with the last chapter. You can help disciples understand the meaning of Scripture in the context in which it was written. The Holy Spirit can guide you in this. Also, you have access to various Bible related tools such as commentaries and dictionaries on the websites below.

You will want to help disciples apply the Scripture to their lives. Ask questions that facilitate discussion regarding the Scripture and how it impacts the students. Ask, for example, “If you obey this Scripture, how will that change your life?” Or, “How can we apply this teaching today?” You may wish to teach through the Book of John, which shows that Jesus Christ is God. Or you may wish to teach through the book of James, which provides practical guidelines for Christian living. Let the Spirit guide you in selecting the right material for your disciples.


The following website from Atlantic Baptist University gives a description of Biblical literature, archaeology, manners and customs, etc.

http://www.abu.nb.ca/ecm/topics/books1.htm

9. Bible Resources.

The following website gives links to commentaries, Bible dictionaries, and other
resources.

http://www.preceptaustin.org/tool_commentary.htm

These Bible tools will be useful to teachers and students as they study the Scripture.

The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22).

X. Requirements for Students.

Students who truly want to learn evangelism and discipleship should do the following.

1. Write a testimony that can be read in three minutes, and give it to someone to review.

2. Give your testimony orally to at least one person.

3. Share the plan of salvation with at least three people who were not Christians prior to your talking with them.

4. Develop a brief plan (not more than three pages) for a six-month-long curriculum to train new converts to grow in faith and be able to make disciples. Have someone review your plan.

Remember, evangelism and discipleship is more “caught” than “taught,” and you catch the spirit and methods of these tasks by doing them. Jesus sends His followers to evangelize (Luke 9:2; 10:1,9), and disciple (Matt. 28:19,20).

\[\text{References:}\]

4Strongs, Gr. 3101.


7Taylor, in Waylon B. Moore, Building Disciples, 35.

8Moore, Building Disciples, 35,36.

9Moore, Building Disciples, 36.
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

X. Requirements for Students.

Students who truly want to learn evangelism and discipleship should do the following.

1. Write a testimony that can be read in three minutes, and give it to someone to review.

2. Give your testimony orally to at least one person.

3. Share the plan of salvation with at least three people who were not Christians prior to your talking with them.

4. Develop a brief plan (not more than three pages) for a six-month-long curriculum to train new converts to grow in faith and be able to make disciples. Have someone review your plan.

Remember, evangelism and discipleship is more “caught” than “taught,” and you catch the spirit and methods of these tasks by doing them. Jesus sends His followers to evangelize (Luke 9:2; 10:1,9), and disciple (Matt. 28:19,20).
Module Examination - Evangelism and Discipleship

1. The Great Commission is found in:
   A. All four Gospels
   B. Acts
   C. Both A and B
   D. Neither A nor B

2. The purpose of evangelism is to:
   A. Follow Christ commands to evangelize, so that sinners will be saved
   B. Expand the Kingdom of God
   C. Follow the Great Commission
   D. All of the Above

3. Evangelism may result in:
   A. Joy for the convert
   B. Joy for the evangelist
   C. Persecution of the evangelist and convert
   D. All of the above

4. Those who are most likely to respond to the Gospel presented by young female evangelist are:
   A. Women the same age or younger than the evangelist
   B. People of the same race or culture of the evangelist
   C. Older men
   D. A and B

5. The best plan for evangelism includes all but:
   A. Prayer
   B. Leaders training congregations to evangelize
   C. Leave the results to God
   D. Assigning evangelism to experienced leaders only

6. Which of the following is not true:
   A. Personal evangelists should go in pairs to visit strangers
   B. Personal evangelists should avoid preliminary conversation and immediately present the plan of salvation
   C. The Great Commission teaches us to make disciples as we go about our daily routines
   D. The Great Commission is for every Christian

7. The acronym FIRE stands for:
   A. Family, Interests, Relationships, Evangelism
   B. Family, Interrogation, Religion, Evangelism
   C. Family, Interests, Religion, Evangelism
   D. Family, Interrogation, Righteousness, Evangelism

8. The two diagnostic questions from evangelism explosion help an evangelist to
   A. Have an opportunity to share the Gospel
   B. Determine whether or not a listener is a professing Christian
   C. Know if a listener has a basic understanding of Christianity
   D. All of the above
9. Your personal testimony should include  
A. What your life was like before you became a Christian.  
B. How you became a Christian.  
C. B only  
D. Both A and B

10. The Four Spiritual Laws tract includes  
A. Salvation involves receiving Christ as Lord and Savior  
B. God chooses some to be saved  
C. The Old Testament Law  
D. All of the above

11. The Scripture References used in the Romans Road include  
A. Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:1; 10:1,2,3  
B. Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9,10,13  
C. Romans 3:23; 12:23; 5:1; 10:1,2,3  
D. Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:9; 10:1,2,3

12. John 3 teaches  
A. To go to heaven, one must be born again  
B. Those who do not believe in Christ are already condemned  
C. Neither A nor B  
D. Both A and B

13. An evangecube teaches that a Christian matures by doing the following except  
A. Meeting with Other Christians  
B. Evangelizing  
C. Taking communion  
D. Loving people

14. We are told to "speak the truth in love" in  
A. Ephesians 4:15  
B. Romans 5:6  
C. Galatians 2:6  
D. Luke 6:3

15. Which of the following are not true?  
A. When mature, Christians become equal with Christ  
B. Christianity is a relationship  
C. Christians are saved in order to do good works  
D. Christians are adopted children of God

16. Which of the following are not true?  
A. Most people in the USA come to faith through relationship evangelism  
B. Relationship evangelism doesn't work in Muslim countries  
C. The Bible gives examples of relationship evangelism  
D. Relationship evangelism includes witnessing to your friends and family

17. The process of discipleship does not include  
A. Teaching converts to avoid contact with non-believers
B. Immediate follow-up with converts
C. Confession and baptism
D. Training converts to evangelize

18. Spiritual multiplication is
A. The process by which disciples reproduce themselves.
B. Not as effective as spiritual addition
C. Almost as effective as spiritual division
D. All of the above

19. Paul made disciples of the Ephesians by
A. Modeling his faith
B. Spending time among the disciples
C. Loving the disciples
D. All of the above

20. Waylon Moore holds that training disciples as leaders includes all except
A. Taking them on evangelistic visits
B. Teaching them to pray alone, not together
C. Teaching them to make disciples
D. Applying weekly Scripture lessons to real life problems

In order to apply this module and better understand evangelism and discipleship, you should complete the following tasks, and initial each one upon completion.

1. Write a testimony that can be read in three minutes, and give it to someone to review.
2. Give your testimony orally to at least one person.
3. Share the plan of salvation with at least three people who were not Christians prior to your talking with them.
4. Develop a brief plan (not more than three pages) for a six-month-long curriculum to train new converts to grow in faith and be able to make disciples. Have someone review your plan.

Answers

1. C
2. D
3. D
4. D
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. D
10. A
11. B
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BACK TO OUTLINE »