

PERSONAL OUTREACH

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Personal Outreach: Lesson 1

Recap Of Lesson One

1. *B.B.O. Prayer*
2. *Urgency*
3. Before you talk to men about God, talk to God about men.
4. DOTS

Start In Your Backyard

- *Start with the people you know the best.*
- *Family, friends, co-workers, and team-mates are first priorities.*
- *Make a "Most Wanted List"*

In 1952 a Yale University graduating class was asked if they wrote down their goals. Only 3% wrote down their goals. 20 years later they surveyed the same group and found that the 3% who wrote down their goals had more wealth, power, and prominence than the other 97% combined!

Your Stories

Who are some of the people that are your dots?

1. What roadblocks do you see in their lives that God will have to overcome?
2. Why are the people that we love and care for the most the hardest people to talk to about faith?
3. How do our shortcomings and failures become a roadblock in and of themselves?

Parable Of The Sower – Matthew 13

1That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop--a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9He who has ears, let him hear."

18"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. 22The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. 23But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

You Are A Salesman

- You MUST know your product, but you DON'T have to know EVERYTHING!
- You MUST be able to say, "I don't know but I'll find out."
- You MUST believe in what you're selling
- You MUST be excited about what you're selling
- You MUST point out consumer's need
- You MUST NEVER pre-determine who will buy and who won't.

"Then Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." – Mark 4:9.

You will be SHOCKED at some of the people who are ready to whip out their credit card and buy!

Personal Outreach: Lesson 2

Review

- Urgency
- B.B.O. Prayer
- Before you talk to men about God, talk to God about men
- Oscar Schindler
- Parable of the Sower
- You are a Salesman
- You must know your product and believe in it
- You must never pre-determine who will buy and who won't

Your Story / Testimony

- Every good salesman has a good story to go along with his product.
- A Christian should have a three-part story (testimony).
- Part one is the story of your life before Christ.
- Part two is the story of when you made your decision to follow Christ.
- Part three is the story of your life after you were saved.
- Take time to write down your story.

Always Be Prepared

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.” – 1 Peter 3:15-16

Getting on the Subject of Faith

- Be prayerful, thoughtful, and creative
- Be bold
- Jumpstart Questions
- Avoiding Taboo Words
- Non-verbal Strategies

Jumpstart Questions to get into Faith Conversations

- Do you have anything in your life that I can pray about?
- Are you part of a church family?
- What do you think happens to us when we die?
- If you died today, where do you think you'd go?
- Are you where you want to be in life?
- Do you believe in God?

Avoiding "Taboo" Words

- Brothers & Sisters
- Communion
- Lord's Supper
- Repentance
- Atonement
- Redeemed
- Washed in the Blood
- Fellowship

PERSONAL OUTREACH

Non-verbal Strategies

- Drive by a cemetery where you know someone they know is buried
- Handwritten letter
- Buying a book (Case for Christ, Purpose Driven Life, Bible)

Power & Benefits of a Handwritten Letter

- Recipient can look over your thoughts and Bible verses over and over again in the privacy and non-intimidating atmosphere of their own home.
- Handwritten Bible verses seem to mean more to recipient than just pointing them to scriptures
- No one writes handwritten notes anymore – they're meaningful in and of themselves. They take time. It shows effort on your part.
- You don't have to make eye contact with them – one of the hardest parts of this sharing your faith thing.

Personal Outreach: Lesson 3

Most People Respect God, The Bible, The Church

This approach will work with those who believe in God and have respect for the scriptures. Someone who does not believe in God and has no respect for scriptures is not unreachable, but reaching them oftentimes can be much more complicated.

Most People believe in a Higher Being and have a respect for the Bible itself

There is a great scene in the movie, "The Apostle", of Billy Bob Thornton trying to tear down a church building with a tractor. Robert Duvall lays an open Bible down in the path between the tractor and the church. Thornton won't drive over the Bible. **SHOW CLIP**

Weddings and funerals almost always have some type of religious reference.

You'll never find anyone "trashing" the Gideon Bibles in hotel rooms.

Show some old Bibles and read some things out of them.

Personal Outreach: Lesson 4

Your Playbook – The Bible

Along with the respect people have for the Bible, people would much rather hear what the Bible has to say than what you think, your parents think, your minister thinks, etc.

Always have a New Testament handy – “Derringers” (pocket-sized New Testaments) will keep you “armed” at all times

“Derringers” are less intimidating than “Shotguns” (large coffee table-sized bibles) if opportunity arises on airplane, in gymnasium, in restaurant, etc.

Find a version that’s easy to read and understand (NIV, Easy-to-read versions)

Using Your Bible – A Starting Point

Ted Williams, Willie Mays, Babe Ruth, and Tony Gwynn are some of the best hitters baseball has ever seen. They all shared one common skill that helped make them great hitters. **THEY KNEW HOW TO PICK UP THE BAT!**

Using a pen, you will write the following verses at the top of each page in your Bible (yes, it’s okay to write in your Bible) in the following order with each verse taking you to the next one in order. You can change the order or add other verses. This just gives you a starting point.

Turn to Romans 3:23. This is your first verse in the game plan. At the top of the page where Romans 3:23 is, write Romans 6:23.

Turn to Romans 6:23. At the top of the page where Romans 6:23 is, write John 3:3-5.

Scriptures to Use

You get the picture. Here are the other verses in order

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 01. Romans 6:23 | 02. John 3:3-5 | 03. John 14:6 | 04. Romans 10:9-11 |
| 05. Revelation 3:20 | 06. Acts 2:36-41 | 07. John 3:16 | 08. Ephesians 2:8-9 |
| 09. 1 Peter 3:18-22 | 10. Mark 16:15-16 | | |

Personal Outreach: Lesson 5

Different Ways to Fish for Sport / Food

- Rod and reel
- Nets
- Traps
- Spear
- Limb lines
- Jugs
- Trotline
- Dynamite
- Noodling, Grappling, Hogging

Different Ways to Fish for Men

“As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him. – Mark 1:16-17

The reason why one set of scriptures or one approach to sharing your faith does not work with everyone is that hearts are in different spiritual conditions (Read Parable of the Sower explained in Matthew 13:18-23).

- Jesus' approach to the woman caught in adultery was pure grace (John. 8:3-11).
- Jesus' approach to woman at the well required a word of knowledge (John. 4:16-18).
- To Zaccheus it took a dinner invitation (Luke. 19:1-10).
- To the rich young ruler Jesus ministered the law (Matthew. 19:16-22).
- To the jailer, doing the unexpected (Acts 16:16-34)

- Hospital visitation is sharing your faith in a hospital while visiting friends or family members who are hospitalized. You can do this with nurses, roommates, and even in other rooms or wards by permission of the sick person.

- Home visitation involves visiting persons in their home for the purpose of answering their questions and sharing the Gospel with them.

- Evangelistic Breakfasts, lunches or dinners involve inviting non-Christians to a meal for fellowship with Christians and to hear a speaker talk about how the Christian faith relates to everyday life.

- Evangelistic films are excellent tools to expose non-believers to the Gospel. These films can be shown in your home, at the church, or in any other suitable location.

- Evangelistic meetings provide occasions where Christians can bring their unsaved friends to hear the Gospel preached.

- Evangelistic Bible studies in small groups provide a non-threatening atmosphere where people can be exposed to the Gospel message.

- The internet is an excellent, non-intimidating resource. Oftentimes sending someone an email or a web address can be one of the best things you can do. See FaithSite.com, FaithMatters.com, BrentHigh.com, TFTD-online.com

- Books (The Case for Christ, The Case for a Creator, Purpose Driven Life, Prayer of Jabez)
- I agree with “Matt” t-shirts
- Bible bobble heads/Bible giveaway
- WWJD bracelets

Putting it All Together

- What's in your tackle box?
- Importance of adding new “lures”

“Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.” – 1 Corinthians 9:19-23