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Discipleship Training Level 1 Unbelievers

Notebook



Table of Contents

[Introduction: 2](#_Toc518669935)

[Identifying an Unbeliever: 3](#_Toc518669936)

[Understanding Worldview 4](#_Toc518669937)

[Beliefs about the Nature of God 4](#_Toc518669938)

[Beliefs about the Purpose of Life: 4](#_Toc518669939)

[Beliefs about Human Nature: 4](#_Toc518669940)

[Beliefs about Jesus Christ: 4](#_Toc518669941)

[Beliefs about the Source of Truth: 5](#_Toc518669942)

[Worldviews Chart: 5](#_Toc518669943)

[Three Cultural Acceptance Systems: 6](#_Toc518669944)

[Steps to Evangelism: 7](#_Toc518669945)

[Engle and Grey Scales of Evangelism: 7](#_Toc518669946)

[Roles and Responsibilities 8](#_Toc518669947)

[Common Arguments against Christianity 8](#_Toc518669948)

[Relational Evangelism Chart: 10](#_Toc518669949)

[Bridge Building Techniques: 10](#_Toc518669950)

[Practical Steps to Building Bridges: 10](#_Toc518669951)

[Bridge Questions: 11](#_Toc518669952)

[Bridge Scriptures: 12](#_Toc518669953)

[Preparing a Personal Testimony 12](#_Toc518669954)

[Clear Presentation of the Gospel 13](#_Toc518669955)

[Bad and Good News Presentation 13](#_Toc518669956)

[Clear Presentation of the Gospel 14](#_Toc518669957)

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Level 1: Transitioning UnbelieversLevel 2: Transitioning Spiritual InfantsLevel 3: Transitioning Spiritual ChildrenLevel 4: Transitioning Spiritual YouthLevel 5: Transitioning Spiritual AdultsLevel 6: Transitioning Spiritual ParentsLevel 7: Spiritual Grandparents |  |

# Introduction:

Level 1 exists to transition a person from the unbeliever to new believer phase of spiritual life. For, a person cannot grow spiritually until they have been born again by the Spirit of God who comes to live inside them and to help them grow spiritually. If you are not born spiritually you will consider spiritual things as being foolish.

1 Corinthians 2:14–15 (NIV) *14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. 15 The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things…*

A person such as Nicodemus can be highly educated but be unable to understand spiritual things until they are born of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was trying to explain to Nicodemus that there is natural birth and then spiritual birth.

John 3:5–8 (NIV) *5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”*

Being born spiritually involves more than head knowledge. Being born spiritually involves heart understanding. The fallen disobedient angels and demons have a head knowledge that God exists. In fact, they have more knowledge about how the spiritual life works than humanity. But, they have not yielded their intellect, emotions and decisions to the will of God.

James 2:19 (NASB95) *19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.*

Some educated people think that some people will be excused from being held accountable for their ignorance regarding spiritual things. But, the Word of God says that there is enough revelation in creation to show the power and nature of God. Mankind has suppressed the truth in their unrighteousness. Therefore, there is no excuse for spiritual ignorance.

Romans 1:18–20 (NASB95) *18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.*

Therefore, people need to have more than head knowledge. They need heart belief in order to saved.

Romans 10:9 (NASB95) *9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;*

Salvation comes by the grace of God through your faith in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on your behalf. The good news is that Jesus Christ died for your sins, that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. This is a summary of what you have to believe in your heart in order to transition from an unbeliever to a new believer (being born again spiritually).

1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (NASB95) *3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures…*

To be saved the unbeliever has to “come to Jesus.”

 *Matthew 11:28 (NIV) 28 “Come to me…”*

*Luke 18:16 (NIV) 16 But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*

*John 6:35 (NIV) 35 Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.*

The objectives for this stage of spiritual growth are to befriend an unbeliever, to understand the worldview of the unbeliever, to build a bridge between the believer and the truth of God, to share your personal testimony, and to share a clear presentation of the gospel of salvation.

## Identifying an Unbeliever:

How can you identify a potential unbeliever? The unbeliever has a lack of belief in Jesus Christ. Unbelievers deny the person and power of Jesus Christ. Unbelievers deny that Jesus is the only way, truth and spiritual life. Unbelievers are unrepentant of their sins. Unbelievers think that salvation is obtained by works rather than by the grace of God through faith in the sacrifice of the divine Son of God, Jesus Christ. Unbelievers are focused on the world or themselves rather than on God and spiritual things. Unbelievers have a lack of knowledge about spiritual things.

# Understanding Worldview

Before you can build a bridge to share the good news of Jesus Christ you must first understand their worldview. What is a worldview? A worldview is the person’s guesses or convictions about universal questions of life. Here are some questions that uncover a person’s worldview. How did everything come to be? What is the nature of humanity? What is the purpose of life? What is important and valuable in life? What is the source of ultimate truth? What happens after a person dies? Our worldview determines how a person interprets their life and the world around. Worldviews shape what humans think and how they behave. Before you can effectively disciple a person you must gain some kind of understanding about their worldview.

## Beliefs about the Nature of God

Atheism: The person believes that God does not exist.

Agnosticism: The person does not know or care if God exists.

Pantheism: The person believes everything and everyone is god.

Polytheism: The person believes there are many gods who govern reality.

Monotheism: The person believes God exists independent from but interacts with the universe.

Deism: The person believes God exists but does not interact with the universe.

Postmodernism: The person believes that reality is socially constructed within a culture.

## Beliefs about the Purpose of Life:

No Purpose: The person does whatever they want.

Live for Self: The person seeks comfort, entertainment, satisfaction, success, etc.

Live for Others: The person seeks to help, serve, protect, care for, teach, and encourage others.

Descendants: The person seeks to make sure the family or culture lives a long time.

Love and Peace: The person seeks to promote love and to be free from trouble in the world.

Overcome: The person seeks to overcome wounds, habits, addictions, fears, anger, etc.

Afterlife: The person seeks to do what is necessary to obtain a good afterlife.

Live for God: The person seeks to worship, serve, obey and enjoy a relationship with God.

## Beliefs about Human Nature:

Perfect: The person believes people always do what is good and right.

More Good: The person believes people are born with a basic desire to do good.

Neutral: The person believes people are born into their environment with no inclination.

Broken: The person believes people were created to be good but are now selfish.

More Bad: The person believes are born selfish and end up doing bad.

## Beliefs about Jesus Christ:

Lunatic: The person believes either Jesus lied, was a lunatic, or was a legend.

Leader: The person believes Jesus was a great prophet or teacher.

Revolutionary: The person believes Jesus brought reform to failed systems.

Spiritual Being: The person believes Jesus was a spiritual being but not the supreme God.

Creator and Savior: The person believes Jesus is one of the Godhead who created and saved humanity.

## Beliefs about the Source of Truth:

Reason: The person believes reason and logic are the basis for truth.

Tradition: The person believes culture and family are the basis for truth.

Emotions: The person believes feelings, intuitions, desires are the basis for truth.

Science: The person believes physical senses are the basis for truth.

Spiritual Encounters: The person believes communication with spirit beings are the basis for truth.

Sacred Writings: The person believes sacred writings are the basis for truth.

Relativity: The person believes there is no absolute truth but that truth is subjective.

## Worldviews Chart:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | About God | Truth / Morality | Evil / Death | Man / Reality |
| **Theism**ChristianityJudaismIslam | Only one infinite personal creator God exists.Christianity describes an infinite Triune personal God with one named Jesus coming as the God Man to save humans from sin and death. | Truth is objective and revealed by God. Morality is revealed by God as an expression of His moral being. | Evil is the result of free choice connected to deception by fallen angelic created beings and will be defeated.Upon death the immaterial parts of spirit and soul will be transported to heaven or hell. | Mankind is a unique creation made by God in His image designed to be in a co-ruling relationship with Him. Reality is material and spiritual and relational |
| **Naturalism**AtheismAgnosticismHumanismMarxismCommunismRationalismExistentialism | God does not exist or is not important.  | Truth comes only from scientific proofs and what can be verified from the five natural senses. Morals are determined by individual preferences and the situation subject to evolution and to change. | Evil is real and caused by human ignorance. Man can defeat evil by overcoming ignorance. Death brings an end to each life form. They cease to exist and there is no afterlife. | Man is a complex biological machine a chance product of evolution. Man will someday become extinct as a species. Matter is all that exists. There is no soul or spirit, only physical reality and natural law. |
| **Polytheism**AnimismTribal beliefsSpiritismAncestor WorshipNeo-Pagans | Multiple finite personal gods exist. | Truth is hidden and discovered through a shaman person who has visions about what the gods and demons feel.Moral values mostly include taboos which upset or anger various spirits. | Evil occurs because of the struggle between the gods and will never be defeated.The soul enters the spiritual dimension upon death. | Man is a material creation of the gods who happens to have a spiritual core.Material things are associated with good and bad spirit beings who govern what happens behind natural events. Reality is spiritual. |
| **Pantheism**HinduismZen BuddhismTaoismEastern MysticismNew AgeScientology | There is one infinite unknowable impersonal God that is in everyone and everything. | Truth is unity of oneness of universe that is beyond a rational description.Good and bad are being rebalanced all the time in a perfect cosmos. | Evil is an illusion.Upon death the life force brings reincarnation to another form that is either higher or lower based upon deeds. | Man seeks oneness with a spiritual, eternal and impersonal reality. Individuality and personality are an illusion.All matter is ultimately an illusion from reality. |
| **Postmodernism**PluralismRelativismMulticulturalismUniversalism | God may or may not exist. | Truth is relative to one’s culture. Tolerance, freedom of expression, inclusion, refusal to claim to have all the answers leads to a lack of universal moral values. | There is no absolute evil since it is relative to one’s cultural expression.These people acknowledge death but deny certainty of the quality of life after death. | Man is the product of the local social setting and is not independent or free from that setting. Reality is socially created through a cultural filter. |

## Three Cultural Acceptance Systems:

There are three basic systems of cultural acceptance. Cultural acceptance means how a person is accepted into a culture or society. Your approach to evangelism should be adapted to their system of cultural acceptance.

**“Guilt-Innocence” Cultural Acceptance System:**

The “Guilt-Innocence” cultural acceptance system depends upon deductive reasoning, asking questions, cause and effect, and logical processes. Acceptance is granted based upon polarizing adherence to a particular standard. Something is considered as right or wrong, lawful or unlawful, good or bad. Communication is usually direct and sometimes blunt. Written contracts are considered as valuable to define the terms of agreement. People are either accepted or rejected into the culture or social community based upon guilt or innocence regarding a particular standard. Those who are guilty need forgiveness in order to be accepted back into the community. This paradigm is often found in western cultures that are based upon accepted rules and laws.

**“Honor-Shame” Cultural Acceptance System:**

The “Honor-Shame” cultural acceptance system is not necessarily concerned with reasoning or cause and effect but rather upon making honorable choices in the situations in which they find themselves. People in this system are not as concerned with legal contracts but rather communicate, interact and have business dealings with other based upon honorable relationships. They do not want to shame the status or reputation of the other participants. Despite what these people think they value respect. Sharing the gospel of Jesus in this cultural system should involve replacing humanity’s shame with honor and respect. Jesus took the shame of the sin of humanity upon Himself that sinful humanity could be restored to honor. This paradigm is often found in various parts of Asia and Africa.

**“Power-Fear” Cultural Acceptance System:**

The “Power-Fear” cultural acceptance system is concerned neither with honor, nor legal contracts. Instead members of this society are accepted into the culture when they fall in line with their given level of power within the system that is either granted to them or forcefully taken from them by a stronger power. In this system a benevolent king may rule over members of society who willingly support his authority in order to receive the benefit. However, a ruthless dictator may rule over members of society who unwillingly silently agree to his power out of fear that they will be oppressed. People in this cultural acceptance system are constantly evaluating where they align to this hierarchy in the power structure. This paradigm is often observed in communist countries. Sometimes this cultural acceptance system is forced and layered over another system. Sharing the gospel of salvation to someone in this cultural acceptance system will probably require demonstrating the supreme benevolent power of Jesus Christ being worthy to follow.

# Steps to Evangelism:

Every disciple maker should accept the fact that salvation experiences are usually preceded by a number of smaller steps. Few people place their trust in Jesus Christ the first time they hear the gospel. The same is true about discipleship. Few believers advance to the next stage of spiritual growth upon hearing new spiritual information for the first time. The path to spiritual birth and spiritual maturity is never linear. Forward movement takes place in leaps and jumps. The Holy Spirit has to be involved to convict people about sin, about righteousness, about judgment, to draw them to faith in Jesus and to sanctify them in truth. The Holy Spirit usually does this work through multiple believers. Paul planted and Apollos watered, but God caused the spiritual growth.

John 16:8 (NASB95) *8 “And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;*

1 Corinthians 3:6–9 (NIV) *6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. 9 For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.*

## Engle and Grey Scales of Evangelism:

Engle, Grey and others have developed scales showing various steps that unbelievers transition through on their road to salvation. The details of these scales may vary. But, the basic ideas are the same. Most people require a series of steps before they place their trust in Jesus for salvation from sin and death. The diagram below summarizes a number of these steps.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *This diagram is based upon the Engle and Grey Scales of Evangelism.* | Surrender to Jesus |
|  | Apply truth to their personal life |  |
|  | Understand truth about Jesus and sin |  |
|  | Investigate Jesus |  |
|  | Interest in Jesus |  |
|  | Contact with believers |  |
|  | Some awareness of God |  |
| No awareness of God |  |

## Roles and Responsibilities

Before doing evangelism it is helpful to remind yourself of appropriate roles and responsibilities. As an evangelist and disciple maker you have roles and responsibilities. Similarly, God has His roles and responsibilities. Confusing these two will cause unnecessary conflicts. Your role is to befriend, to love, to be prepared, to follow Jesus, to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, to understand their worldview, to share your personal testimony, and to give a clear presentation of the gospel of salvation. God’s responsibilities are to convict the unbeliever of sin, righteousness, judgment, to draw the unbeliever to Himself, and to save the unbeliever, filling him or her with the Holy Spirit. God will fulfill His responsibilities if you remain in your role.

1 Corinthians 9:22 (NASB95) *22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.*

*Ephesians 2:8–9 (NASB95) 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

## Common Arguments against Christianity

Before doing evangelism it is sometimes helpful to learn answers to some common questions that unbelievers may ask. Generally we recommend steering people away from controversial questions and turning them back to the immediate question “how are they going to respond to the gospel message that they just heard?”

Titus 3:9–10 (NASB95) *9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.*

* What about the heathen in the jungles who have never heard the gospel of Jesus? The simple answer is that you are not talking to such a person. What are they personally going to do with this message of the gospel? However, the Biblical answer is that God has built enough revelation into His creation that people should turn to God. But, people have suppressed the truth of God because of their unrighteousness (Romans 1:19-20).
* Why do innocent people suffer? This is a question of comparison. The simple answer is that there is always who has a more difficult life. However, the Biblical answer is that nobody is innocent. For, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). The sin of Adam and Eve affected not only humanity but all creation. That is why we live in a broken world. The Bible says that creation groans for the sons of God to be revealed to restore what was broken.
* How are miracles possible? This is a common question often given by a secular humanist. The simple answer is that each day is full of miracles such as the breath of life, the complex nature of the human body and the universe. Scientists have proven that statistically it is impossible for these things to exist without an outside Creator. Those who deny miracles are simply suppressing the truth. They do not want to submit to the Creator God. Believing in miracles requires faith (Luke 16:29-31).
* Is not the Bible full of errors? This is a question commonly given by Muslims. The truth is that thousands of years of archeological and historical evidence have supported the historical reliability of the Biblical account. In addition, the numerous consistent Biblical manuscripts discovered over many years also point to the accuracy of the Biblical text. Furthermore, the internal integrity of the Biblical text itself points to its authority. The Bible itself testifies to the fact that the Word of God was breathed out through inspired men who served as prophets of the grace that would come through Jesus (1 Peter 1:10; 1 Peter 1:19; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). Many Muslims and critics have simply not examined the mountains of external and internal evidence.
* Is not the Christian experience psychological? Many have fallen prey to a post-modern worldview assuming that truth is relative to culture. The fact of the matter is that Christianity is not based on culture. Christianity is based upon the fact that Jesus Christ was crucified, dead, buried and raised again to life. Many people were witnesses to these facts. Jesus, Himself said “I am the way and the truth and the life… (John 14:6). Post-modern people have confused “the expression of truth through culture” with “culture being truth.” There is a huge difference.
* Will not a good moral life get me to heaven? This is a question commonly given by legalists. Legalists seek to earn salvation by their own good works. But, the Bible says that people are saved only by grace through faith; and that is not of yourselves; it is a gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).
* Is Jesus the only way to God? This is a question commonly asked by the polytheist. Jesus declared Himself as the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the heavenly Father except through Him (John 14:6). Jesus said that the gate to eternal life is narrow meaning only through Him (Matthew 7:13-14). Jesus declared “I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture” (John 10:9). Jesus is the only way to God.

Unbelievers will use these and other questions to distract and divert attention away from them having to answer your question: “what are you going to do with the facts of your sin and the gift of God’s grace through faith?” Keep pointing them back to the main question.

## Relational Evangelism Chart:

I recommend evangelists and disciple makers use the below resource. This chart will help you stay on track as you seek to share your faith with unsaved family, friends, neighbors, coworkers and acquaintances. This is a simple instrument. Write the names of unbelievers whom are in your circles of influence. Write the location where you usually meet with them. While you are building a relationship with the check the progress of their steps on the road to salvation. This simple tool also serves as a reminder to pray for these unbelievers.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name  | Location | -7 | -6 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -7. No awareness of God-6. Some awareness of God-5. Contact with believers-4. Interested in Jesus-3. Investigating Jesus-2. Understanding truth about their sin and Jesus-1. Accepting truth into their lives 0. Decision to surrender to Jesus |

# Bridge Building Techniques:

One of the keys for transitioning an unbeliever to a believer is understanding how to build bridges into their life. A bridge is a structure that overcomes a barrier, connects two separated peoples, provides fellowship between peoples and strengthens relationships. Jesus was the master builder of relational bridges. Jesus used illustrations from everyday life drawing spiritual parallels to nearby fields, crops, sheep, shepherds, water, gates, doors, wind, birth, etc. Jesus told stories and parables describing connections between the earthly and the heavenly kingdoms. Disciple makers should pray for God to reveal how to turn the ordinary into a bridge for spiritual things.

## Practical Steps to Building Bridges:

The construction of a good bridge is a complicated process. First, you must establish a good foundation. The type of foundation depends upon the quality of the soil. If the soil is good then the foundation may be simply a flat foundation of sharing the gospel. If the soil is unstable then you will have to dig deep with extra love, grace, care, concern, teaching, etc. Second you must construct the supports. Supports are major components of the gospel message such as sin, death, Jesus being God, Jesus paying our price for sin, receiving the gift of forgiveness by grace through faith, walking with Jesus in new life, etc. Third, you must assemble the superstructure and slab. These are the parts that add form upon which the gospel is carried. These may include the introduction conversation starter and the conclusion follow-up procedure. Below are seven practical steps that you can follow in evangelism.

1. Make initial contact with the unbeliever.
2. Build a loving relationship with them.
3. Begin serving and meeting practical needs.
4. Deepen your trust relationship with them.
5. Begin to share your Christian faith in natural ways.
6. Invite them Christian community events.
7. Give them your personal testimony and a clear presentation of the gospel.
8. Remember to invite them to turn from sin and trust Jesus.
9. Remember to follow-up with more meetings.
10. Remember to continue praying for them.

## Bridge Questions:

One method of building bridges unto spiritual conversations is to ask questions. With a little creativity you can use the below bridge questions to start conversations about spiritual things. In addition, you can simply make observations about everyday nearby objects and interests and talents of your unsaved friend. The closer the illustration to their everyday experience the stronger the bridge will be.

Bridge questions for a “Guilt-Shame” context:

1. Do you ever think of spiritual issues?
2. Have you ever known someone who was perfect?
3. What is your opinion of right and wrong?
4. In your opinion what should a real Christian look like?
5. How many ways are there to get to heaven?
6. Do you find forgiveness of yourself or others difficult?
7. What happens if you are wrong?

Bridge questions for an “Honor-Shame” context:

1. What does it mean to be a real friend?
2. What is the most famous person of all time?
3. Why is there so much divorce, alcoholism, suicide addictions, etc.?
4. What is the greatest thing that God has ever done for you?
5. What is the most important thing in relationships?
6. How specifically can I pray for you?
7. What is the most embarrassing or shameful thing that has happened to you?

Bridge questions for a “Power-Fear” context:

1. Who was the most powerful person on earth?
2. How can people get rid of fear?
3. What is the greatest problem in society?
4. What would bring real peace to this world?
5. If you could be king for a day what would you do?
6. If you died today what would happen?
7. Who is Jesus really?

## Bridge Scriptures:

Just as certain questions can serve as bridges to spiritual conversations, certain passages of Scripture serve and powerful bridges to sharing the gospel. You should choose several passages to which you can easily turn for a bridge to a conversation about Jesus.

Bridge Scriptures for a “Guilt-Shame” context:

1. The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17)
2. Being justified by faith apart from the law (Romans 3:21-26)
3. By grace through faith delivered from the wrath of God (Ephesians 2:1-10)
4. Definition and examples of faith (Hebrews 11)
5. Need to confess and believe (Romans 10:8-15)

Bridge Scriptures for an “Honor-Shame” context:

1. Nicodemus receives new spiritual birth (John 3:1-21)
2. Jesus talks with a Samaritan woman about living water (John 4:7-26)
3. Jesus forgave the adulterous woman (John 8:1-11)
4. Parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32)

Bridge Scriptures for a “Power-Fear” context:

1. Jesus is the Word of God in the flesh (John 1:14-18)
2. Jesus feeds us as the Bread of Life (John 6:26-40)
3. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-27)
4. Gospel being powerful unto salvation (Romans 1:16)

# Preparing a Personal Testimony

Many believers are afraid to share their personal testimony. Part of the reason is because they have never prepared a personal testimony. Once you write down your personal testimony the fear will subside. We recommend following the below pattern. The more personal you make your testimony the more powerful it will be. There are four basic parts to a personal testimony.

1. Describe your life before knowing Jesus Christ. Remember to mention the negative such as sin, fear, pride, loneliness, lack of peace, addiction, etc. Do not spend too much time describing personal sin. You just want them to know that before Christ your life was broken.
2. Share the details of the circumstances of how you trusted Jesus. You will want to spend the most time on this part of your testimony. Remember to talk about the grace of God, what Jesus did for you and how you received His gift through faith.
3. Then explain something about how God has changed your life since then. Describe the positive spiritual changes that have taken place with excitement and joy. They need to see that your faith is real and that it continues even to today.
4. Lastly, remember to invite them to turn from their sin towards Jesus through faith. You may ask “is there anything keeping you from trusting Jesus right now?” That is one of the most important bridge questions giving them an opportunity to respond.

# Clear Presentation of the Gospel

One of the most important skills of a disciple maker is being able to share a clear presentation of the gospel. We recommend memorizing the gospel presentation named “May I ask you a question” found at www.evantell.com. You may purchase their evangelistic tracts translated into a number of languages. The other option is simply to memorize their gospel presentation below.

## Bad and Good News Presentation

Question 1: May I ask you a question?

Question 2: Has anyone ever shown how to know for sure that you are going to heaven?

Transition: The Bible presents some bad news and good news.

Bad News 1: The bad news is about us. We have sinned.

The Bible says “all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23)

“Sin” means that we have missed God’s standard or mark of perfection.

If we were to throw a rock to the moon we would miss the target.

We have missed God’s target.

Bad News 2: The bad news gets worse. God’s penalty for sin is death.

 The Bible says “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23)

 Wages means something earned from work. Because of sin we earned death.

Death means separation from relationship. Many have experienced a sad funeral.

Transition: The good news is something about God!

Good News 1: The first good news is that Jesus Christ died for us.

 The Bible says that “while we were yet sinners Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8)

 Jesus Christ took our death penalty upon Himself.

 If you had cancer and then someone transferred your cancer to them what would happen?

 They would die in your place.

Good New 2: The good news gets better. You can be saved by grace through faith in Jesus.

 The Bible says that “for by grace you have been saved through faith…” (Ephesians 2:8-9)

 To have faith means to trust or rest in someone else.

 When you sit on a chair you rest having faith that it will hold you.

Question: Is there anything keeping you from placing your rest in Jesus right now?

 Think carefully. This is the most important question you can answer.

Transition: Pray this prayer. God, I am a sinner. I believe Jesus took my penalty.

 Thank you for grace and forgiveness !

# Conclusion

Once they have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior, they have transitioned to being born again unto new life. They have become an infant Christian. Just like babies need to be fed and washed and cared for these new believers will need much attention. Someone will need to disciple them from the infant to the child stage of spiritual maturity. Will you take the time and effort to disciple them further?