

BASIC TRAINING



EVERY NATION

TEACHING GUIDE

4TH EDITION

Produced in 2011 by Peter and Alisa Dusan
E.N.C.M. @ Texas State University-San Marcos
www.PersuadingOthers.com

PURPOSE OF BASIC TRAINING

The best way to avoid being influenced by the world is ***to influence the world***. Far too often, we settle for a Christian life that simply survives; simply avoids sin.

Yet, Jesus didn't avoid sin; he destroyed it. The Apostle John says that "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil." (1 John 3:8b) Indeed, the best way to avoid sin is to destroy it as we pursue something infinitely greater: **The Glory of Jesus!** His Kingdom on earth!

So, we desire to train and equip ***all believers in*** Jesus to be ***influencers for*** Jesus. We don't just want to survive; we want to thrive. The reality is that we grow much like any healthy plant grows; we're only thriving when we're spreading. Thus, this training is designed to help us take the first basic steps toward thriving!



Peter and Alisa Dusan have worked with *Every Nation Campus Ministries* at Texas State University since 2005. Peter also serves as the lead Pastor at Christ Community Church in San Marcos, and helps the other E.N.C.M. chapters around Texas. ***Haddasah-Rose Dusan*** was born on December 6th of 2008.

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Open the Training:

- 1. Two minute miracle assignment b4-->MC opens by sharing story***
- 2. The schedule of the day . . .***
 - Lessons 1 through 5, Lunch-->then
 - Lessons 6-10, then done ☺
- 3. Contents***
 - As you read the PURPOSE OF BASIC TRAINING and look through the contents table of this booklet, you'll notice that the lessons are designed to help disciples take the first **basic steps** toward leading and influencing for the Kingdom; then, **real** learning starts ON THE STREETS :)
 - ***This book is not designed*** to develop the disciple in:
 - i. Biblical Foundations, Church History, Worldview Training, Spiritual Gifts, or Demonic Deliverance.
 - *(All of which are important for ALL believers!)*
 - ***It is to designed to equip the disciple to be a minister.***
- 4. So, let's pray as we begin*** (Have someone open in prayer)
 - i. *(Also, write Q's along the way and ask at the end please)*

LESSON 1

EVERY MEMBER IS A MINISTER

So, why do we do all of this ministry stuff? What's the point of all of this training? What's the agenda? WHY ARE **YOU** HERE?

- In order to understand what God is doing, we have to have a little historical/biblical perspective of **WHY** he's moving in a dark world, and **HOW** he desires to bring light.

(Have someone read the following PREAMBLE)

Basic Training Preamble:

God, existing eternally in the 3 persons of The Holy Trinity, has always been in the business of world redemption. Jesus, who by the will of the Father spoke the universe into existence, did not need to create mankind. At the pinnacle of His creation, He chose to create humans as a means to generate a people for himself; for His own glory.

Yet, mankind brought evil to the earth by seeking self-Glory, and has thus stood in desperate need of redemption. Nevertheless, by coming to the earth and dying for our sin and rising again to defeat sin's power, Jesus purchased a redeemed people for himself. So, His people, in response, are to spread His redemptive presence in the earth, thus redeeming the world. Therefore, the plan of Jesus in the earth has always been, and will always be, **MORE JESUS!**

More Jesus! Those 2 words should direct everything that we do in the church; indeed, everything that we do and think in life!

God's redemption plan is MORE JESUS, through MORE JESUS PEOPLE.

DOXOLOGY

Now unto him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory forevermore through
Jesus Christ!
Amen.

Romans 16:25-27

- Example: If you're regularly swiping a student in from your meal plan and they become dependent on this merciful act, you're not helping.

○ Without a healthy balance, our "helping" is HURTING.

Questions to ask before deciding to "help" someone:

- Is this a unique difficult situation that I should step in and help with or a daily load that this person needs to learn to carry?
- By helping, would I be taking on responsibilities that God has not called me to carry?
- By helping, am I enabling this person to continue to avoid their personal responsibilities?
- How can I help this person to learn to better carry his or her own daily load?
- ***Am I ministering in a way that teaches this person to depend on Jesus or to depend on me?***
 - Sometimes we have to be "training wheels" for people for a while but the goal must always be that they learn to eventually ride on their own.

Discussion Questions:

- What are some examples of heavy burdens that we should help one another with? What about daily loads that we should expect one another to carry?
- How can having healthy boundaries in ministry actually help you be a more effective minister?
- What boundaries will you personally need to set as you minister this semester?

We are dismissing in a minute . . .

- ★ But for those who are REALLY HUNGRY for some Holy Spirit power, you can stick around and we will pray for you.

So, let's go to His Word to highlight this very truth! (have someone read the verse)

The First Commandment:

Genesis 1:28 "And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over . . . the earth.' "

- God's presence multiplies when God's people multiply.
- "God's people" is comprised of 2 harmonious and complementary institutions:

1. The Family

2. The Church

- So, God's intent is to spread his presence through **his people**, the family and the church, but . . .
- QUESTION: What is the biggest thing that stands in the way of God's presence multiplying? SIN

Flip ahead 2 chapters in Genesis (but don't read). Chapter 3 isn't simply a fable about an apple and a cranky rule obsessed God—it's a heart-wrenching history of man's sin—the first human betrayal of Jesus.

Sin is the most formidable enemy that stands in the way of God's presence multiplying through God's people. Sin has tainted all of creation, and has hurt THE FAMILY as well as THE CHURCH.

Sin is simply **disobedience**. It's doing what God says not to do, AND it's not doing what he says to go and do.

But, Jesus came to destroy sin on the cross (1 John 3:8), and to redeem A PEOPLE for himself. ***"God became man in Jesus Christ! He lived the life that we should have lived; He died the death that we should have died. On the***

third day, he rose again from the dead, proving that HE IS GOD, and gaining jurisdiction to offer salvation to anyone who would repent and believe the good news. (Ricean creed)

So, after rising from the dead, he reaffirmed His eternal dominion plan in his last words. (Have someone read)

The Great Comission:

Matthew 28:18-19 “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of **every nation** . . .”

Go and make (church attenders? facebook fans?) Disciples!

- **QUESTION:** What are the main similarities between The First commandment and Great Commission?
 - **The whole world, Domination, etc.**

As Jesus reveals here, being fruitful and multiplying in the earth has everything to do with MAKING DISCIPLES. This is the reason THE CHURCH and THE FAMILY exist! **So let's define:**

A disciple is: (The 3 F's of discipleship)

1. A Follower of Christ

- Matt. 28:19-20—the next few verses describe making disciples: “baptizing them, and teaching them to OBEY!”
 - Check out this quote from *WikiChurch*:
- “The goal of discipleship is to teach God’s Word, and in doing so make people aware of their accountability—not to us, but to God.” ~Steve Murrell, *WikiChurch*
- Aware of our responsibility to God! You can be an amazing Christian leader, and yet not be a TRUE DISCIPLE of Jesus.
- THIS IS THE ONE THING THAT WE DON'T WANT TO MISS!
 - The Call of God is a call to **HIMSELF**. So, . . .
 1. Read your Bible!
 2. Pray and Fast!
 3. Be Baptized in Water & Spirit—seek more of His Power!

- Saying the right thing in the wrong way is saying the **WRONG** thing.

Other verses:

- Hebrews 12:14 “Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.”
- Rom. 12:18 “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”

2) Maintaining Healthy Boundaries:

- **Disregard the next line, and** (Have someone read the following passage)

Galatians 6:1-5:

“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load.”

Finding The Balance

- Carrying each other's **burdens** while allowing each person to **bear** their own load.
- As Christians we are called to bear one another's burdens. (verse 3)
 - This means that we fulfill the law of Christ when we step in and help another brother or sister in Christ when they are faced with heavy, difficult situations on life.
- However, this passage also tells us that each of us should carry our own **load**. These can be easy to mistake if we don't find the balance!
 - **The balance of helping others:** We help carry **heavy** burdens, but we help them to carry **regular** burdens.
 - We must expect them to carry their own daily weight in life, for we're not helping them if we do that for them.

Healthy relationships require healthy confrontation.

- **(Have someone read)**

Matthew 18:15-17

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”

Steps in Conflict Resolution

1. Go talk to the person directly
2. Take one or two others along with you
 - How do you do this without making the person feel “ganged-up” on?
3. Tell it to the church
 - Quickly discuss what this would look like specifically in your church.
4. Treat as an unbeliever
 - Important note: *How did Jesus treat Gentiles and tax collectors?* This is not saying that we can be mean to the person, but that we are to love them and pray for them.
 - However, they should not be trusted the same way you would another brother or sister in Christ.

Practical Application: Be **Respectfully Direct**, not:

- “respectfully” indirect.
 - If you don’t get right to the point with someone, you’re acting like the kid in 6th grade who breaks up with his girlfriend through a mutual friend, or by text message.
- Disrespectfully direct
 - Like the guy who says, “I said what I needed to say, and if she can’t handle it, that’s her fault.”
 - Or the girl that says, “Look, I just tell it like it is.”

4. Build your foundation in His Word.

- Don’t know where to start? **(First Steps Book)**
- Also, a disciple is . . .

2. Family Focussed

- “Contrary to Western Evangelicalism’s obsession with the individual, discipleship is and always has been a group project.”
~Steve Murrell, *WikiChurch*
- God’s dominion plan has always been, HIS presence through HIS family! ***This is a team sport!***
- Take a moment to examine yourself: In what ways are you drawing closer to Jesus by drawing closer to His people? Are you confiding in others and confessing sin? Or, are you just showing up at churchy events and hiding within the crowd?
 - Think: How does your answer to these questions affect your family in the future?
 - Lastly, a disciple is . . .

3. A Fisher of Men

- This doesn’t mean looking for a boyfriend, ladies; this means winning people to Jesus. :-)
- Wait a minute! Isn’t it the pastors who supposed to fish for men?
 - We will go into great detail on this aspect of discipleship, but first we must examine our church leadership structures, asking . . .

- What is the difference between a disciple and a minister?
 - (Nothing)

*Who are the Real Ministers in the church? **(all of us)***

(Have someone read)

Ephesians 4:11-12

“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”

- This is a description of the 5-fold ministry of Christian leaders. We believe that all are still necessary for the church. But what is their role? To do all of the ministry? NO!
- Church staff and leaders are given to the church to equip church ministers.
 - Who are the church ministers? The saints—YOU!
 - ➔ And, as you minister to more people, they will be ministers, and you’ll be their equipper!
 - ➔ Official professional church leaders are here to equip everyone else to be MINISTERS (healthy disciples)

EVERY MEMBER IS A MINISTER.

Therefore, you must be so focused on this training that you will be prepared to teach it tomorrow!

Questions?

BOUNDARIES AND CONFRONTATION

So, you’re almost done with your training and you’re ready to take over the world!

- **Be careful!** It would be at best naïve to think that anything that grows is good. Listen to this quote . . . (Have someone read)

“Not everything that grows is healthy, but everything that is healthy will eventually grow.” –Morgan Stephens

- Question: Can you name anything in the human body that grows, yet is not healthy? (Give them a second) TUMORS.
 - Likewise, in the body of Christ, there have been many movements and revivals that have been rapid in growth, and yet have done more harm than good.
 - Also, Christian leaders can experience extreme growth under their leadership, yet suffer as a result. So . . .
 - **2 things that can help us remain Healthy as we grow:**
 1. Godly Confrontation
 2. Healthy Boundaries
- **Before we discuss Godly Confrontation, please see the Literary sources on the back page. For important reads, check out these 2 books!**
 - Boundaries, by Cloud and Townsend
 - Loving Our Kids on Purpose, by Danny Silk.
 - *I know, it’s a parenting book, but you need it! He has an entire Loving on Purpose Series, so check it out.*

1) Godly Confrontation

- If only a church existed that required no need for confrontation. If only there were a church where the Pastor and other leaders didn’t let you down! **You’re not in that church!**
 - Confrontation! Learning how to do this well is a huge key to healthy church growth, **and** a successful marriage!
 - So, check out the following principle . . .

Encounter Nights

- The third Friday of each month is a power application.
- At encounter night, we'll join together to seek God
 - This will begin with church-wide prayer and fasting.
 - Then, we'll come together for worship, and seek God The Holy Spirit for power.
 - We want power to be a witness (Baptism of the Holy Spirit), we want prophecy, healing, deliverance, and EVERYTHING.

THE SMALL GROUP PROCESS

Before discussing how to lead a small group meeting, we need to explain the whole small group discipleship process, & what it's meant to accomplish. So, here's a bird's eye view of the whole progression.

- Firstly, you need to clearly understand that your role is:
 1. Firstly, to lead people (especially future leaders).
 2. Then, to lead the meeting.
- So, let's get into it!

His Last Words: Our First Priority:

(Have someone read the The Great Commission)

Matthew 28:18-20 "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

- So, he says to go make **converts** of all peoples? (No)
 - We are to make disciples—those that are baptized and obey.
 - Obeying: No sex. No drugs. Right?
 - More than that! **Teaching them to obey** has as much to do with advancing God's Kingdom as it does with avoiding sin. So . . .

The over-all Goal of this process:

- More Jesus; More Disciples.
- This isn't simply about numbers, but about quality of life for us.
 - Many of us will go from "attenders" to disciples today.
 - Also, we'll grow as disciples in making other disciples.
- We don't just have weekly small group meetings so that we can fill our schedule. There is something bigger than the meeting that the meeting is meant to accomplish! Listen to this quote from Steve Murrell:
- "If we ever find a better way to make disciples, we will abandon the small group structure immediately. This is because we are a discipleship-based church, not a cell-based church."
~WikiChurch 30
- We're interested in small groups because they're a FORM in which we can develop leaders. Speaking of Form, listen to this . . .

Power and Form:

- To understand the importance of the small group process and how it relates to Making Disciples, we need to discuss the principle of POWER and FORM.
- Think of a lamp...if it's plugged in, but lacks a functioning bulb, it's useless.
- Power without form is non-transferable.
 - The electricity can't transfer into light that illuminates the house.
 - In a small group, this looks like passionate people:
 - People that are eager for revival, but have no plan
 - No plan for training leaders, and transferring passion.
 - Furthermore, power without form can be dangerous—think of a downed power line. That's much like a church group that has power and passion, but no form—no plan, no structure or oversight. It lasts one generation, and is dangerous, and often heretical.
- Form without power is dead religion.
 - A well-functioning, state-of-the art lamp that's not plugged in is also useless!
 - ★ How sad it is when small groups, and indeed, entire denominations possess all of the programs and training tools, but lack power!
 - Church history tells of those who have mistakenly selected either POWER or FORM. We need both!

Forms and Growth:

- Godly forms should cause MULTIPLICATION.
 - *(Have someone read the next quote from **Making Disciples**)*
 - “Making disciples happens when we disciple others. Multiplying disciples happens when those we disciple begin to make disciples. The call is not just to make disciples, but to multiply disciples.” ~Steve Murrell, *Making Disciples*.
 - The event-oriented ministry that we've focused on in American Evangelicalism seriously misses the mark of this principle, and the church is suffering as a result. So . . .
- What is my part in this multiplication process?

agreement with, than the rats have nothing to gather around.

- The devil would LOVE for our focus to be on him and what he's doing.
 - We must be focussed on Jesus, and by God's Word, on eliminating any garbage that stands in the way of MORE JESUS.
 - That ought to be our focus, and THAT IS THE ONLY WAY THAT WE HAVE POWER AND AUTHORITY OVER THE DEMONIC.
 - As you're discipling people, instead of asking, “what demonic influence are they under,” you should ask, “what garbage needs to be eliminated by the authority of God's Word?”

Miracles and Healing

Jesus' earthly ministry was marked by miraculous power, but it was also marked by suffering.

- As we read earlier, Jesus said, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (John 20:21) HE SENDS US OUT WITH THE SAME POWER, BUT PROMISES US THE SAME SUFFERING.
 - You might notice that there's some serious tension here. **There has been a huge pendulum swing by different Christian groups into extremes of glorifying miracles or glorifying suffering.**
 - Yet, Jesus exhibited both, and expects us to do the same.
- The church is to simultaneously exhibit the presence of miraculous power and suffering.
 - Many have been hurt by misunderstandings about this principle--let's live in the tension with Holiness.

- It's DANGEROUS, and at best unwise.
 - So take our word for it and don't become a direct casualty of this specific foolishness.

•The Fruit:

- The Gifts of the Spirit should operate in the Fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23)
 - Gal 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."**
 - Remember, the goal of everything we do is MORE JESUS. So, we should minister the gifts with the above Christlike qualities driving us.
 - If we're being impatient and unkind, that's NOT THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Demonic Influence (Inner Healing and Deliverance)

- Demon **possession** is real, but only in Hollywood.
 - Demonic influence (**demonization**) can occur based on rights and authority
- Can believers be subject to demonic influence? **Yes**
 - Just like believers can be subject to pride or lust, and must break ties with sin according to God's Word in the process of repentance, demonic strongholds must also be broken.
 - Just as we've all at different points come into agreement with sin, we too must come **out** of agreement, and claim the authority of God's word over anything that stands in the way of His full rule in our lives.
- Demons are like **RATS** that gather around garbage.
 - When we deal with the garbage, or the false things that people believe or have come into

- EACH ONE REACH ONE.
- That's not a crazy goal, but attainable for all of us! Just one! If we all play our small part! But, here's a gut check . . .
 - *Would you rather be a small part of something huge, or a huge part of something small?*
 - Specifically, here's the steps toward your small part:

The Same Old Boring Strokes:

- This should be a regular process in your life. We're just gonna do the SAME OLD THINGS, repetitiously!
 - THE SAME OL' BORING STROKES! *Engage, Establish, Equip, Empower. Engage, Establish, Equip, Empower. Engage, Establish, Equip, Empower.*
- Engage the Crowd
- (Or anyone who needs MORE JESUS)
 - * We engage people. Some of them are lost (not saved), and some are lost (disconnected from the Kingdom).
 - * We need wisdom for how to know the difference, but passion to engage both types of lost people.
 - EvangeScipleship (**Evangelism-Discipleship**)
 - You will schedule a regular meeting with the co-laborers that are also committed to your group.
 - Then, you'll meet them on campus and engage people with the Gospel and your story.
 - The goal: You will meet people there, they will go to your small group, and then will be out with you on campus the next week!
 - More on this in LESSON 7.
 - Praying for friends, and **inviting** them to your small group. (your campus group or your community group)
 - You want to engage the campus? Engage your friend!

- Don't worry, we're going to ask you to make a prayer list of your friends today.
- **Establish the Congregation**
 1. Establish **Foundations**.
 - **HUGE QUESTION:** *Are people under my leadership reading the Bible and spending time with Jesus?*
 - Remember, your job is to lead PEOPLE, so it doesn't matter if your group is exploding and multiplying if the foundational health the people directly under your leadership is lacking.
 - ★ This should be your foremost concern: The foundational strength of you and your leaders.
 - ★ Remember, you're a disciple first, a leader second.
 - ★ PICTURE OAK TREE; it's roots go deep into the ground, as much as it grows up and out. Likewise, can only grow out and up to the degree that we grow deeply!
 - Help them go through the One-to-one Book.
 - ★ Or the FIRST STEPS book that we're introducing
 - ★ This should be a regularly scheduled part of your week, or a part of your Evangescipleship time.
 - Baptize them (In water and the Spirit).
 - ★ Don't wait for it to be scheduled, or for it to "come up in conversation."
 - Take them to Encounter Night (freedom and breakthrough)
 - ★ You should be regularly asking yourself, "Are my co-leaders growing in foundations like FREEDOM, DELIVERANCE, POWER, BIBLE KNOWLEDGE, BASIC LEADERSHIP?"
 2. Establish them in **Fellowship**
 - Bring them to church, Campus Bash, and Family Nights. Help them feel welcome in your small group.
 - This is crucial! (More on this in Lesson 3)
 - Help someone go through the **One-To-One** Book.

- Prophecy is for building others up in the Word of God, and is thus to be overseen by God's word, and examined by others, preferably leadership. ***Prophecy is not inerrant, so must be protected.***
- Provision for Examination (1 Cor. 14:29)
- 1 Cor. 14:29 says "Let two or three prophets speak, and **let the others weigh what is said.**"
 - Our Standard for Examination: The **Presence** and **Blessing** of Leadership.
 - ***Leadership*** is an elder, deacon, or campus staff.
 - Can be a section leader if approved by one of the above.
 - ***Presence*** can mean that you ask a leader to join you in praying for and/or encouraging someone.
 - Also, it could mean that you include a leader on your recipient list when "prophe-texting."
 - ***Blessing*** simply means that you have an on-going approval from a leader while you're prophesying.
 - If a leader tells you to stop texting certain people, or doesn't approve of your SPIN THE BOTTLE PROPHECY idea for a church event, the leader might have a reason for his or her caution.
 - Ministry and Gender: Use **wisdom** in exhorting.
 - Please DO NOT take others from the opposite sex aside to minister them or prophecy over them.

•This also tells us the following: Speaking in tongues is for prayer to God, not for speaking to other humans (and NOT FOR INTERRUPTING CHURCH SERVICES)

•1 Cor. 14 says that “The spirit of the prophet is subject to the prophet,”

•So, the Holy Spirit doesn’t control us, our volition is still involved when we pray in tongues or prophecy--so using wisdom is necessary.

•With tongues, it’s like the Holy Spirit gives us a strange utterance in our Spirit, and we CHOOSE to speak it with our mouths in faith.

•The purpose of tongues is for the believer to draw more intimate with God, and more built up and exhorted to be an effective witness in the world. (Read 1 Cor. 14 in it’s entirety)

•Tongues mainly builds up SELF, but ***YOU ARE IMPORTANT TOO!***

•**Prophecy** (. . . but even more that you prophecy.” -1 Cor. 14:)

•Paul says, “Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but ***even more*** to prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.”

~1 Cor. 14:5

•The purpose of tongues is to build ME up.

•The *Purpose* of Prophecy: Building ***others*** up

•If you have a desire to build someone up or encourage them, that’s from the Holy Spirit!

•Just watch! When you step out to encourage them, you just can’t help but be prophetic!

•The *Protection* of Prophecy:

You will need to walk them through this on your own time—perhaps in a coffee shop? This is hugely important, for it is the major way that we establish foundations!

▪ Bring them to **Church**. (ie, the church service)

Maybe our church service isn’t the easiest 1st step for someone to make, but your small group is. Yet, Church is an essential, and powerful step in establishing them in fellowship.

○ **Equip** the Committed.

▪ EvangeScipleship

Wait! Didn’t we already say that? Yep, it’s a time to reach out to the campus, but it is also your main time to disciple them to reach others and grow in God. It might also be a good touch-point before you go through the 1-To-1 book (More in Lesson 7)

One way to know that you’re equipping well is knowing that you’re accounting for the people under your leadership, and that you’re keeping track of the potential future leaders. So, . . .

○ Send weekly reports after your meeting. (GroupMe)

▪ Keep your focus on “**MONTHERS**.”

Monther: Someone we foresee being able to lead my group next month. ***This helps us focus on who we’re equipping, not just who’s attending!***

▪ Basic Training (yes, you can use this book to equip a new leader starting NEXT WEEK)

○ **Empower** the Core.

▪ Your Goal—work yourself out of a **job**.

God loved the world enough to send Jesus. Jesus loved the world enough to leave it, and send you. So, you are to empower others. (Warning: this is risky and messy!)

▪ Groups that grow must eventually **Split**.

If a group gets to almost 10 people, it’s more difficult to interact, and thus to establish people in fellowship. Eventually, you will have to choose between a new person being able to interact, or you getting to maintain the same interaction with your friends. Choose wisely!

○ So, we are to constantly ***equip*** and ***empower*** others!

HOW TO LEAD A MEETING

- OK! Now we'll actually discuss the small group meeting itself! (campus group on campus, or community group)

- (Have someone read this quote)

“When it comes to making disciples, creating the right culture is much more important than using the right language and material.” Steve Murrell, *Accidental Missionary*, page 90.

- Is the tone of your meeting reflecting a culture of empowerment and reproduction?
 - That's why the meeting should be simple.
- An environment of trust is the most important element in your small group meeting, and in the entire process.
 - So, to learn how to build trust, please pay attention ☺
- ★ A good leader will know how to discern the environment of a small group meeting and navigate through a healthy flow of conversation.

Principles to lead by

- Lead people first, and the meeting second.
 - You don't have a meeting--just a gathering of people.
 - We've said it twice, so maybe it's important? ☺ Your meeting is of secondary importance! Next . . .
- The best way to learn how to lead a small group is to lead a small group.
 - You learn as you go. Make mistakes, and repent well.
- Your job is to facilitate kingdom discussion.
 - In many ways, this is harder than preaching a sermon!
- Church bulletins don't personally invite people.
 - Yeah, we needed to use sarcasm to remind you that ENGAGING is one of your 4 main roles in the whole process.
 - Who do we invite? Anyone who needs MORE JESUS.
 - Be persistent and consistent! Someone was with you!

•Let's get something out in the open: YOU DON'T HAVE TO SPEAK IN TONGUES TO BE TRULY SAVED, and SPEAKING IN TONGUES ISN'T THE ONLY SIGN OF HAVING THE HOLY SPIRIT INSIDE OF YOU.

- However, most everyone in Acts that were baptized in the Holy Spirit started speaking in tongues (7 out of 8 instances if you include the Apostle Paul).

- So, if you're not ready for tongues, you might not be ready to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- Remember, your **attitude** should be, “Jesus, I want more of you! Give me everything you've got!”

- Paul begs the question in 1 Cor. 12, saying, “Do all speak in tongues,” implying that NO, not all Christians speak in tongues.

- Yet, the context of his discourse is in regards to the PRIMARY gift that each believer possesses in order to exhort the rest of the church.

- Two chapters later, Paul says the following:

- “Now I want you all to speak in tongues, . . .” -1 Cor. 14:5

- Tongues** is a supernatural prayer language. (1 Cor. 14:2)

- Some people argue that the Greek word for tongues can simply be rendered as “languages,” and thus doesn't mean **prayer language**. The argument is that “tongues are just regular languages that people speak.”

- Yet, such arguments are silenced by the following verse:

- 1 Cor. 14:2 “For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit.”**

Luke 11:13 “If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Power is for witness

- Power is not given to God’s people to simply make a scene, to put on a good show, to show our own power in our ability to knock others over, or simply to get our fix of God’s presence.
- Power is for witness; witness is for MORE JESUS.
- As you read in the verses above, the Holy Spirit’s role is to accomplish MORE JESUS.
 - So, He empowers us to do the same!
- Witnessing must be empowered by the Holy Spirit. (Acts 4).
 - Witnessing is not a personality trait!
 - The Acts 4 prayer reminds us that boldness is a gift from the Holy Spirit, for witnessing about Jesus.
- Power can seem weird.
 - The goal of witnessing and being empowered isn’t to weird people out.
 - However, when God shows up in power, it can make us uncomfortable.
 - Remember: All of the prophets that encountered God became terrified!

Now, the Holy Spirit gives us power to be a witness, and He also gives us gifts to build up the church. (1 Cor. 12-14)

The Gifts are for building up the church.

- **Tongues:** “Now I want you all to speak in tongues, . . .” -1 Cor. 14:5

- Location and Duration are important elements to consider.
 - **Location:** My dorm is convenient for **me**, but hard for:
 - New People, and
 - Eventually Me (Boundaries-Lesson 8)
 - You should consider where the **freshman students** are comfortable more than you consider yourself.
 - Can you position your meeting to reach the following key demographics?
 1. Freshmen.
 2. International Students.
 3. Greeks.
 4. Athletes.
 - **Community Groups: Home? Starbucks?**
 - **What’s best for our kids, and most functional for others’ kids.**
 1. **Mens’/Womens’ on different nights?**
 - **Duration:** If you tell them it’s one hour and it ends up being 2, you’ve broken trust—relationship done.
 - Without Consistency, you can’t build trust.
 - Do what you say you’ll do (over and over)

Main Elements of a small group meeting:

- These are the simple, reproducible basics of a meeting.
 - (Have some small group guides available)
- 1. **Warm-up: (15 minutes)**
 - Good Warm-up questions . . .
 - Have no RIGHT or WRONG answers.
 - Ask for OPINIONS or EXPERIENCE.
 - Are CONNECTED to the small group topic.
- 2. **Word: (15 minutes)**
 - This requires a good leader, not on EXPERT TEACHER.

- This is a basic teaching pertaining to the topic of the week. It has a few main points, so it requires someone who can be *direct* and *brief*.
- 3. **Personal Application: (15 minutes)**
 - Your job is to facilitate interaction and discussion.
 - Your ability to **establish people in community** hinges on your ability to do this. So, as much as it concerns you, get everyone involved in the conversation.
- 4. **Prayer: (15 minutes)**
 - This is perhaps the most important part of the meeting so leave time for it!
 - Make sure the prayer time is not RUSHED.
 - These last 2 elements are HUGE! People are lonely—they need to be heard and prayed for—For them, that’s often more powerful than a sermon. So . . .

10 Ways to kill a small group meeting:

1. Preach/Praying
 - “Jesus, you’re always on-time, and you give us the power to be on time as well. Please give us **real faith** for that!”
 - Just ask them to be more respectful and show up on time!
2. Speaking Christianese
 - “Blessed,” “saved,” “feel called to,” “feel led to,” Also, . . .
 - Keep your inside jokes on the outside of your meeting.
3. Preaching a Sermon
 - You are there to facilitate kingdom interaction; You can’t help but preach, but preaching an entire sermon and allowing the meeting to last 112 minutes is a bad way to build trust!
4. Complaining about others.
 - We promise that you’ll be frustrated with us, and other leadership throughout this process; your small group is a perfect place to NOT voice such frustration. (More on this in lesson 8)

- Repentance** is enabled by the Holy Spirit, and is a sign of regeneration, and thus indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
 - Meaning, when you’re SAVED or BORN AGAIN, you walk in repentance because you have the Holy Spirit inside of you.
- Water Baptism** doesn’t save us, regenerate us, or make us new, but it does “send away” the old person! (remission means “sending away”)
- The Gift of the Holy Spirit** is possessive here. This means that the Holy Spirit, who lives inside us already during repentance and regeneration, is giving us more.
 - When you read through Acts, this **gift** is often administered by the laying on of hands. It is referred to by some theologians as “second grace,” because it happens after salvation.
 - We call this Baptism of the Holy Spirit, as it’s referred to in different Gospel accounts and in Acts. However, we can simply call it **POWER TO BE A WITNESS**.
- There is a lot of mis-understanding in the church about this doctrine. Many have thrown out **second grace** all-together. Also, for many charismatics who practice **Power to be a witness**, the tendency sadly seems to be under-teaching this issue, and over-forcing it.
 - We can disagree about teaching in regards to some of these things, but our heart should desire MORE JESUS.
- When we seek Jesus for power and gifts, remember that we can simply ask and receive. We don’t have to strive--just ask.
 - Check out this verse.**

- Answer: Wait, Stay and wait for the Holy Spirit.
 - **HOLD ON! If the disciples already had the Holy Spirit (John 20:21-22), why did Jesus tell them to wait?**
 - **BECAUSE HE HAD MORE FOR THEM!**
 - *More power; MORE JESUS power.*

Read Acts 1:8 What did Jesus promise?

Acts 1:8 *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

- Answer: POWER TO BE A WITNESS.
 - **Remember--they already had the Holy Spirit, but Jesus was promising them more power from the Holy Spirit to be witnesses in all the earth.**
 - **Pentecost: Summarize what happened in Acts 2.**
 - Basically--Jesus fulfilled his promise--he sent the fullness of The Holy Spirit and power.
 - At pentecost, Jesus fulfilled the promise that He made here in Acts 1.

Read Acts 2:37-38 After seeing the Holy Spirit outpouring, many of the Jews wanted in. What are the 3 imperatives Peter gave them?

Acts 2:37-38 *"Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"*

- Answer: 1) Repent 2) Be Baptized 3) Recieve the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

- Mixing business or politics with small groups.
 - Think it hasn't been done? Wrong!
 - We've also had multi-level marketing.
 - If you don't avoid this conflict of interest, we won't avoid having a conflict with you 😊
- Private ministry to the opposite sex
 - Many men (and women), greater than you or I, have fallen in this area. A compassionate heart to serve others, lacking wisdom, but making up for it with arrogance and pride? No bueno!
- Borrowing Money
 - Whether or not you should ever borrow money is debatable; whether or not you should do so in the small group you're leading? Not debatable! 😊
- Promotion of para-church, or outside event
 - If you don't have the blessing of your leadership, save it for another time.
- Guest Speakers
 - First of all, your small group is not a public speaking stepping stool. Secondly, your goal is to raise-up leaders within your small group.
- Receiving Tithes and Offerings
 - We want to see people set free to be generous; help them do so at church. You are not God's store-house, nor are you a registered Tax-exempt organization 😊

What would you do?

- (This is a perfect opportunity to get students thinking and talking, thus cementing what they've already downloaded.)
- Scenario 1: **Saved Sam:**
 - Two non-Christian students that you invited came to your small group. Also, Sam, a Christian student in

the ministry is present, and speaking fluent Christianese. He keeps complaining that people on campus need to “GET SAVED!” *What would you do?*

- Suggestion: “Sam, when you say ‘get saved,’ you must be referring to when Jesus transforms someone’s life. **YOU’RE SO RIGHT!** I’m thankful that someone had the passion and patience to see that happen in my life!”
- Scenario 2: **Butt-in Betty:**
 - You are trying to engage everyone in conversation, but Betty keeps chiming in before others have a chance to share their heart. She’s even causing the conversation to drift away from the topic. *What would you do?*
- Scenario 3: **Religious Randy:**
 - You’re having a discussion regarding how the meeting’s main points and verses apply to life. Yet, as you discuss, Randy keeps correcting the theological application of people’s ideas. *What would you do?*
- Scenario 4 (if there’s time): Any other suggestions of possible challenges in a small group meeting?
 - (Ask the class)

POWER TO BE A WITNESS

At this point, we need to discuss a controversial, yet VERY IMPORTANT topic: **HOLY SPIRIT POWER.**

(Quickly assign 5 different people the following verses before you even read the first one, so it will flow quickly)

Read John 15:26. What is the role of the Holy Spirit?

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.”

- Answer: To bear witness about Jesus

Read John 6:14. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do?

John 6: 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

- Answer: He will glorify Jesus

Read John 20:21-22. What did Jesus give the disciples? Why?

John 20:21-22 “Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’ ”

- Answer: The Holy Spirit. To be sent like Jesus.
 - **Many theologians believe that this is the point at which the disciples became born-again, or regenerated.**

Read Luke 24:49. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do?

Luke 24:49 “And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

- Remember, our regular encounters with “strangers” will IMMENSELY improve our interaction with the people listed below.
- Your job from here on out will be to regularly pray for these people, and engage them, with the help and/or support of your evangescipleship partner(s).
 - Months from now, you will show this list to a new believer who’s name is on it, as you train them!
 - Many of us have stories of being on a list like this, or seeing friends come to faith that at one point were on our VIP list.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

EvangeScipleship accomplishes 2 main things:

1. Reaching THE LOST
2. Growing the Disciple.

Don’t forget, even as you’ve made “faith lists” to reach others, you’re on God’s faith-list of people he’s excited to see grow through this whole Evangescipleship process.

EVERY NATION 101

“EVERY NATION IN OUR GENERATION”

www.EveryNation.org

- For us to play our role, we need to know more about the organization that we’re a part of. So . . .

History

- (Have a student read the following)
- **1984:** 65 American University students and a few campus ministers traveled to Manila for a one-month mission trip, during a time of serious political unrest in the Philippines. That month, hundreds of Filipino students received Christ, and 150 of them committed to being trained to minister by Steve and Deborah Murrell, who stayed behind “temporarily” to help make disciples. **That was 1984.** Since then, the original group of 150 students in Manila’s U-Belt has grown to over 53,000 students, professionals, and families, who now worship in fourteen different venues around Metro Manila.
 - For more, go to www.victory.org.ph
 - (**YOU** read the following)
- **1994:** Morning Star International was established when Rice Broocks, Phil Bonasso and Steve Murrell joined their ministries together to pursue the mission of *church planting*, *campus ministry* and *world missions*.
- (Have another student read the following)
- **2004:** The ministry was renamed Every Nation Churches and Ministries to better reflect the vision to plant a church in “Every Nation in Our Generation.”
- (Have another student read the following)
- **Today:** Every Nation has planted over 1,000 churches in 61 countries, including nations extremely hostile to the Gospel, like Iran, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Mongolia and China.
 - We’re almost in Every Nation! However, there are entire people groups yet to be reached, yet to hear the Gospel!

- (YOU, Passionately read the following)
- Tomorrow: EVERY NATION; EVERY CAMPUS.

Mission Statement

- (Have someone read the following)
- **To honor God by planting Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered, socially-responsible churches and campus ministries in every nation.**
 - **“To honor God”:**
 - This is Why man was Created!
 - **“Christ-centered”:**
 - As the earth orbits around the blazing sun, the church is to orbit around the Glory of Jesus, in all our plans, initiatives, and activities.
 - **“Spirit Empowered”:**
 - Is it possible to be a Christian, indwelt with the Holy Spirit, and yet not *empowered* by the Holy Spirit? Sadly, yes! (LESSON 9)
 - We want both the *indwelling* and the *empowering* of the Holy Spirit.
 - Christians must live a lifestyle of continually seeking the Holy Spirit for more of his presence and power. So, we are committed to the full expression of The power of the Holy Spirit, The baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 - **“Socially-responsible”:**
 - Compassion:
 - Sadly, the organizations that engage in compassion for the poor are rarely Christ-centered. Yet, extreme compassion is how Christianity spread so rapidly in the 1st and 2nd centuries!
 - Racial reconciliation:

When he answers *specific* prayers, with *specific* names involves, he receives *specific* praise and glory for his *specific* faithfulness!

- Please make a list of disciples who you want to see growing alongside you in the outreach context.
 - **Students:** Your partners include both your mentor(s), and your protégés, so just write down the people who you’ll be doing evangescipleship with regularly.
 - *Your small group co-laborers should be on this list, so go ahead (Allow a minute for them to think and write).*
 - ****Community Group Members from CCC San Marcos: Your #1 on this list is most important (your Evangescipleship Partner), and the others can include your spouse and/or others from your small group. These others are people who can share prayer burdens &/or praise reports for the people your reaching out to*
- EvangeScipleship PARTNER LIST:
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
 - 4. _____
- VIP PRAYER LIST: (The Greek word “oikos,” commonly translated “household,” means anyone within your sphere of regular influence. These are people that God has strategically placed in your life, and wants you to be purposefully and passionately aware of)
 - *Please make a priority list of people you want to invest in and believe for—for the sake of MORE JESUS in their lives.*

1. Invite the students from your assigned section over to your home or apartment a few times per semester.

2. Call or text the student leader(s) regularly just to say hi and see how they're doing.

• Here's why we're doing this:

- Being a college student is TEMPORARY (or at least it should be :)
- So, having relational anchors to someone like you who is a step ahead in life and stability is perhaps the most strategic way for students to grow in Christ and transition well into the next stages in life, and career and **FAMILY**.

- Remember, we must not only have a focus on reaching people, but in helping others reach people.
 - o We live "sent," together.

Creating "Faith-Lists"

(have someone ready the following)

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone?" ~Matthew 7:7-9

Jesus teaches us to ask, so we need to ask, and be SPECIFIC in our asking!

- One of the major marks of Every Nation is our commitment to seeing walls of ethnic division crumble. If you observe our churches and ministries worldwide, you will see this in practice.
- The conviction for such a commitment is simple: **The Gospel commands it, and *only* the Gospel can truly accomplish it!**

Leadership

- Every Nation is overseen by **The International Policy Council**, plus regional representatives from around the world, with Steve Murrell serving as president. **(One realizes just how crucial leadership structure is moments after one starts to actually lead, and our church org's structure is a key to our renewed health.)**

What We Believe

- o Every Nation upholds the doctrine of scriptural inerrancy.
 - Thus, we adhere to all subsequent evangelical beliefs in regards to The Trinity, Creation, the fall of mankind, The Death of Christ, the regeneration of the believer, and the 2nd coming of Christ. (see everynation.org for more)

1) Church Planting

- o The local church is Jesus' plan "A." He has no plan "B".
 - Sadly, many churches are often disconnected from the college campus, yet many campus ministries are disconnected from the local church. Our commitment is to simultaneously and strategically see both thrive together. **Jesus will come back for a victorious church!**
 - As a member church, CCCsm has the benefit of awesome resources to help us grow. Our relationship with church planting consultant David Houston is one such benefit.

2) Campus Ministry (E.N.C.M.)

- o The college campus is the most strategic harvest field in the world.
 - POP-QUIZ! Until 2005, ENCM was called what? **VCM** **"VICTORY CAMPUS MINISTRIES"**
 - Victory! That's not just a jock thing to say!

- In life, and in college, you're either *kicking butt or getting your butt kicked!*
- **Did you know? Historically, most major revivals and world mission movements have started on college campuses.**
- **Don't miss out! History is still being written!**
- **Campus Harvest:**
 - February 15-16 in [Austin](#), TX-Registration is \$75 online.
 - For more, go to www.CampusHarvest.org
- **Harvest Institute:**
 - **Get trained for Leadership! [Discipleship](#) and [leadership training](#) are 2 of our main core values!**
 - Held each year in [DALLAS](#) in mid-August.
- **School of Ministry:**

How much are you willing to commit in order to grow and reach your friends, and future co-workers? 1 year? \$50,000? *What about 2 months and \$2,000?* There's never been a better training for young world-changers! This is a cutting edge, personalized training that equips the student to deliver the timeless Gospel to a changing culture!

 - **Nashville:** June through August
 - *Basic Training* (for up-and-coming student leaders) and *Advanced Training* (for up-and-coming campus missionaries)-held throughout the year.

3) World Missions

- World missions, both short-term, and long-term, are strategic for the health of current campus ministries and churches, and for the ADVANCE of Christ's Kingdom!
 - *Every Nation started with a Mission trip! Don't miss an opportunity to be a part of an amazing story! Here's one opportunity*
- **Ten Days Missions:** "It is a process that produces a change in your heart that lasts long after the **trip** is finished." ~Gregg Tipton, www.tendaysmissions.org
 - Ten Days Baja, MX—July 11th to 16th, **Also, S.A. in March!**

World Conference 2013!

★ Mark your calendars! 7/30-8/2--Disney World (www.en2013.us)

- "Rene, I've heard you share a lot recently about your thoughts about church and stuff. Can I buy you coffee and share a little more with you about my faith journey? That way we can talk more and learn from each-other."
- "John, you seem to know a lot about many things. I want to hear more of your opinions about Religion and the world--do you want to take The God Test?"
- "Veronica, get ready for the best offer you've gotten all day: We'd love for you to join us for dinner on Monday night, and if you can stay, we have a great discussion and Bible study with some friends at 7pm. You down?"
 - Our goal is to ENGAGE someone like this at least once a week, and to precede each engagement with joint prayer (with our partner)
 - Extra points if you fast for the person you're wanting to bless that week! :)
- Monthly Community Outreach.
 - This can be at our Laundry Mat outreach, and/or any other initiative that you and your small group joins in together to execute.
 - The Deacons will help leaven this process by providing quarterly, church-wide community outreach that impassions and reminds all the community groups to make this a regular part of our lifestyle.
- Remember, the goal is to be **sent** together.
- Section Parent roles.
 - We will assign you to a section of Campus Small groups (representing somewhere around 5 student leaders and less than 20 total students)
 - Your role is simply to be available to them.
 - It would be great if you did the following:

- The “front door” of our church movement is not our large events or services. The front door is YOU, and there’s no better first step for “outsiders” than your small group.

- So, inviting people to your small group should be a natural next step in your evangelism conversations.

- ➡Community Members: **(This is for CCC San Marcos only, so disregard and move on if this doesn’t pertain to you)**

- Weekly Disciple Checks (w Mentor and protégés)
(Include **Engage** initiative)

- In a minute, you will make lists of both your evangelism partners and Tennyson list (people you want to reach out to.)

- The #1 person on your “partner list” is very important for you.

- This is your **Evangelism Partner**, and should be someone from your small group.

- Each week, you should meet with this Partner (either touch base at your small group, or call on the phone), and pray for one particular person on each of your Tennyson list.

- This Can be done over the phone or in person, but make sure you’re covering the few people under your leadership, but go through the 3 F’s of disciple

- That week, each of you will then engage that person in some sort of SALT conversation.

- Here’s what that could look like:

- “Hey Mike, I want to know more about you; let me by you lunch today.”

- “Sarah, I don’t mean to make you feel uncomfortable, but you’ve been on my heart all week as I’ve been praying. Would you like me to pray with you right now?”

THE CHURCH

THE CHURCH: Jesus’ intended vehicle (and context) for accomplishing More Jesus.

Our need for Jesus is progressively fulfilled in the covenant community of the local church.

- ➡ “Our weakness does not allow us to be dismissed from her school until we have been pupils all our lives.”
~John Calvin

Have your ever been asked, “Do I have to go to church to be a Christian?”

- ★ My response: **Do a man have to be faithful to his wife to be a husband?** Not necessarily, but if he loves his wife, he will be faithful.

- ★It’s really not a winning plan to ask what we can get away with as Christians and still bare the title. We ought to ask, “What should I do as a Christian to represent Christ? How **should** I live? What should I value?K”

If we love Jesus, we must love his **bride**, the church.

- ➡Ephesians 5:25 “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her . . .”

- ➡If Jesus so values the church so as to give himself up for her, we ought to share his values.

In order to love the Church, we must **know** the church.

- ➡So here we go--let’s point out a few important details that describe Jesus’ church.

- 1.The Church is visible and **invisible**.

•The visible church is what we see; the invisible church is *"the whole number of the elect that have been or shall be gathered into one under Christ."* ~Westminster Confession

•There is much debate (especially between Catholic and protestant theologians) about this affirmation.

•The term invisible also means universal, or "catholic," and catholics believe there is no difference between visible catholic and invisible universal catholic.

•But, no one can argue that . . .

•Not everyone who seems to be a part of the church is truly a part of Jesus' church.

•"Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you.' "

~Jesus (Matthew 7:23)

•The church is invisible, for only Jesus knows who are truly his, but he nonetheless commands us to function in the visible realm, trusting that He can simultaneously orchestrate the invisible and visible elements of the church.

2.The Church is **Victorious**.

•Too often, people think (and speak) as if the church were a sinking ship in culture, headed for death until Jesus comes and raptures us. But, this is not what Scripture teaches.

•Revelation 19:7 "Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready."

•Matthew 16:18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

•The proper rendering of this text from the Greek is that the gates of hell cannot stand up against the offensive, victorious assault of the church!

Too often, we hear the word sent, and we think only of *foreign missionaries*. Yet, being sent is about prayerfully joining together for Evangesipleship wherever we are.

The EvangeScipleship process ought to be a lifestyle, not an event. It's a way for disciples to "LIVE SENT," together.

o Too much of church history in the US tells of evangelism hinging on events and programs, rather than laborers being sent, and multiplying.

▪ Our desire is to see every disciple growing in the context of outreach, and GROWING OTHERS to reach others as well.

o So, let's discuss our **specific strategy** for being sent together.

Evangesipleship Strategy:

➔Campus: Weekly DISCIPLE checks (The 3 F's)

•Evangesipleship with your mentor.

•Evangesipleship with your protégés.

(Best when done the day of your small group.)

▪ Both your mentor and your protégés are "partners" that you will list on the next page, and meet with weekly.

o Our challenge to you: Meet weekly, even for just 20 minutes, with each of your friends on the partner list (next page). Your goal is **MORE JESUS**, so talk through the F's of the DISCIPLE CHECK, and when talking about being a FISHER, why not fish together?

▪ Even if you stop someone and share your story for 5 minutes, That's "more"--you did it.

o Also, use this time to see how your friend is doing, and pray with him or her. Girls, you can even do this over coffee if you like!

•Best when done the day of your small group.

If Jesus sent people out 2 by 2, there must be some reason why.

Question: When you make a plan to exercise, do you stick to it better when you have a work-out partner? Why or why not?

- (Let them respond)

So, training laborers for the harvest of God should operate under the same principles as training your body for physical health.

We've already established that Jesus sends disciples into the world TOGETHER.

- Now, let's examine why Jesus SENDS disciples.
 - Let's look at what it means to be SENT by Jesus, and why sending is so important.**

(Can someone read this verse?)

Laborers in Harvest:

And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." ~Luke 10:2

- When we pray for revival, we tend to pray for a powerful revival *meeting*. That's important! God showing up in our meetings is vital.
- Yet, That's not how Jesus us taught us to pray for revival!

Revival hinges on laborers being **SENT** by God.

- Question: What does it mean to be **sent**? *(Let that question stew for a second)*

- Think about it--gates cannot be used to assault anyone--there are no "*gates* of mass destruction."

3.The Church functions with unified local **distinctions**.

- When Paul wrote to "The church" in specific cities, it was understood that he was addressing various, distinct groupings of believers that met in different homes.

- They were a unified gathering of distinct "churches," but they were THE CHURCH in that city.

- This is why we can have distinct churches doing distinct things in different parts of the city, while being under THE CHURCH of Jesus.

- Various local churches in a given city should not be separate, but unified, even though they function distinctly.

- This is why we value praying with and occasionally collaborating with other churches and ministries.

4.The Church is specifically **designed**.

- For the visible church to function as it ought, Jesus laid out a particular plan in the New Testament.

- Para-church organizations are doing so much to advance the work of God's universal/invisible church, but they, like all of us, must be protected, resourced, and overseen by proper local church structure.

- Listen to this summary from "Vintage Church," regarding the the main elements of Jesus' design plan for the church.

- "The local church is a community of regenerated believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord. In obedience to Scripture they organize under qualified leadership, gather regularly for preaching and worship, observe the biblical sacraments of baptism and Communion, are unified by the Spirit, are disciplined for holiness, and scatter to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission as

missionaries to the world for God's glory and their joy."

~Mark Driscoll and Gerry Breshears, *Vintage Church*.

- If these elements are not functionally prevalent in the life of the local church, than we're not functioning as Jesus designed.

Finally, it is important to know the distinct structure and vision of the specific people that God has called you to join.

- As Zig Zigler states, "If you aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time." So, to properly aim yourself in the right mission, vision, and values, you must be in sync with your distinct portion of the visible church.

Know **YOUR** church.

- Take a moment to remind yourself of the particular vision of your specific local church. Ask yourself, "How am I distinctly playing my part to serve my leadership in fulfilling our mission for Jesus' glory?"
- If time permits, split into church sections and review the mission/vision of the particular local church(s) represented

(LUNCH BREAK)

EVANGESCIPLESHIP

We've already established why all disciples evangelize, and even instructed you how to have MORE JESUS conversations.

More good news! You're not on your own to do all of this!

In this lesson, we'll specifically discuss our strategy for walking **together** as disciples in pointing other people to Jesus.

- Thus, this lesson should make clear how evangelism relates to our small group discipleship process and to our church structure.

Listen to this quote from Steve Murrell's book, *Accidental Missionary*:

"When we separate the Siamese twins of evangelism and discipleship, we kill both. The biblical starting point of discipleship is evangelism, and the whole point of evangelism is to make disciples." ~Steve Murrell, *Wikichurch*

- So, we endeavor to engage in both Evangelism and Discipleship, ***inseparably!***

(Have someone read the following definition)

EvangeScipleship: The mutual growth of disciples in the context of outreach.

(Have someone read the following verse)

"And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits."

~Mark 6:7

- Should we preach to the saved or the unsaved? Yes
 - So, we don't have to figure out if they're saved or not—we already know their need for Him!
- Who gets **more Jesus** as we preach, us or them? Yes
 - Me sharing my story and engaging others is a part of me “setting apart Jesus as Lord in my heart,” (1 Peter 3:5), so it's a win-win!
- Do we preach to friends or to strangers? Yes
 - There is no “natural place” to be born again, as it is a supernatural occurrence. Yet, the most “un-natural” environments will grow the disciple more quickly!

Listen to this quote from Ryan in Hawai'i:

“I never imagined how talking to strangers about Jesus would so empower and sharpen me to talk to my friends and family!”
~Ryan, 2010 Hawai'i School of Ministry, E.N.C.M.

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE EVANGELISM TOOLS:

--Take a minute to look through the tools and sharpen your skills!

WHY PERSUADE OTHERS?

This lesson is to establish the **motive** for evangelism. The subsequent chapters will develop our specific strategy and language for actually reaching people.

However, if we're driven by the right motive, the right words and approaches will follow.

“Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.”
~2 Corinthians 5:11a

As we unpack 2 Cor. today, we are not attempting to twist your arm or guilt you into evangelizing. Rather, if we examine the majesty of the treasure the salvation that we **already** possess, it will embolden our resolve to share such a treasure.

So, *how does one become a Christian?* This is something we must seriously consider as we attempt to advance Christ's Kingdom.

Think. How did you come to faith? How were you reached?

Questions to ponder:

1. Can we persuade non-believers into becoming Christians? No
John 1:13—The children of God are “born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”
2. Is it our role to persuade others to follow Jesus? Yes.
Romans 10:14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom

they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

You might sense the tension here . . .

We can't convert people, but we have a unique and vital role in their **conversion**.

So, we need to understand the harmony of God's role and our role: If we don't understand the power of God's role, we tend toward **arrogant striving**. If we don't understand the importance of our role, we tend toward **passivity**.

So, let's get out our Bibles and read 2 Cor. 5:11a: (have someone read):

"Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others."

Before we discuss *PERSUADING OTHERS*, we must seriously examine what it means to **FEAR GOD**.

Fear God: This must drive all of our "persuasion!"

- There are too many angry, loud, mean preachers who **seem** to be preaching the fear of God.
 - Yet, as we'll see, they're not driven by TRUE FEAR, by the touch of the master!

Remember *KARATE KID*? Master Miagui was training his apprentice, Daniel-san in Karate. He sent him out to do seemingly menial tasks. Daniel San spent all day working hard waxing the cars, and would have quit, if he hadn't been given the perspective and touch of master Miagui.

We too need the TOUCH OF THE MASTER.

- i. That's true, living like a hypocrite makes it hard to preach, or to truly be saved for that matter.
- ii. We need to live it, to practice what we preach, **but we also gotta preach what we preach!**
- Make no mistake, we are preaching!
 - i. Ask people if you can preach to them.
- So, how do we preach Jesus?
 - i. Open the Bible and find one verse—That's Jesus.
 - 1. Why not John 3:16?
 - 2. Or, use ONE VERSE EVANGELISM (page 37)
- ♦ Also, you can share the Ricean Creed: "**The Gospel is the Good News that God became man in Jesus Christ. He lived the life that we should have lived; he died the death we should have died. On the 3rd day he rose, proving he is God and offering salvation to all those who would repent and believe.**"

6. **Intercede** conversationally.

- Here's why I say "intercede (**pray**) conversationally" . . .
- Can you imagine if someone talked to you on the phone like you talk to God?
 - i. "Hello, uh, Mike-my friend, my bud, my friend. I just wanted, Mike-my pal, to say, Mike, my bud, that you, mike-friend-pal-bud, are just, just, so, mike-friend-pal, just so AWESOME mike-friend-pal.
- Pray simply and specifically.
 - i. As you close the conversation, ask if you can pray with them.
 - ii. You can pray simply! "Jesus, change Mike's life like you changed mine? Please reveal yourself to him by Tuesday! Amen" HE WILL ANSWER!

Remember, our ultimate goal is **MORE JESUS**.

- *Judge yourself-Do you know God? Have you been transformed by him?*

3. Listen.

- This might seem overly obvious, but this is HUGE!
 - i. Honestly, very little that you can say will mean much if you fail to patiently take this step.
 - Remember, Gentleness and Respect.
 - ii. Listen to their heart! Don't just think about what you're going to say next.
 - iii. If you listen, you might discover their REAL PROBLEM, versus their spoken arguments.
 - iv. As you listen to them, it's easier to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying about them!

4. Tell YOUR story.

- See the appendix on THE TWO MINUTE MIRACLE. (page 33)
 1. Rev. 12:11 says that your testimony is a necessary ingredient for defeating Satan!
 - ii. There is nothing more disarming than your story!
 1. When you tell your story, no one can correct it!
 2. Be **vulnerable, direct, and brief!**
- This is a necessary element if we are to KNOW THE FEAR OF GOD and PERSUADE OTHERS.
 - ii. We make ourselves vulnerable first before asking them to be vulnerable in relating to God's Word.
 1. Like when a man vulnerably kneels to ask for a woman's hand in marriage, we're ENGAGING people humbly!

5. Tell THE story. (Share a verse like John 3:16)

- You've heard it said, we gotta "practice what we preach"

If we jump right into TACTICS, not driven by the touch of the master, by the proper fear and reverence and love for the savior, we risk **doing stuff** in vain.

If we don't know WHY we preach, WHAT we preach will be tainted.

Such is the vanity of evangelizing without the **"Therefore"** of verse 11. Why is it there? Flip back to chapter 4 in your Bible, where Paul says this: (Have someone read)

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

~2 Cor. 4:6

God intervened into a sinful, dark world, and said, "Let light shine in these dead, dark hearts!" Notice how it doesn't mention how He came to you because you were a little less dark than the rest? In fact, the rest of Chapter 4 discusses the amazing, **undeserved** miracle of salvation.

Such a salvation, described as a treasure in jars of clay, is described as being unconquered by even suffering and death!

Then, in Chapter 5, Paul speaks of the heavenly dwellings that we will eternally possess. FOR US! The ones who were in darkness! The former enemies of God who deserve hell!!!

Question: When someone gives you an extravagant, unmerited gift, how much do you want to please that person?

Indeed! That's why Paul says just that!

2 Cor. 5:9-11 “So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

The judgment of God asks this question: *Have we responded accurately to His mercy?* If we've truly received his mercy, we will want to please him! ***We don't strive to please him to try to earn his favor! We want to please him because he's already given us the favor without us earning it!***

That's why the next verse says:

“Therefore, knowing the fear of God, we persuade others.” (5:11)
—Why does Paul say “fear”?

Question: What is a good reason to fear God?

(Let people respond—He could kill us? He's powerful?)

Psalms 130:3-4: “If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.”

FORGIVENESS and FEAR seem to be incongruent. *Why would we fear someone who just forgave us? Shouldn't that erase the fear of them?*

If you just licked your arm to check your saltiness, you're missing the point.

We are the salt of the earth, in that we are to preserve culture, and flavor it with **MORE JESUS**. (super savory)
This has everything to do with **GENTLENESS** and **RESPECT**.

So, check out the **S.A.L.T.T.I.** steps of outreach.

SALTTI Evangelism

1. Start a conversation.

- Starting and finishing a Gospel conversation are the two hardest things.
 - i. A conversation has to start somewhere.
 - **MORE JESUS** conversations start with you!
- Don't be mistaken—you *absolutely can't preach the Gospel without interrupting the flow of someone's life!* Let's be **HOLY INTERRUPTERS!**
- You can't “love without an agenda!” (marriage) We need to acquire an agenda that's bigger than ours or theirs!
 - i. Our agenda is to be **SALTY** and engage others.
- Use **STARTLING SINCERITY**.
 - ii. Tell them, “*My goal is to preach to you and see God change you like he changed me.*”
 - iii. “*Excuse me, can I share the Gospel with you?*”
 - iv. “*Pardon me, can you give me a minute to talk to you about Jesus?*”

2. Ask questions.

- Good questions are worth 1,000 good statements.
- *What's the main thing that keeps you from giving your life to Jesus?*

Listen to how the apostle Peter exhorts the church in 1 Peter:

“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.” ~1 Peter 3:15

Being prepared

- According to this verse, being prepared to share with others is a matter of LORDSHIP.
- If he’s the Lord and Master of my life, than I CANNOT be ashamed to tell others about Him.
- This imperative to “**be prepared**” is the proof that I have “**set apart Christ as Lord.**”

Yet, I approach others as He approached me . . .

Gentleness and respect.

- Who is most misrepresented when we fail to speak gently and respectfully to others? Jesus
- Remember the Golden rule? (“Treat others as you want to be treated” ~Matt. 6)
- When we are rude and impatient, it doesn’t reflect reverence for Jesus, who was gentle with us!
- (have someone read the next verse)

Being a salty Christian

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ~Matthew 5:13

This fear is different. Have you ever been caught in sin? Either by your parents or someone else? When you’re clearly guilty, and yet forgiven, it produces a reverence—a fear.

Only when sin is exposed and mercifully dealt with is there true, biblical fear, reverence, and love for the Lord!

Godly FEAR is a REVERENCE of the one who saved us.

Are you persuaded by Jesus?

Are you persuaded that in choosing sin, you chose separation from God; you chose destruction; you chose hell?

Nevertheless, are you persuaded that He saved you and made you a new creation—a new person?

Indeed, you know you are persuaded by him when your life is being given to promote HIM and His cause! Why? Because . . .
PERSUADED PEOPLE PERSUADE PEOPLE.

They love the One who rescued them from themselves!
They love what He loves! They want the world to know him, and it shows in their life!

Persuading Others (How do we really do that?)

Can we convert? Can we change? Can we regenerate?

No, but we persuade people to turn to the one who can.

How do we persuade?

1. Know the FEAR OF GOD.
2. Then, FIGURE IT OUT!

- We only truly learn this stuff when we're face to face with a human soul, whom Jesus loves, and died for!

Are you not a very persuasive preacher? Listen to this:

- The best way to learn how to preach is to PREACH.

If we fear and revere the one who saved us, we can't help but preach with increasing passion!

- We are to FEAR GOD, and PERSUADE OTHERS.
 - It's easy to get this backwards—to fear OTHERS, and persuade GOD that we don't need to preach!

Jesus could have chosen to advance his Kingdom in any way, but he chose to use the preaching of the word by redeemed sinners.

- This does not mean that preaching is the only thing that ministers to people. Arts, music, service—all very valuable!
- Yet, like prayer, preaching isn't something that any Christian can choose not to do.

Question: How does knowing God's role in the evangelism process allow us to play our role with confidence and freedom?

Questions?

MORE JESUS

“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.” ~1 Peter 3:15

In the last lesson, we established the following:

We can't persuade people into the kingdom, but we can persuade them to turn to King Jesus, who can regenerate them and make them new.

In this lesson, we will discuss how to personally engage people in conversations that point to Jesus. (More Jesus.)

Next lesson, we'll specifically discuss our strategy for walking together as disciples in pointing people to Jesus.

First, we must confirm **who** is responsible for engaging in these conversations that accomplish MORE JESUS.

What is another term for a person who evangelizes, or tells someone else about Jesus? A Christian.

•All Christians **pray**, not just intercessors. All disciples of Jesus **worship** Jesus, not just worship leaders.

Remember the third mark of a disciple?

3rd Mark of a Disciple: Discipleship is a call to FISH FOR MEN.

All disciples are to fish for men, and thus all need to be prepared for basic personal encounters with others.