

Friendship evangelism

The excuses to not share Jesus VS the benefits OF sharing Jesus

A. What are reasons what people don't share Jesus?

Make list:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

B. What are the benefits of sharing Jesus for the mentioned reasons above?

Make list:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

The stages of growth in getting comfortable with doing friendship evangelism:

Stages of acclimating to friendship evangelism: (Make no mistake some people can start at other stages or event at the end stage immediately, but some find it helpful an easier to go through the stages)

Stage one: Test how far you can go and where your comfort zones end.

A. Testing your levels – A thing that can help with getting acclimated is by doing small things like leaving a salvation pamphlet in the bathroom, or a church card at a restaurant table when leaving, etc. It can be by sharing a gospel meeting flyer on social media or posting scripture, sharing salvation message, or giving a church friend an invite to a Bible event, on social media. You can invite a church friend to a Bible study event or an evangelism group to help get you used to inviting others outside of the faith. Think of ways to take small steps that will move you forward. These are good steppingstones for slowly expanding your comfort zone for getting more socially comfortable with doing more in sharing Jesus.

Test your comfort zones, see where the end lies. Focus on doing your max and see yourself begin to expand in being able to do more. With the new comfort zone, test where the end lies and work on doing what it takes to slowly expand that comfort level once more.

- B. A good exercise to practice** - To help prepare you for talking about the Bible with the lost, first begin, with talking with your Christian friends, family members, Christian boyfriend/girlfriend/spouse, and church brethren, the more you do such activities the more natural it will become. This is a good exercise to practice at weekly. The more you do this exercise the easier the transition will be to casually ring up Jesus with those you know outside of the faith.
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Stage two: Build social habits that help you grow

- A. Join a group that does an event in evangelism or make a group that does these activities** – You may just go and stand there the first few times, but the more you go to these events the more you’ll acclimate to these activities. By doing this each month for a few hrs. you’ll get used to rejection and get used to (once you acclimate enough to this work) passing out materials and in engaging/socialize with people. You’ll learn how to ask questions, get discussions going and give invites to church or Bible studies. These are useful steppingstones for helping you get more comfortable with personal interactions in talking to people and in giving invites to church or Bible study. Events can be door knocking, street evangelism, vendor activities at college, flea market, gym, fair ground, etc.
- B. Simple invites** – **Look for opportunities for giving invites. Prepare your mind and attitude. Pray each morning for God to give you opportunities. Doing the prep work will help with giving invites.**

To help with the prep work in getting ready to give invites, I encourage you to read (daily) [“Three Daily Evangelism Practices to do for Friendship Evangelism”](#) from our class and to practice it.

You can simply give an invite card (can be other material like flyer, brochure, etc.) to church, a Christian event or a Bible study. Many churches do not have church cards or Bible study group cards. If you type “Canva” on your search engine, you’ll find card templates and easy to design buttons for making a card. Much of the content is free on Canva. As the saying goes, sometimes you have to drag the bull by the horns. Don’t depend on your church for your growth. Depend on yourself.

The more you practice giving an invite the easier it will be and the more natural it will be to regularly do this activity. Know its not about how many actually follow throughs you get, its about learning how to share Jesus. If you do this enough, consistently, results will come with time and patience. Like in anything, parenting, martial arts, vocational work, college study, dating, etc. the more you do something the better you get. Evangelism is no different.

Examples of ways of developing in giving invites:

- The more you do evangelism events and doing outreach activities the more natural giving invites will become.
- You can practice greeting and/or talking on folks when running errands, at the gym, the park, the mall, at church, when walking dog, when at work, when at college, the grocery store, Starbucks, etc. to build up to giving an invite, when you feel ready socially, you can invite a person and hand them a church card or Bibel study card, when talking with them. The first few times are the hardest but once you do it once, you find you can do it again and again.
- For friendship evangelism practice, I personally go to the gym, mall, park or college campus and spend a few hours there. **A.** The steps I take is to first wave at people. **B.** Then when I feel socially ready, I greet people by saying hello, good morning, etc. **C.** Then when I feel socially ready, I talk to people. I find it is easiest to ask people questions. It's easiest to ask questions with company/business staff, then with those in the area. It can be simple questions. Be aware of your environment and ask questions accordingly. If in college cafeteria, "what's that smell? it smells amazing." If in gym, what exercise are you doing? That looks pretty cool." If in mall, ask where the Starbucks is at. Almost all malls have them. Think ahead of questions to ask people. With time this will become second hand. Questions are openers for creating discussions. And for asking more questions that can be spiritual in nature. **D.** Then when I feel socially ready, I give an invite to a Bible study or to church.
- Another way is to have a format to use. Max Dawson is a preacher from Texas. He has taught his church members to simply, give an invite like this...Max demonstrates how to share cards at church. During services in detailing evangelism (when speaking to the congregation) he shares how to give an invite. Max says, "let me show you how easy it is to give an invite." Max steps down from the pulpit to one of the members and says... "My name is Max, I worship at the Dowlen Rd. church, I'd love for you to come by and visit." And then he gives that person a card. This church has gotten contacts and converts through this method.

1. The best way to become natural at giving invites is in "Role playing."

This is what we'll focus on in our evangelism group classes.

You can role play in giving invites with COC friends, family or Christian group helps get a person synchronized and comfortable with the social behavior of giving invites. This activity will help get you to think on your feet and create interactive responses. The more you do these role-playing invites the easier it gets and the more natural you become to actually giving invites. See Role playing [document](#) from class. Practice role playing each week and watch yourself become more in sync with social invitational behavior.

Note all materials can be downloaded from our evangelism training [page](#).

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Stage two: Going that next step into being a “fisher of men.”

After Stage one is done, this new stage is a good transition when people feel ready.

Method for getting live Bible studies when talking with people

First Method from Jon Rowe: Generates conversations by asking questions. He goes to social places like fast food restaurants, to talk with people. Though any place works, parks, church, malls, job, gym, college, grocery store, doing errands, etc. This method can also be used when doing an evangelism event like door knocking, vendor gym or college work, etc.

Jon asks people how they “are doing in the Lord?” to see how they are and to also angle the social language into the direction of spiritual things. Jon talks to folks and gets conversations going by asking questions.

- A. When talking with folks he changes the discussion from secular to spiritual. He asks, “What if the Lord were to come right now: would you know, for sure, without a doubt, you would go to heaven?”
- B. Jon Rowe learned this technique from WeCare ministry which has converted 1,000’s. He gets about 40 baptisms a year. Has a 30 percent retention rate. There are those he’s trained who get about the same numbers. Learn more about Jon Rowe and WeCare at our evangelism training [page](#).
- C. Jon Rowe/WeCare have a “[Salvation Highway Flow Chart](#)” for common responses to the above question Jon Rowe and WeCare evangelism members ask. And the following questions in response to how someone responds to the initial question.

The chart is used as role playing for groups to practice using. One person asks the questions, the other gives different responses. By doing this role-playing chart you learn what to say after asking the initial question. The other team member helps with that learning curve. You will also learn what are the common responses given when you ask the “Salvation Highway Flow Chart” questions.

- D. The questions lead up to learning the “salvation story” of the person you’re talking to. After you hear about how they were “saved” you ask if you can share how you were saved. If they say “Yes,” you can share the “gospel presentation,” from Star Bible. These are great for Bible studies. You use one and you have the other person use another Star Bible.
- E. The [Star Bible](#) is a pocket-sized Bible that can fit in backpack, fanny pack, purse or pants, dresses, shorts with large pocket. It has chain verses, that take you from one point to the next. The Star Bibles share the story of Jesus and salvation. The study tends to go from 30-45 minutes.

- F. Our evangelism group will practice role playing to give invites and also to practice role playing using the Salvation Highway Flow Chart to get Bible studies.
- G. When we meet, we will spend 30 minutes role playing giving invites. Then about 45 minutes role playing the Salvation Highway Flow Chart and practice teaching the Star Bible. The more we practice the better we'll get at giving invites, getting conversations going towards a Bible study and with teaching the Star Bible.
- H. After the initial few classes, showing how this works, we'll have the team members break into groups of two to practice. **A.** Each student role playing giving an invite. **B.** each student role play asking the questions, and the other giving the responses, then rotating these roles for the students. **C.** Then one of the students will practice teaching the Star Bible to the other student.

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What you learn you'll know for life. The patterns you imprint in your mind and behavior you'll have for a lifetime. For many Christians, (even for preachers, and elders), giving an invite is something they don't do. It's a social muscle they've not developed.

Once you get used to doing the things mentioned above, evangelism events, giving invites, getting live Bible studies, you'll have these skills for life. Yes it may take warming up to doing these things, if you've been sick for a few months, or had emergencies time away from God's work due to family issues....but your muscle memory will still be there and getting back into the swing of things will be easier and more natural...then for those who have not dared to do the things you've dared to do.

I look forward to building new bridges with you that we can walk over.

- Joseph Sullivan