

Overview

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

God designed the home as the primary place where faith is nurtured. Most people who decide to follow Jesus Christ do so because the gospel was both modeled and explained in the context of the family. Whether sharing the Good News with your children, your parents, your spouse, your grandchild, or an acquaintance, the process can be simple and authentic.

CREATE THE OPPORTUNITY

In Matthew 4:19 Jesus invites His followers to become fishers of men. Just like a fisherman changes lures when the fish don't bite, we can try different approaches to find one that might resonate with a particular person. Many times sharing your faith is more of a sentence than a paragraph. This guide includes several strategies for opening the topic of faith.

TELL THE STORY

Here are a few approaches for sharing the Good News with a family member or anyone else.

TELL HIS STORY: Use the suggestions and resources recommended in this guide to learn how to clearly explain salvation in simple language using one Bible verse.

TELL YOUR STORY: Use the outline in this guide to practice telling others about your own encounter with Jesus and how you became a follower of Christ.

Tell the Story is simply sharing Jesus Christ and what He has done in your life and leaving the results to God.

Going Further

BOOK RESOURCES:

Organic Outreach for Families
by Kevin and Sherry Harney

Art of Neighboring
by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon

How to Give Away Your Faith
by Paul Little

The Faith of a Child
by Art Murray

Leading Your Kids to Christ:
30 Days to Prepare Your Heart
by Criswell Freeman

God's Great News for Children
by Rick Osborne and Marnie Wooding

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES:

1 Verse App
MovieNightChat.com

TELL *the*
STORY

Sharing the
Good News @Home
and Beyond

Then Jesus said to them,
"So wherever you go in the world,
tell everyone the Good News."
Mark 16:15

Create the Opportunity

We all share good news with others, whether it is about a new job, a great vacation or what Jesus Christ has done for us. Create and capture opportunities for sharing the "Good News" by establishing routines that can make spiritual conversations a natural part of your family dynamic.

HOME

FAMILY TIME ACTIVITIES

Pick one evening per week where you protect about 20 minutes to conduct a fun "family time" activity that will trigger a faith conversation.

MEAL TIME CONNECTIONS

Make eating together around the table a routine priority in your home. Initiate spiritual conversations using an engaging question.

BEDTIME PRAYERS

Bedtime is the most natural, unforced time to connect your children to God by reading Bible stories and praying together.

MOVIE NIGHT CHATS

Mention a film you saw that reminded you of the gospel because it included heroic self-sacrifice, unconditional love, etc. (Visit MoveNightChat.com for ideas.)

DRIVE TIME CONVERSATIONS

While driving together pose questions that encourage great dialogue such as...

- Have you ever wondered why we go to church?
- Did I ever tell you about how I became a Christian?

BEYOND

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

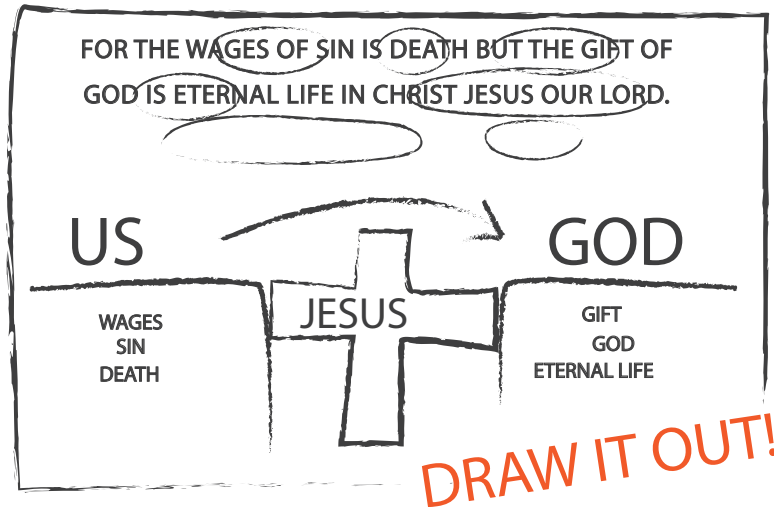
Invite a neighborhood family over for dinner. Ask fun questions to get to know each other and look for opportunities to share how His story has made a difference in your family's life.

PRAY IT FORWARD

Ask your server if there is anything you can pray for them when you bless the food at a restaurant. This could open the door for sharing.

Tell His Story

One Verse Evangelism is a simple way to share the story of Christ's love. It's easy to learn because it uses one verse, Romans 6:23.



WAGES: What we receive for what we have done
SIN: When I do things my way instead of God's way
DEATH: Separation from God
GIFT: Something freely given and freely received
ETERNAL LIFE: Abundant life now and in heaven
CHRIST JESUS: He alone is the bridge between us and God
LORD: One who takes control or boss of our life
SAVIOR: One who pays the penalty for our sins in our place

Tips on Sharing One Verse Evangelism:

1. Ask a diagnostic question to help the person define his/her relationship with Christ. Example: "Let me ask you this-have you come to a point in your life where you have invited Jesus to control your life and forgive your past or is that something you are still thinking about?"
2. Get permission to share His story with them. Example: "Could I take about 5 minutes to share one verse in the Bible that will help you know how to have a relationship with Christ should you decide to do that in the future?"
3. Give them a chance to respond by asking a question. Example: "Are you ready to cross that bridge and ask God to forgive you and take control of your life or is that something you need to think about some more?"

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

Tell Your Story

You have a story. If you have decided to follow Jesus, it is a great story—a story that should be told. Sharing your personal testimony can be a casual and authentic way to introduce others to Jesus Christ. Here are some simple tips for telling your story.

PREPARE

Finish the following prompts in one or two sentences:

1. My life before Christ...
2. How I realized my need for Christ...
3. How I invited Christ to forgive me and take control of my life...
4. The difference Christ has made in my life...

PRACTICE

Ask a friend, spouse or family member if you can practice sharing your story. This will allow you to feel more comfortable in the future when there is an opportunity and is also a great time to ask for any feedback they might have.

PRAY

Begin praying that God would give you opportunities to share the Good News with others. Be aware and take advantage when these opportunities arise.

PROCLAIM

List the names of three individuals in your home, your workplace or school, etc., that you would like to seek opportunities to share your story.