


YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS



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Contents

Introduction	1
Building Rapport	2
Using Positioning Questions.....	2
Introductory Questions.....	3
Diagnostic Questions.....	4
Connecting To The Gospel.....	5
To Respond To God’s Plan	6
How Do We Receive	7
The Invitation.....	8
How To Be Sure	9
The Next Step	10
Next Meeting	10
Bible Verses Used In This Booklet (NIV)	11

TELLING OTHERS

PRESENTING THE GOSPEL

Introduction

“But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life”

John 4:14

We have the best message to give that anyone could expect to receive. And the news we have to share has no peer in terms of consequences.

It behoves us, therefore, to become effective in presenting each person with the Gospel as we have the opportunity to do so. When we speak these words we are following, directly, the example of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are passing on the words of the KING OF KINGS and the LORD OF LORDS.

Let us do our work with excellence, as one would expect with His mighty power working within us. And remember... Jesus has been praying for you!

“Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word.”

John 17:20

Building Rapport

Take a few minutes to acclimatise to the person and to allow him / her to feel comfortable with you. Use the F.O.R.M. sequence to guide you.

Family

Do you have a family? Where did you grow up?

Occupation

What sort of work are you in? How long have you been doing it?

Recreation

What do you do to relax? Do you play golf? What did you think of the tennis/cricket?

Message

Your message begins...

Using Positioning Questions

Positioning questions help you to find an opening for a spiritually oriented conversation. By using these questions you will find a suitable "jump off" point to head into your introduction from here.

"I read that So and So or Princess Diana died. That was a tragedy. What did you think of that?"

"You mentioned that _____ (name) _____ had a serious illness – does he believe that he could get some spiritual help?"

"You like reading... have you ever read the world's best seller?"

“I notice you use the words “God”, “Hell” and “Christ” a fair bit in your conversation. Do you believe in God?”

“What is the most exciting thing that has happened to you in your life so far?”

When he/she is through, you can share your testimony of how you came to trust Christ or go straight on to the first introductory question.

Introductory Questions

You: Have you ever wondered what is the point of life?

Your friend: I don't give it much thought actually.

You: Really. What do you think happens when people die?

Your friend: Oh... I believe we all just go into the grave and that's the end of it.

You: How do you know that for sure? You know, that it's the truth?

Your friend: I don't for sure... but that's what you hear a lot of people saying and a lot of books and TV shows seem to offer that point of view.

You: Yes. I know what you mean. Look, do you think it's possible that there is a heaven and a hell. That God does exist and that somehow we are meant to relate to Him?

Your friend: I suppose it is possible but I tend to stay right away from that subject.

Diagnostic Questions

You: Fine. **Do you believe that it is possible for a person to know that they're going to go to heaven when they die?**

Your friend: How could they ever know for sure? Or...
I don't know.

You: Put it this way... **if you were to die tonight and stand before God and He were to say to you 'Why should I let you into my heaven?' What would your answer be?**

Your friend: Oh, I guess I would say that I've tried to live a good life.
I haven't killed anybody.



Connecting To The Gospel

You: You know ___ (name) ___, when we started this discussion I wondered if I had some Good News for you, now I'm sure that I have.
I used to think the way you do until someone explained to me that we can't make ourselves good enough for God... we have all fallen short of His glorious standard.¹

[An example of the incompatibility of God and sin is that of baking a cake. If you prepare a cake with good ingredients and just before you put it into the oven you put in a dessert spoon full of kerosene... will the cake be edible when you've baked it? No!]

[Or what would happen if you prepared an omelette from 10 eggs... what if 9 were perfectly good eggs and the tenth one was rotten. What sort of omelette would you end up with?]

Your friend: I see but what about...?

You: I'll come to that. The things we know are wrong (the things we call sin) are the very things that separate people from God. That's why they don't know Him or experience Him.²

Your friend: Talk about sin... I suppose you'd call the fact that I'm living with my boy/girl friend a sin.

References (See pp 11-12):

1 Romans 3:23

2 Isaiah 59:2

Connecting To The Gospel

You: That is just one of many things that people do wrong. Sometimes they even do the wrong thing with good intentions. **The key is** to know that God has provided **a solution for sin** so that we can establish a genuine relationship with him and experience His Eternal Life. Let me explain how that can happen.

In the Bible it is recorded that through one Man sin came into the world and the punishment for this was death and eternal separation from God.³

How, then, can man overcome the barrier of rebellion that he (man) had set up. He was unable to do it for himself.

But God sent His only Son, Jesus. God's reasoning was that since sin had come into the world through one man then it was possible for one Man, Jesus, to take away the world's sin and the judgement that comes with it.⁴

Notes:

3 Romans 5:12, Hebrews 9:27, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

4 Romans 5:17

To Respond To God's Plan

First, you have to accept that Jesus died for your sins – a righteous, innocent man died for all of us.⁵

Secondly, you need to receive God's gift of Eternal Life.⁶

[Having dealt with sin, God also provided a solution for death – the result of sin. He raised Jesus up from the dead. In the same way God, through Christ, places His Holy Spirit in us. By doing so He imparts the Gift of Eternal Life to us – Life which we receive in the here and now and Life which takes us into His Presence when we die.]

How Do We Receive

- You:** To receive God's gift, you need to say:
- (a) **"Sorry"** - ... for all that you have done wrong and turn away (repent) from everything which you know is wrong in your life.
 - (b) **"Thank You"** – Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross and for offering you Eternal Life through Him.
 - (c) **"Please"** – Ask God to come into your heart (your innermost being) by His Spirit.

It's simple... and the invitation is to everyone who will trust God's promise.

Notes:

5 1 Timothy 2:5-6, 1 Peter 3:18

6 John 1:12

The Invitation

You: An illustration of God's invitation is contained in this verse from the Bible:

***"Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears My voice and opens the door,
I will go in and eat with him, and he with Me."***

Revelation 3:20

You: (name) , do you believe that Jesus Christ died for you?

Your friend: Yes, I do.

You: Do you want to receive God's gift of Eternal Life?

Your friend: YES! Or I don't think I am ready yet.

You: [If 'Yes']... then let's pray together...⁷
[If 'No']... may I pray for you...? Then proceed with a prayer of committing them to God's care.

"Dear Father,

"I am **sorry** for all that I have done wrong, I ask you to forgive me and I now turn away from everything which I know to be wrong in my life.

"**Thank you** for sending Jesus, your One and Only Son, who died on the cross to set me free from sin.

"**Please** come into my life by your Holy Spirit.

"I gladly receive you now, Jesus, as my Saviour and Lord. Amen."

Notes:

7 John 4:14

How To Be Sure

You: God has given us a way to know that we have received Eternal Life when we have trusted in Him in the way you have just done:

“And this is the record that God has given to us Eternal Life and this life is in His Son. He that has the Son has Life; and he that has not the Son has not Life.”

1 John 5:11-12

[The Book illustration: Just imagine that this book is Jesus and this pen is representative of Eternal Life. I place the pen (Eternal Life) in the book and I give it to you. Eternal Life is in the Book (Jesus) and you have received it.]

God will give you other evidence that He is with you as you go on. There is great rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner who turns away from sin.⁸

Notes:

8 Luke 15:7

The Next Step

You:

You have now received Eternal Life. Now remember you belong to Jesus. He will never leave you or forsake you.⁹ Now set your course to live for Jesus both here on Earth and ultimately in Heaven when you pass from this world.

Pray: Talk to God and ask for His help

Read: Read the Bible and learn more about God.

Worship: Be with other Christians to worship Him.¹⁰

Tell: Tell others about Jesus and Eternal Life.

My Commitment To You:

I will be helping you. The enemy may try to upset or tempt you. I will be praying for your protection.

Next Meeting

I will be praying for you. Let's meet again on _____ (day) _____ at _____ (time) _____. In the meantime read this Gospel of John, even a couple of chapters will be an excellent start.

God bless you!

Notes:

9 Hebrews 13:5

10 Matthew 18:20

Bible Verses Used In This Booklet (NIV)

1. Romans 3:23	"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."
2. Isaiah 59:2	"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that you will not hear."
3. Romans 5:12	"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned..."
3. Hebrews 9:27	"Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgement..."
3. 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9	"He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of His power..."
4. Romans 5:17	"For if by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."
5. 1 Timothy 2:5-6	"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all men – the testimony given in its proper time."
5. 1 Peter 3:18	"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit."

Bible Verses Used In This Booklet (NIV)

6. John 1:12	"Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God..."
7. John 4:14	"...But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
8. Luke 15:7	"I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."
9. Hebrews 13:5b	"... never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."
10. Matthew 18:20	"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

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