

Sharing My Faith Ministries

for Individual and Small Group Study



***“... that the sharing of your faith
may become effective
by the acknowledgment of every good thing
which is in you in Christ Jesus.”
(Philemon 1:6)***

www.SharingMyFaithMinistries.org



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All scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New King James Version.

Our website will continue to offer choices so you can design a Gospel Outline and lessons personalized for you. You can customize our lessons with different Bible translations, Bible verses, dynamic illustrations, and even different languages. Additionally, you will be able to suggest verses and illustrations to further tailor our curriculum to fit your needs.

Sharing My Faith Ministries



Table of Contents

Facilitator's Guide	4
Lesson One: Understanding Life	9
Lesson Two: Building Relationships	18
Lesson Three: Gospel Outline	25
Lesson Four: Creative Introductions	30
Lesson Five: God	37
Lesson Six: Life	42
Lesson Seven: Sin	49
Lesson Eight: Jesus	54
Lesson Nine: Faith	60
Lesson Ten: Decision	65

Sharing My Faith Ministries



Facilitator's Guide

Welcome to ***Sharing My Faith Ministries***. Your first step is to register as a member at www.SharingMyFaithMinistries.org. Then, pray and begin.

Being a member is free and offers you free access to all materials. As members, we will work together globally, expanding ideas to meet the needs of cultures, age groups and life circumstances.

Our Facilitator's Guide will be helpful as you prepare to begin, especially if you are leading others in this study.

FACILITATORS' VISION:

- ◆ Bring the Gospel to unsaved and not yet evangelized people of all ages and life circumstances;
- ◆ Disciple Christians by grounding them in the Christian faith;
- ◆ Equip Christians to share the Gospel;
- ◆ Multiply by training others to begin a *Sharing My Faith Ministry* within and outside of your place of ministry.

FACILITATORS' GOALS:

Determine your goals for your *Sharing My Faith Ministry* by recognizing the needs of your participants.

- ◆ Do they themselves need to first understand the Gospel in order to develop a personal relationship with Jesus?
- ◆ Do they need thorough study of scripture and the Gospel to understand their faith in Christ as they learn to share with others?
- ◆ Do they need preparation to become facilitators in other venues, beginning a ministry for families, youth, seniors/nursing homes, jails/prisons, etc.?

At the end of each lesson are Gospel Outlines.
It will be helpful to look at a Gospel Outline as you read the following.

LESSONS:

There are 10 lessons. Six of the 10 lessons relate directly to six Gospel POINTS.

- ◆ Each lesson teaches the complete Gospel Outline. Participants will be prepared to share the Gospel during the first class session.
- ◆ Although each lesson can stand alone (can be taught apart from the series of lessons), we strongly suggest that all 10 lessons are taught in sequence.
- ◆ Lesson One serves as an introduction to your ministry. You will want to invite many to attend. Then, ask them to prayerfully commit to being a part of all sessions.

Each lesson is designed to take approximately two hours of self-study. Participants are encouraged to set aside 30 minutes on five days each week to complete this. Participants are expected to come to the weekly Study Group prepared to discuss lesson.

We suggest 90 minutes for each weekly Study Group. During this time, the facilitator will lead the group as participants share their individual study notes and their experiences in sharing the Gospel with others. As you, the facilitator, become familiar with the materials and with your team, you will be able to discern what to include in each lesson.

LESSON STRUCTURE:

Take time to preview a few lessons. Each lesson follows the same structure:

- ◆ WELCOME: Pray, Review, Record
- ◆ POINT: Scripture Study, Discussion, Illustration, Your God Story
- ◆ PROOF: Scripture Study and Application
- ◆ PICTURE: Personalized Explanation that Weaves the Gospel
- ◆ PROCEED: Bridge to the Next Lesson
- ◆ PREPARE TO ENTER THE HARVEST FIELD: Creative Connections Opportunities, Prayer Focus

Blue text boxes give a brief activity for the facilitator to introduce.

Two types of bullets are used in each lesson:

- ◆ Gives direction and explanation
- Asks for written response

GOSPEL OUTLINE:

The Gospel Outline has six POINTS: **God – Life – Sin – Jesus – Faith – Decision.**

- ◆ Each POINT (main idea) has a PROOF (scripture), PICTURE (variety of ways to personalize the Gospel Outline) and PROCEED (transition to next POINT).

POINT – PROOF – PICTURE – PROCEED:

The Gospel Outline serves as the framework. First, learn each POINT, PROOF and PROCEED. Then you can personalize the Gospel Outline by choosing the PICTURE that best communicates the Gospel to the person or group you are sharing with. This is called "Weaving the Gospel."

PICTURE – WEAVING THE GOSPEL:

Each POINT of the Gospel has a PICTURE. The PICTURE allows us to personalize the Gospel Outline. We call this **WEAVING THE GOSPEL**. This strategy allows us to explain the six POINTS of the Gospel. In the lessons, you will demonstrate and practice four ways to **Weave the Gospel**:

1. Using Scriptures: A direct way to share the Gospel is to personally discuss the meaning of the PROOF (scripture) for each POINT of the Gospel Outline. God's Word does not return void (Isaiah 55:11).
2. Using Your Personal Testimony: Weave your personal testimony into the Gospel Outline, telling "Your Story" about **God, Life, Sin, Jesus, Faith** and **Decision**.
3. Using Bible Passages: For each of the Gospel lessons, you will use a Bible Passage that shares the POINT of that lesson. These Bible Passages will be used to share the entire Gospel Outline. As your team gains confidence in sharing, they will want to choose Bible Passages that personally relate to those they are sharing with. For example, if they are sharing the Gospel with a friend who has turned from God and is wandering, they may choose "The Lost/Prodigal Son." If they are sharing with a woman who has been rejected, they may choose "The Woman at the Well."
4. Using Objects: An option for visual learners is to use objects. A heart can be used to represent **GOD** (everlasting love). A gift represents **LIFE** (eternal life). A sin list represents **SIN**. A cross stands for **JESUS**. The cross with the heart behind it and the sin list hidden behind the heart represents **FAITH**. Offering the person the gift represents **DECISION**.

Samples of each of the above are at the end of the lessons:

- ◆ Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE (example): Lesson 1
- ◆ Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE (worksheet): Lesson 1
- ◆ Weave the Gospel: Using Your Personal Testimony as the PICTURE (example): Lesson 2
- ◆ Weave the Gospel: Using Your Personal Testimony as the PICTURE (worksheet): Lesson 2
- ◆ Weave the Gospel: Using a Bible Passage: Lessons 3-10
- ◆ Weave the Gospel: Using Objects to Share the Gospel: Lesson 4

PERSONALIZING THE GOSPEL OUTLINE:

The Gospel Outline is only a guide and a pattern to follow. Each person will develop their own personalized way of sharing the Gospel. With prayer, practice and the leading of the Holy Spirit, they will be able to communicate the Gospel in a personal and relational way.

MATERIALS:

Each participant needs a copy of the set of 10 lessons. We suggest you place them in a binder.

Visuals for home practice are at end of Lesson 1 (Gospel Bookmark and Gospel Table Card).

Optional visuals for use in your Study Group may be downloaded from our Core Curriculum. To receive the Core Curriculum, register at www.SharingMyFaithMinistries.org.

As additional materials are submitted, they will be posted on our website for free download.

DISCIPLESHIP LESSONS:

Our current curriculum does not include discipleship lessons for new believers. There are many excellent discipleship materials produced by other ministries that you can use. A strong start for your new believers is to join your next *Sharing My Faith* ministry session. New believers will be grounded in the Gospel as they learn how to share.

VIDEOS:

Videos will be available for free viewing on our website. We welcome videos from implementing groups. However, you must agree that anything provided to this ministry will be provided to others free of charge. Also, permission from people in the videos must be obtained prior to submitting videos to us.

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS:

Each lesson gives ideas for sharing the Gospel with others. Encourage participants to share each week. If someone does not have a prospect, ask them to share with a church friend, family member, fellow Christian at work, etc. Encourage them to team up and go together to share. The more we share our faith, the more comfortable and confident we become.

CREATIVE INTRODUCTIONS:

The lessons share many ideas for changing secular conversations into spiritual talk about God. Lesson Four concentrates on Creative Introductions and how to introduce Bible Passages that are personally relevant to the people you are sharing with.

CREATIVE OUTREACH:

Individual outreach to those around you is our primary emphasis. Each person in your group will prepare, share and then testify how they shared each week.

Also, you will want to plan some group outreach events. Go as a team to visit hospitals, nursing homes, neighborhoods, schools, church visitors' homes, etc.

PRAYER PARTNERS:

Prayer is essential. Ask each participant, including leaders and facilitators, to select at least two prayer partners who will commit to praying regularly with them and for all involved in the ministry. Ask someone to coordinate your prayer ministry. Invite prayer partners to come to any class. Personally invite prayer partners to a few specific classes so they can experience the ministry. Prayer partners often become participants in your next session.

CONTINUOUS MINISTRY:

This is NOT a one-time course. This is an ongoing ministry. Your first-time learners may become team leaders in future sessions. They may become confident facilitators, taking the ministry to other groups and places. This is discipleship and disciple-making.

CONTRIBUTE IDEAS:

Our website is designed to host new ideas from successful ministries like yours. You may submit ideas (illustrations, activities, Creative Connections, Bible Passages used for the PICTURE of the Gospel Outline, photos and testimonies). We are dedicated to reviewing all submissions and selecting those that enhance the lessons. They will be posted on our website and in newsletters.

TEACHING, LEARNING AND SHARING METHODS:

Sharing My Faith Ministries:

- ◆ Encourages relationship-building among facilitators, team members and those who are hearing the Gospel; Strengthens each person's relationship with God.
 - ◆ Works effectively with all ages and life circumstances – adults, youth, children, families, singles, elderly, handicapped, incarcerated, etc.
 - ◆ Is useful in many venues – Sunday school, home Bible study, neighborhood groups, schools, mission trips, etc.
 - ◆ Provides outreach to neighborhoods, orphanages, homeless shelters, ministries to women, handicapped, elderly, incarcerated, etc.
 - ◆ Reinforces the use of scripture when sharing the Gospel and when desiring to grow in faith in Christ.
 - ◆ Uses Bible Passages and Weave the Gospel to create a personalized way to share the main POINTS of the Gospel Outline.
 - ◆ Emphasizes and practices prayer at all stages of learning and sharing the Gospel.
 - ◆ Practices a variety of Creative Introductions to personally relate to people and begin to engage in spiritual conversations.
 - ◆ Suggests a variety of Creative Connections and Creative Outreach opportunities so individuals and teams can go to share the Gospel.
-

POINT: God's Word is powerful. It changes lives. It guides our way as we develop a forever relationship with God.

PROOF: *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."* (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE

PROCEED: KNOW – GROW – GO: God created us to KNOW Him, to GROW as His disciples, and to GO share the Gospel.

Goals:

- ◆ Understand that God's Word is absolute truth and is significant in guiding our lives.
- ◆ Gain confidence in knowing the Gospel and understanding our responsibility to share it.
- ◆ Be able to share the Gospel Outline, personally discussing the meaning of each scripture.

Preparation:

- ◆ Begin with prayer. Ask God to prepare you for this study on knowing Him and sharing Him. Pray through Psalm 139:23-24.
- ◆ If you are a part of a group study, pray for each person in the group. Pray that their faith will grow as they study the Gospel. Pray that each will gain a deeper perspective on purposeful living as together you engage in sharing the Gospel.
- Identify a person in your life that, with God's help, you can make an impact (Write first name only).

POINT: God's Word is powerful. It changes lives. It guides our way as we develop a forever relationship with God.

- What does this mean to you?
- Describe your level of involvement in reading, studying and meditating on God's Word.

"Understanding Life" is a foundational lesson. This lesson sets the stage for the significance of God's Word and its message of eternal life.

Through this study, you will grow in your understanding of the Gospel and your conviction to share with others.

POWER OF GOD'S WORD:

Read the following scriptures. Summarize each – What do they personally mean to you?

➤ **Genesis 1:1**

➤ **John 1:12**

➤ **Psalm 119:105**

WORD OF GOD SCRIPTURES:

➤ Read WORD OF GOD SCRIPTURES (at end of this lesson). Write what each scripture means to you.

"Power of God's Word" Illustration

MATERIALS: flashlight with batteries or candle with matches

Facilitator turns on flashlight or lights candle. This illustrates the necessity of a power source.

Share: This flashlight (or candle) needs a power source (batteries or matches) to create light. We need a power source also. God, through His Spirit and His Word, is our Power Source.

God's Word is absolute truth. It guides our way and strengthens our personal relationship with God.

Your God Story: Relate an event in your life when scripture made an impact. An impact is a force, a collision which brings about a change. In your testimony, share how your life was changed/impacted. Include scripture(s).

**PROOF: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)**

- What do these verses say about the truth of all scripture?
- What do these verses say about the purpose of all scripture?
- How does God's Word equip us in all that we do?
- What is our responsibility concerning all scripture?

Scripture Study: Compare scripture above to Ephesians 2:10.

- What similar message do these scriptures have?
- How has God spiritually gifted you and what plans does He have for you?

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE

Materials: Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE (Example and Personal Worksheet, at end of this lesson)

We will experience the power of God's Word as we use scriptures to understand and share the Gospel.

The Gospel Outline has six words: God – Life – Sin – Jesus – Faith – Decision. Each word has a POINT (main idea), PROOF (scripture), PICTURE (personalized explanation) and PROCEED (transition to next POINT).

Read each of the six POINTS and PROOFS of the Gospel. For the PICTURE, write your own words to share what each scripture means to you.

PROCEED: Know – Grow – Go: God created us to KNOW Him, to GROW as His disciples, and to GO share the Gospel.

- Was there a time in your life when you trusted Jesus as your Savior and Lord?
 - If NO, are you ready to make a DECISION now to TRUST JESUS and receive ETERNAL LIFE?
 - If YES, what are you doing to GROW in your personal relationship with God, and to GO share with others?

Prepare to Enter the Harvest Field

Tools for Practice and Sharing: (at end of this lesson)

- ◆ **Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE**
- ◆ **Gospel Bookmark**
- ◆ **Table Card** (fold in half, then in thirds)

Creative Connections Opportunities:

- Make a list of people that you would be comfortable sharing the Gospel with (friend, someone from church, family member).

Share with others this week. As you share the Gospel Outline, ask them to read each scripture, and together discuss, "What does this scripture mean?"

If you are in a group study, be prepared to testify who you shared with and what the scriptures mean to you.

Pray: Thank God for allowing you to study the Gospel and prepare to share it with others. Pray for direction and wisdom as you study God's Word and share the Gospel with others. Pray that Christians will desire to grow as disciples of Christ, experience the power of God's Word, and develop a biblical worldview in all that they think, say and do.

Word of God Scriptures

What does each scripture mean to you?

*I will put **My law** in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:33)*

*As for God, His way is perfect; **the word of the Lord** is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him. (Psalm 18:30)*

***Your word** I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. (Psalm 119:11)*

***Your word** is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105)*

***Your word** is very pure; therefore Your servant loves it. (Psalm 119:140)*

***Every word of God** is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. (Proverbs 30:5)*

*The grass withers, the flower fades, but **the word of our God** stands forever. (Isaiah 40:8)*

*So shall **My word** be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)*

*But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by **every word of God.**' " (Luke 4:4)*

*But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear **the word of God** and keep it!" (Luke 11:28)*

*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by **the word of God.** (Romans 10:17)*

***All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

*For **the word of God** is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)*

Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE (example)

Introduction: Who is God to you? Do you know that God loves you? May I share some great news with you?

GOD

- POINT: GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.
- PROOF: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."* (Jeremiah 31:3)
- **PICTURE: God created us. He loves us beyond anything we can or have experienced. His love is unconditional—He loves because He IS love. And you are His creation!**
- PROCEED: God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

- POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.
- PROOF: *"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)
- **PICTURE: If you loved someone beyond measure, wouldn't you want to be with them ... forever? That's how God is. His heart's desire is to be with you forever in a loving, caring relationship. He is the God of the universe and He cares about you. Can I do anything to work my way to Him? NO. Scripture says eternal life is a gift, not something we can work for or deserve.**
- PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

- POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.
- PROOF: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)
- **PICTURE: You and me ... Yes, we are sinners. A thought, word, action; it may be something I know I should do but choose not to do. Actually the bottom line is that I have a rebellious nature and want to live life MY WAY. That's sin. And sin separates us from God.**
- PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

- POINT: JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.
- PROOF: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)
- **PICTURE: This says it all—God so loves you that He sent His Son Jesus, to pay the penalty for your sin, and for my sin. Jesus did all that needed to be done. There is nothing that you and I can add to it. God's gift of eternal life is truly a gift, paid in full through Christ Jesus.**
- PROCEED: We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

- POINT: FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'"* (John 14:6)
- **PICTURE: The world thinks of many ways to God. Some believe in good works – going to church, praying, helping those in need. But God's way is to trust Jesus. Jesus IS the way, the truth and the life – eternal life, forever with God.**
- PROCEED: God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

- POINT: DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..."* (Acts 16:31)
- **PICTURE: Believe – lean with your whole self. You and I don't need to add anything to this. Trust in the Lord Jesus who died for your sins, who is ready to forgive you and give you a new way to go if you are ready to repent. Turn from YOUR WAY to GOD'S WAY and receive His wonderful gift of eternal life.**
- PROCEED: Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life? (Pray together)

Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning as the PICTURE Personal Worksheet

Read the following. Write what each scripture means to you.

Share with others. Ask them what each scripture means to them.

Introduction: Who is God to you? Do you know that God loves you? May I share some great news with you?

GOD

- POINT: GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.
- PROOF: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."* (Jeremiah 31:3)
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

- POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.
- PROOF: *"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

- POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.
- PROOF: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

- POINT: JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.
- PROOF: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)
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DECISION

- POINT: DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..."* (Acts 16:31)
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life? (Pray together)

GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."
(Jeremiah 31:3)

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
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God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."
(John 3:16-17)

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'"
(John 14:6)

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..." (Acts 16:31)

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?
Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

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GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."
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God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
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God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."
(John 3:16-17)

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

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"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'"
(John 14:6)

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DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..." (Acts 16:31)

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?
Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

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<p>God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.</p> <p><i>"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you." (Jeremiah 31:3)</i></p>	<p>But we have a problem called SIN.</p> <p><i>"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)</i></p>	<p>God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.</p> <p><i>"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)</i></p>
<p>GOD</p> <p>GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.</p>	<p>LIFE</p> <p>ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.</p>	<p>SIN</p> <p>SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.</p>
<p>DECISION</p> <p>DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.</p> <p><i>"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..." (Acts 16:31)</i></p> <p>Do you know JESUS the way I have shared with you?</p> <p>Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?</p> <p>www.SharingMyFaithMinistries.org</p>	<p>FAITH</p> <p>FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.</p> <p><i>"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.' " (John 14:6)</i></p> <p>God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.</p>	<p>JESUS</p> <p>JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.</p> <p><i>"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:16-17)</i></p> <p>We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.</p>

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Lesson 2

POINT: KNOW-GROW-GO Being a disciple (follower) of Jesus means to KNOW Jesus, to GROW in our likeness to Him, and to GO and share the Gospel with others.

PROOF: *"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."* (Matthew 4:19)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Using Your Personal Testimony

PROCEED: A Gospel Outline helps us KNOW, GROW and GO.

Goals:

- ◆ Understand the significance of knowing Jesus as Savior, growing daily as His disciple, and going to share the Gospel with others.
- ◆ Personally relate to key scripture (PROOF).
- ◆ Capture a desire to share the Gospel.
- ◆ Be able to share the Gospel Outline, using your personal testimony as the PICTURE for each POINT of the Gospel Outline.

Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer, thanking God for His Word and His everlasting love.
 - ◆ Review "Weave the Gospel: Using Scripture Meaning" from the previous lesson. What do the scriptures mean to you? If you are in a group study, share with the group in a conversational way.
- Record: Who did you share the Gospel with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for?
-

POINT: KNOW-GROW-GO Being a disciple (follower) of Jesus means to KNOW Jesus, to GROW in our likeness to Him, and to GO and share the Gospel with others.

Read Scripture: Jesus Calls His Disciples (Matt 4:18-22)

Read POINT above.

- What does this mean to you?

Using Scriptures

The Gospel Outline has one scripture for each of the six POINTS of the Gospel.

Memorize the scriptures. This adds POWER to the Gospel: *"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."* (Isaiah 55:11)

KNOW – GROW - GO Scripture Study:

KNOW: *"Follow Me ..."*

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17.

- What does it mean to KNOW Christ?

- What does it mean to be a new creation?

GROW: *"... and I will make you ..."*

Read Mark 12:29-31.

- How is a Christian's life different if he/she is truly following Christ?

- What habits are significant in growing as a disciple of Christ?

GO: *"... fishers of men."*

Read 2 Timothy 2:2.

- Share an opportunity that you would like to have "being a fisher of men."

- Is there a person you'd like to share with?

- Is there a place God is leading you to go? (jail, senior/nursing home, school, neighborhood ...)?

- What keeps you from going?

- What would give you confidence to go?

PERSONAL SURVEY: Complete the Personal Survey (at end of this lesson).

Your God Story: Share your salvation testimony (**KNOW**). What was your life like before you received eternal life? After you received eternal life? Share contrasts that can be used, such as “from worry to peace; from sadness to joy; from despair to hope; rebellion to obedience; loneliness to friendship; unloved to loved.”

- Who can you encourage by sharing your God Story with?

PROOF: “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matthew 4:19)

- What does this scripture say about **knowing** Jesus?
- **Growing** to be like Him?
- **Going** to share the Gospel?
- What promise does this scripture give us?

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Using Your Personal Testimony

MATERIALS: Weave the Gospel Example and Personal Worksheet (at end of this lesson)

Review the six Gospel Outline words (God – Life – Sin – Jesus – Faith – Decision). Each has a POINT (main idea), PROOF (scripture), PICTURE (personalized explanation) and PROCEED (transition to next POINT).

Read through “Weave the Gospel Example.” This will prepare you to write your own PICTURE for each POINT of the Gospel.

Then use the Personal Worksheet to write your Personal Testimony as the PICTURE.

Personal Survey

Name _____

GOD

Who is God?

LIFE

What is eternal life?

How does a person receive eternal life?

SIN

What is SIN?

Is SIN a problem? Why or why not?

JESUS

Who is Jesus?

What did Jesus do for us?

FAITH

What is saving faith?

What does it mean to trust Jesus for eternal life?

DECISION

Do you know for sure that you will be with God forever?

How do you know for sure?

Weave the Gospel: Using Your Personal Testimony as the PICTURE (example)

Introduction: Who is God to you? Do you know that God loves you? May I share some great news with you?

GOD

- POINT: GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.
- PROOF: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."* (Jeremiah 31:3)
- **PICTURE: Share your relationship to God. He is our Creator. Share His love for His creation which includes each one of us.**
- PROCEED: God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

- POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.
- PROOF: *"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)
- **PICTURE: Share your earlier understanding or lack of understanding of eternal life and God's desire to have a forever relationship with you.**
- PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

- POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.
- PROOF: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)
- **PICTURE: Share example(s) of how you chose to live your way, not God's way.**
- PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

- POINT: JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.
- PROOF: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)
- **PICTURE: Share how you came to know Jesus: Who Jesus is and what He did for you.**
- PROCEED: We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

- POINT: FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)*
- **PICTURE: Share when you trusted Jesus and/or what it means to you to trust Jesus for eternal life. Contrast with what you were trusting in prior to salvation.**
- PROCEED: God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

- POINT: DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31)*
- **PICTURE: Share how this has been the greatest decision in your life. Share the benefits that you have personally experienced (beginning with knowing for sure you have eternal life).**
- PROCEED: Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life? (Pray together)

Weave the Gospel: Personal Testimony Worksheet

Write your personal testimony as the PICTURE for each POINT of the Gospel Outline.

Introduction: Who is God to you? Do you know that God loves you? May I share some great news with you?

GOD

- POINT: GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.
- PROOF: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you." (Jeremiah 31:3)*
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

- POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.
- PROOF: *"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)*
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

- POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.
- PROOF: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)*
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

- POINT: JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.
- PROOF: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:16-17)*
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

- POINT: FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)*
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

- POINT: DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..." (Acts 16:31)*
- **PICTURE:**
- PROCEED: Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life? (Pray together)

GOSPEL OUTLINE

Lesson 3

POINT: A pattern to the Gospel helps us share and equip others to share: God – Life – Sin – Jesus – Faith - Decision

PROOF: "Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'" (Matthew 9:37-38)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: The Compassion of Jesus (Mathew 9:35-38)

PROCEED: May I share with you what the Bible tells us about God and our eternal relationship with Him?

Goals:

- ◆ Understand how a pattern can help us in sharing the Gospel.
- ◆ Memorize the Gospel Outline and be able to share the six POINTS and PROOFS.
- ◆ Understand how to "Weave the Gospel" (Select a Bible Passage and Weave each POINT of the Gospel into it).
- ◆ Recognize the importance of knowing how to share the Gospel.
- ◆ Capture a desire to share with others.

Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer, thanking God for His plan of salvation.
- ◆ Review "Weave the Gospel: Personal Testimony Worksheet" from lesson 2. If you are in a group study, share with the group in a conversational way.

- Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?

POINT: A pattern to the Gospel helps us share and equip others to share:

God – Life – Sin – Jesus – Faith - Decision

- Take six pebbles or pieces of paper. Label each with the six Gospel Outline words: GOD, LIFE, SIN, JESUS, FAITH and DECISION.
- In the box, write what each word means to you.

GOD
LIFE
SIN
JESUS
FAITH
DECISION

GOOD NEWS Discussion:

- Share some GOOD NEWS that you've received this week.

- What's the best news you've ever heard?

The **Gospel** is **Good News**, the best news anyone could ever receive.

- What is the Good News of the Gospel?

Read Romans 6:23 and John 6:47.

- What does the Good News say about eternal life?

- How would you describe Heaven?

Read Acts 16:31 and John 3:36.

- What does it mean to be *saved*? Saved from what?

Your God Story: Begin with a Good News introduction. Example: Have you had any good news this week? What's the best news you've ever had? May I share with you the best news I've ever received?

Then using the Gospel Outline words on pebbles or cards, use each word to share the Gospel.

- Who can you encourage by sharing your God Story with?

GOD – LIFE – SIN – JESUS – FAITH – DECISION

MATERIALS: Six pebbles, each marked with words above.

Facilitator: Mix up words and have participants put them in the order of the Gospel Outline.

Have participants share what each word means to them. Give prompts: Who is **GOD**? What does **LIFE** mean to you? What does the Bible tell us about **SIN**? Who is **JESUS**? What does it mean to have **FAITH** in Jesus? What does making a **DECISION** to trust Jesus mean to you?

PROOF: *"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.' "* (Matthew 9:37-38)

- What does this verse say about God's love?
- What does this scripture say about our responsibility and privilege in sharing the Gospel?
- Find Matthew 9:37-38 in your Bible. Highlight it and memorize it. What does this verse mean to you?
- Read Romans 10:14-15. As Christians, what is our role in evangelism and discipleship?

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: The Compassion of Jesus (Mathew 9:35-38)

MATERIALS: Weave the Gospel: The Compassion of Jesus (at end of this lesson)

You will use the six Gospel Outline words to share the Gospel (as you did during the last two lessons). Each has a POINT, PROOF, PICTURE and PROCEED. Yet this time, the PICTURE will relate to the above Bible Passage. You will "Weave the Gospel" into this Bible Passage.

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: The Compassion of Jesus" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way. It is not necessary to use the exact POINT words. Be flexible, using your own words. Try to include all or most scriptures. The Bible says that God's Word will not return void (Isaiah 55:11).

PROCEED: May I share with you what the Bible tells us about God and our eternal relationship with Him?

PROCEED is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following question will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- How could you change a secular conversation into a spiritual conversation about God? When talking with someone, how could you transition into talking about God, and then sharing the Gospel?

PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

Creative Connections Opportunities:

What object could you use to share the Gospel Outline with someone this week?

- ◆ Pebbles with Gospel Outline words on them
 - ◆ Gospel Outline letters on fingertips (G-L-S-J-F with D in center of palm)
 - ◆ Gospel Bookmark and Weave the Gospel sheet
 - ◆ Read Bible passage directly from your Bible
 - ◆ Beads or ribbon of different colors -- GOD/white; LIFE/gold; SIN/dark; JESUS/red; FAITH/blue; DECISION/green
- Other objects:
- How can you open up a conversation with a friend this week? (May I share with you what these six pebbles stand for? May I share this Bible Passage with you?)

You now have 3 ways to share the Gospel:

1. Using the scripture meaning of each verse in the Gospel Outline (Lesson 1)
2. Using your personal testimony for each part of the Gospel Outline (Lesson 2)
3. Using a Bible Passage to "Weave the Gospel" (Lesson 3)

Pray: Pray for willingness to be God's laborer in His Harvest field. Pray that God will prepare you and give you many opportunities to share the Gospel with those around you. Pray that God will give you eyes to see and hearts that are broken for the lost.

Weave the Gospel
The Compassion of Jesus (Mathew 9:35-38)

Creative Introduction: Have you ever felt tired and weary? May I share with you a Bible Passage that tells us about God and His desire to care for us in all ways and at all times?

Share or read **The Compassion of Jesus**.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

GOD: As Jesus looked out at the people, He loved them – just as He loves you. He was deeply concerned about them because they didn't know Him and they didn't love Him. God loves you with an everlasting love! The Bible says, "*I have loved you with ...*" (*Jeremiah 31:3*).

LIFE: God wants us to be with Him forever. The Bible says ... (Romans 6:23). That's how much He loves us. But we have a problem called sin.

SIN: Jesus could see their sin. They were weary, tired and scattered. They did not look to God as their leader. They were living life their own way, not God's way. The Bible says ... (Romans 3:23)

JESUS: Jesus wants to be their shepherd, just as He wants to be yours. You see, Jesus is our Creator God. He came from ... (Continue on, sharing JESUS POINT and PROOF.)

FAITH: There was a time in my life when I was weary and scattered. Someone told me what I just told you. That's when I took a simple step of faith and trusted Jesus as my Savior. There's nothing I could do to save myself. There's nothing you can do, except trust Jesus. Trust Him and Him alone. Share John 14:6.

DECISION: By deciding to trust Jesus, we can have a forever relationship with God, here on earth and forever in Heaven. Share Acts 16:31.

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?
Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

We can then be God's workers in His harvest field and tell others about Jesus and eternal life.

THE GOSPEL

GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

CREATIVE INTRODUCTIONS

Lesson 4

POINT: We have the responsibility, the authority and the power to go and tell the Gospel.

PROOF: *"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."* (2 Peter 3:9)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Nicodemus Meets Jesus (John 3:1-18, 36)

PROCEED: Who is God to you? May I tell you about the God I know?

Goals:

- ◆ Be empowered by scripture that defines your role in evangelism and discipleship.
- ◆ Gain confidence in changing secular conversations into spiritual conversations about God.
- ◆ Understand how to choose a Bible Passage that is personally relevant to the person you share with. Be able to Weave the Gospel as you share the Bible Passage.

Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer.
 - ◆ Review the Gospel Outline. Weave the Gospel into the Bible Passage as learned in lesson 3. If you are in a group study, share with the group in a conversational way.
 - Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?
-

POINT: We have the responsibility, the authority and the power to go and tell the Gospel.

Scripture Study: Read the following scriptures. Write what each scripture means to you.

Responsibility: Romans 10:14-15

Authority: Matthew 28:16-20

Power: Acts 1:8

CREATIVE INTRODUCTIONS Discussion:

How could you begin a conversation with someone, moving from a secular conversation into a spiritual one about God? Review lessons 1-3 for ideas and notes on how you shared with others.

- Lesson 1:

- Lesson 2:

- Lesson 3:

Below are some ideas on changing a secular conversation into a spiritual one.

- ◆ Who is God to you? May I tell you about the God I know?
- ◆ Have you heard any good news this week? Would you like to hear some very good news?
- ◆ Almost half of the people in the world have never heard "God loves you." May I share with you how much God loves YOU?
- ◆ Are you certain that you will be with God in Heaven some day?
- ◆ Use your God Story/Testimony: May I share with you how God brought me from loneliness to peace? From unloved to loved? From sadness to joy? From worry to release? From danger to safety?

Your God Story: Use a life experience to begin a conversation about God. There was a time in my life when ..." (Continue on, sharing the Gospel.)

- Who can you encourage by sharing your God Story with?

Using Objects to Share the Gospel

MATERIALS: Heart, Gift, Sin list, Cross; "Using Objects" Worksheet at end of this lesson

Using an Object as a Creative Introduction:

Facilitator begins by giving someone a gift. This leads into a discussion of favorite gifts they have received. Hinge to the Gospel by sharing that you'd like to tell them about God's greatest gift, a gift He offers us because He loves us.

Using Objects for Each POINT of the Gospel (worksheet at end of lesson):

Put the following objects in the gift bag. Use the objects as you share each point of the Gospel. Optional: Give the gift bag and objects to the person you shared with.

GOD: heart (love)

LIFE: gift (gift of eternal life)

SIN: paper with list of sins (we all sin)

JESUS: cross (Jesus paid the penalty ...)

FAITH: Put cross on top of heart; put sin list (hidden) behind heart; put gift next to cross

DECISION: Offer gift to person

PROOF: *"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."* (2 Peter 3:9)

- How does this scripture support the POINT of this lesson?
- What does this scripture say about the character of God?
- Why should we continue to share the Gospel?
- How does this scripture help to define our purpose in life?
- Find 2 Peter 3:9 in your Bible. Highlight it and memorize it. What does this verse mean to you?

- If our desire is to do the Lord's will and please Him in what we do, what can we do to advance the Gospel to the ends of the earth?

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Nicodemus Meets Jesus (John 3:1-18, 36)

MATERIALS: Weave the Gospel: Nicodemus Meets Jesus (at end of this lesson)

Each week you will "Weave the Gospel" into a different Bible Passage. Eventually you will have an abundance of Bible Passages that you can use as you share the Gospel with people in different life circumstances.

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: Nicodemus Meets Jesus" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way. Remember, it is not necessary to use the exact POINT words. Be flexible, using your own words. Try to include all or most scriptures. The Bible says that God's Word will not return void (Isaiah 55:11).

PROCEED: Who is God to you? May I tell you about the God I know?

PROCEED is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following questions will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- Who is God?

- Why did God create you?

PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

Creative Connections Opportunities:

- Prayerfully think of someone you know who needs to hear the Gospel. What might be keeping them from trusting Jesus for eternal life? Do they have circumstances that you can relate to with a specific Bible Passage -- sickness, waywardness, anxiety, fear of death, sin that they think God will not forgive?

- Select a Bible Passage that relates to that person. Weave the Gospel into that Bible Passage. Then go and share.

Examples:

- ◆ Lost Son (Luke 15:11-24) speaks of a person who turned from God, but later returned to receive his full inheritance.
 - ◆ Woman at the Well (John 4:1-30) speaks of God's love for a rejected woman.
 - ◆ Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:18-23) speaks about a man who would not give up his worldly ways to follow Jesus.
 - ◆ List other passages that you could use.
- Review "Using Objects to Share the Gospel" (at end of lesson). Draw or gather the objects needed. Share with someone. (Children especially enjoy hearing what the objects stand for. After sharing with them, ask them to share each object with you.)

Pray: Pray that God will define your role in evangelism and discipleship. Pray that you will gain confidence in beginning spiritual conversations. Pray for sensitivity to His Word as you seek to use Bible Passages that relate to those you share with.

Weave the Gospel: Using Objects to Share the Gospel

MATERIALS: Heart, Gift, Sin List and Cross

Introduction: Begin by giving someone a gift. This leads into a discussion of favorite gifts they have received. Hinge to the Gospel by sharing that you'd like to tell them about God's greatest gift, a gift He offers us because He loves us. Use objects as you share the Gospel.

GOD

- POINT: GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.
- PROOF: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."* (Jeremiah 31:3)
- PICTURE: Large Heart
- PROCEED: God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

- POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.
- PROOF: *"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23)
- PICTURE: Gift
- PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

- POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.
- PROOF: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)
- PICTURE: Sin List
- PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

- POINT: JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.
- PROOF: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)
- PICTURE: Large Cross
- PROCEED: We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

- POINT: FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'"* (John 14:6)
- PICTURE: Put Cross on top of Heart. Put Sin List behind Heart; Put Gift next to Cross
- PROCEED: God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

- POINT: DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.
- PROOF: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..."* (Acts 16:31)
- PICTURE: Offer them the Gift
- PROCEED: Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life? (Pray together)

Weave the Gospel
Nicodemus Meets Jesus (John 3:1-18, 36)

Creative Introduction: There was an intelligent and respected leader in the Bible who met Jesus one night. His name was Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a teacher of the law, and a very good man.

Jesus shared some good news with him – news that would last for eternity! May I share with you ...?

Share **Nicodemus Meets Jesus** Bible Passage.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

GOD: God knew Nicodemus' heart. He created Nicodemus and wanted a forever relationship with him. God created all things and He created you and me. He loved Nicodemus and He loves you very much. God says in His Word, "*I have loved you with ...*" (*Jeremiah 31:3*).

God created Nicodemus – and us – to have eternal life.

LIFE: Eternal life is having a forever relationship with God. Jesus knew Nicodemus' good works. He knew his knowledge and ability as a leader and teacher of the law. But just like with us, eternal life is a gift, not something we work for or deserve. The Bible says, "*The wages of sin is death; but the gift ...*" (*Romans 6:23*).

SIN: Although Nicodemus was a good man, he was a sinner. The Bible says, "*For all have sinned and ...*" (*Romans 3:23*). Sin separates us from God. But God solved our sin problem by sending His Son Jesus.

JESUS: So Nicodemus hears from Jesus. Jesus' response to Nicodemus is profound ... You must be born again! John 3:16 explains this: "*For God so loved the world ...*"

Jesus is our Creator God. He came from ... (continue)

FAITH: To be "born again" Nicodemus had to believe and that requires faith. Faith is trusting Jesus alone for eternal life. Nicodemus could not trust himself with all of his knowledge and good deeds. Neither can I. Neither can you. Jesus said, "*I am the way and ...*" (*John 14:6*).

DECISION: God's gift of eternal life can be yours by deciding to trust Jesus. Be "born again" of the Spirit. God's Word says, "*Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved*" (*Acts 16:31*).

Will you repent of your sins? Are you ready to turn from YOUR WAY to GOD'S WAY? Choose now to trust Jesus and receive His gift of eternal life.

THE GOSPEL

GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God.

He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

GOD

Lesson 5

POINT: GOD is our CREATOR who LOVES us with an EVERLASTING love.

PROOF: *"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."*
(Jeremiah 31:3)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: The Creation (Genesis 1-2:3)

PROCEED: God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

Goals:

- ◆ Understand that God is our Creator and that He loves us with an everlasting love.
- ◆ Understand God's character, especially that He is eternal, loving, sovereign, holy and just.
- ◆ Understand God's desire to have an everlasting relationship with us.
- ◆ Be prepared and willing to share with others.

Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer, thanking God for His Word and His everlasting love.
- ◆ Review the Gospel Outline. Review Weaving the Gospel into the Bible Passage that you chose for a specific person (from lesson 4).
- Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?

POINT: God is our CREATOR who LOVES us with an EVERLASTING LOVE.

- What does this mean to you?
- In the GOD box, list words that describe God.
 - Through His Word, who do you know God to be?
 - Through personal experiences, what attributes (characteristics) of God have you experienced? Put a heart around these because these are personal, real experiences that you have had with God.

GOD

GOD IS ... Scripture Study

Read each scripture. What attributes/characteristics of God do they speak of? Add these attributes to your list of words on the previous page.

- ◆ Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:1-3;
Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11
- ◆ Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 90:2
- ◆ Habakkuk 1:13; Isaiah 6:3; Psalm 99:9
- ◆ Jeremiah 31:3; Nehemiah 9:17; 2 Chronicles 30:9;
1 John 4:8
- ◆ Deuteronomy 32:4; Revelation 15:3
- ◆ 1 Chronicles 29:11; Psalm 22:28

GOD

To understand the Gospel, we need to understand the nature of God. To leave this out deprives the Gospel of much of its meaning.

The "GOD IS ..." Scripture Study includes these attributes of God:

Creator, Eternal/Forever,
Holy/Pure, Loving/Merciful
Just/Fair
Sovereign/In Control
All Present/Omnipresent
All Powerful/Omnipotent
All Knowing/Omniscient

Your God Story: Choose one attribute of God and share how you have experienced this attribute of God personally in your life. Include a scripture.

- Who can you encourage by sharing your God Story with?

PROOF: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you." (Jeremiah 31:3)

- What does this verse say about God's love?
- What promise does this scripture give?
- How has God drawn you with His lovingkindness?
- Find Jeremiah 31:3 in your Bible. Highlight it and be prepared to share with others. Memorize this scripture.
- How might we pray for those who do not know God and/or give little attention to Him?

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: The Creation (Genesis 1-2:3)

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: The Creation" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way.

(The **Bible Passage** brings clarity to the GOD POINT of the Gospel Outline. **Weave the Gospel** is an activity that allows you to share the Gospel as you "weave" it into the Bible Passage.)

PROCEED: GOD created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

PROCEED is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following questions will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- What is eternal life?

 - How does a person receive eternal life?
-

PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

Share God's Love:

Materials: Small box with lid and mirror (Fasten mirror to the inside bottom of the box.)
You can draw a heart around the mirror and write John 3:16 at the bottom of the mirror.

Facilitator shares mirror box: "Would you like to see who God wants to spend eternity with? Look inside."

As you are sharing, repeat POINT and PROOF: God is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love. The Bible says, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you." May I tell you more? (Share the Gospel.)

Creative Connections Opportunities:

- How can you begin a conversation about GOD with a friend or stranger this week? How could you begin with "The Creation" passage and lead into the GOD POINT and PROOF? Then you would continue on, sharing the Gospel.

Idea: It is said that almost half of the world has never heard "God loves you." Has anyone ever shared that with you? Who is God to you? May I tell you about the God I know? God is our Creator who ...

Plan to Share the Gospel this week, using **The Creation** Bible Passage. Weave the Gospel as you share. (Remember that it is better to share the Gospel with a Christian friend than to not share at all.)

Pray: Thank God for revealing His character to you. Thank Him for His promises and His Word. Pray that many will hear the Gospel this week, not only the ones you share with, but many around the world as others faithfully share the Gospel.

Weave the Gospel
The Creation (Genesis 1-2:3)

Creative Introduction: Has anyone ever told you that God loves you?

The Bible begins with "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." God did not NEED to create the heavens and the earth, and you and me. He CHOSE to do this. Why? Because God is love, and love is best expressed toward something and someone else. So God created the universe and people as His expression of love. God loves us!

Read or summarize **The Creation** passage from the Bible.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

GOD: The Bible begins with God and tells us how He created everything. Everything includes us! God created us because He loves us. Why does God love us? Because God IS love! And because of His love, He created us to have eternal life.

LIFE: Eternal life is having a forever relationship with God. God's love is not just for now – It's forever! This is a personal relationship with our Creator. God, the Creator of the universe, loves you and me with an everlasting love.

SIN: There is one thing that separates us from God and that is sin. Although God created a perfect place for us, and made us in His image, we have a sin nature – a desire to live our lives OUR WAY, not GOD'S WAY.

JESUS: God loves us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to live the perfect life that we cannot live. JESUS is God. He came from Heaven to ... (continue)

FAITH: When we trust Jesus, we receive God's gift of eternal life. We are His forever – to be loved by Him and cared for by Him forever!

DECISION: Does this make sense to you? Are you ready to make a decision to trust Jesus alone and receive eternal life? God created you BECAUSE He loves you. Will you accept His love and belong to Him? The Bible says that when you trust Jesus, you are a new creation! And you belong to Him forevermore.

THE GOSPEL

GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God.

He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

PROOF: *"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*
(Romans 6:23)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: The Lost Son (Luke 15:11-24)

PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

Goals:

- ◆ Understand God's eternal love and His provision for eternal life.
 - ◆ Understand that eternal life is a gift through God's grace.
 - ◆ Recognize that all will live forever in Heaven or in Hell.
 - ◆ Be prepared and willing to share with others.
-

Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer, thanking God for His Word, His everlasting love and everlasting life.
 - ◆ Review the GOD lesson. Review Weaving the Gospel using the Bible Passage from last week's lesson. Share in a conversational way as if you are sharing with someone who has not yet heard the Gospel.
 - Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?
-

POINT: ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

- What does this mean to you?
-

GOD'S GIFT Illustration:

- In the box, make a list of things you've done or things you want to do – things you believe are pleasing to God.
- Circle "The Top Ten" that would please God.
- If a person did these, would they go to Heaven?
- Many people believe that good works will get them to Heaven. If this were possible, then what need was there for Jesus to come and give His life?

Top Ten List

- On a small piece of paper or card, write "Ticket to God Forever" and write out Romans 6:23.
- How is this "Ticket to God Forever" different from "The Top Ten" list.

Ticket to God Forever

*"The wages of sin is death,
but the gift of God is eternal life
in Christ Jesus our Lord."
(Romans 6:23)*

- Read Ephesians 2:8-9. What does this mean to you?

TOP TEN LIST and THE CROSS Illustration:

MATERIALS: The Top Ten List; Two sticks in shape of cross

Facilitator places the sticks in center of table making a cross. Place Top Ten List on left side of cross. Share that these good works do NOT earn eternal life for us. Then move Top Ten List to the right side of the cross. Share that once we trust Jesus for our eternal life, these good works (Top Ten list) are pleasing to God. This is how we live our lives as "a new creation in Christ," (2 Corinthians 5:17), glorifying God as His workmanship (Ephesians 2:10).

ETERNAL LIFE Scripture Study: What do the following scriptures mean to you?

- John 3:15-17
- John 3:36
- John 5:24
- John 17:3
- Titus 3:3-7
- 1 John 1:1-4
- 1 John 5:10-12
- 1 John 5:13
- 1 John 5:20

Optional: Heaven / Hell Scripture Study (at end of lesson)

Your God Story: Write out a personal testimony about a relationship that you thought would be a lifetime one, but it ended (childhood friend, neighbor or family member). Share why it ended. Contrast this with a relationship with God that does not end when we choose to accept His gift of eternal life. Include a scripture that promises us eternal life.

- Who can you encourage by sharing your God Story with?

PROOF: "*The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*" (Romans 6:23)

- What does this scripture say about being with God forever?
- What does this say about how we receive God's gift of eternal life?
- Can we work our way to Heaven ... even if we are really good?
- What promise does this scripture give us?
- What is the bad news and good news in Romans 6:23?
- Find Romans 6:23 in your Bible. Highlight it and be prepared to share with others. Memorize this scripture.

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: The Lost Son (Luke 15:11-24)

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: The Lost Son" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way.

(The ***Bible Passage*** brings clarity to the LIFE POINT of the Gospel Outline. ***Weave the Gospel*** is an activity that allows you to share the Gospel as you "weave" it into the Bible Passage.)

PROCEED: But we have a problem called SIN.

PROCEED is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following questions will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- What is SIN?

 - Why is SIN a problem?
-

PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

Creative Connections Opportunities:

- How can you share your "Ticket to God Forever" with another person? How would you begin this conversation?

Idea: Have you ever received a very special gift? Did it cost you anything? Here's a gift for you. It reminds me of a gift that God offers to each one of us. May I tell you about God's gift? Continue on, sharing the Gospel.

- ◆ Cut out "Tickets to God" at end of this lesson. Share with others this week.

Plan to Share the Gospel this week, using **The Lost Son** Bible Passage. Weave the Gospel as you share. (Remember that it is better to share the Gospel with a Christian friend than to not share at all.)

Pray: Pray for opportunities to tell others about God's everlasting love and gift of eternal life. Pray aloud the first names of people who need to hear the Gospel. Pray that Satan will be bound as the Gospel goes forth to the ends of the earth.

(CUT APART **TICKETS**. SHARE WITH OTHERS.)

Ticket to God Forever

“The wages of sin is death,
but the GIFT of GOD is ETERNAL LIFE
in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

Ticket to God Forever

“The wages of sin is death,
but the GIFT of GOD is ETERNAL LIFE
in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

Ticket to God Forever

“The wages of sin is death,
but the GIFT of GOD is ETERNAL LIFE
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Ticket to God Forever

“The wages of sin is death,
but the GIFT of GOD is ETERNAL LIFE
in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

Weave the Gospel
The Lost Son (Luke 15:11-24)

Creative Introduction: Discuss inheritances. Have you ever received something from someone who has died? Share an inheritance that you or someone you know has received. Then introduce this Bible Passage, a parable (story) told by Jesus to explain the inheritance God has for us.

Share or read **The Lost Son**.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it – Make it your own.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

GOD: In this Bible Passage, the father loved his sons; and it was a forever love – the love God has for us.

LIFE: The father had more for his sons than what they needed for right then. He had an inheritance for them. It was everything they needed and it would last forever.

SIN: But the younger son wanted to leave and take his inheritance early. So his father allowed him to do so. The son went off, went his OWN WAY, and spent all that his father had given him. His life was not pleasing to his father – He was living in sin.

JESUS: The son realized that the way he was living was wrong. He wanted to go back to his father. So he decided to take the way – the road – that led back to his father and ask his father for forgiveness. Just like with us, there is only one road – one way. Jesus said, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*" (John 14:6)

FAITH: The son knew that what he did was wrong – living life HIS WAY. And he trusted that his father would take him back. He realized that there was so much more that his father wanted to give to him. He realized that his father's love was a forever love and that his father's inheritance was beyond the things of this world. It was forever. And it was a gift from his father.

DECISION: So the son took the road back to his father. His father saw him coming and even ran to him! What a joy it was for both of them! And what a blessing it was to the son – to know his father's love and to be with him forever.

This is how it is with God. God loves you with an everlasting love! Would you like to trust His Son Jesus and receive His gift of eternal life?

THE GOSPEL

GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

Heaven / Hell Scripture Study

Man's conception of what Heaven and Hell are varies across denominations and equally among personal beliefs. The only true measurement we have for any of our beliefs is God's Word.

Use the scriptures below and other scriptures you know to facilitate a discussion on what your denomination or personal beliefs hold for Heaven and Hell. Encourage your pastor to attend this discussion to add the Hebrew translation of words ... in particular pay attention to "Day(s)" and "Heaven(s)" and "Hell." Be sure to read verses before and after any scripture you review should you have any questions regarding what God has written.

If you are in a group study, each person may want to study 1-2 questions below and give a summary to your group.

Who did God make Heaven and Hell for? Matthew 25:41-46, Romans 2:7-9, Matthew 5:11-12, Hebrews 11:15-16

Does everyone choose Heaven or Hell? 2 Peter 3:9, John 3:16, Revelation 21:5-8, Matthew 7:21-23

Is there any unforgiveable sin? Isaiah 53:5, Romans 5:8, Hebrews 7:27, 1 John 2:2

When does a person go to Heaven or Hell? Luke 23:26-44, 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

What will Judgment be like? 2 Peter 3:7, Revelation 20:11-14, Jeremiah 17:1-18, Romans 2:1-16, 1 Peter 1:13-23, Psalm 62:12

How long does a person stay in Heaven or Hell? Matthew 25:41-46, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10, Revelation 14:9-11

What is Hell like? Luke 16:19-31, Matthew 8:10-12, Matthew 25:46, Mark 9:42-48, Mark 12:38-40, Revelation 20:14, Matthew 25:30, 2 Thessalonians 1:9, Matthew 11:20-24

What is Heaven like? John 14:1-4, Acts 7:55-56, 1 Corinthians 2:9, 2 Corinthians 5:1-4, 2 Peter 3:13, Revelation 21, Revelation 22:1-5

Does the Bible have different meanings for the word *heaven*? Genesis 2:1, 19 and Genesis 7:11; Psalm 8:3-4 and Matthew 24:29; 2 Corinthians 12:2 and Matthew 5:12, 16, 45; 2 Peter 3:3-13

Does a believer receive crowns in Heaven? James 1:12 and Revelation 2:10; 2 Timothy 4:7-8; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20; 1 Peter 5:1-4

Are there rewards in Heaven? Matthew 6:19-21, Revelation 22:12, 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

What will believers look like in Heaven? 1 Corinthians 15:35-54, 1 John 3:2, Philippians 3:20-21

What will believers do in Heaven? Revelation 22:3, Revelation 7:9, Isaiah 57:15, 1 Corinthians 13:12, Matthew 25:34, Ephesians 3:14-19

SIN

Lesson 7

POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

PROOF: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House (Luke 19:1-10)

PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

Goals:

- ◆ Understand what sin is and that we have a sin nature.
- ◆ Know that sin separates us from God.
- ◆ Recognize that Jesus alone removes the barrier of sin.
- ◆ Be prepared and willing to share with others.

Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer.
- ◆ Review the LIFE lesson. Review Weaving the Gospel using the Bible Passage from last week's lesson. Share in a conversational way as if you are sharing with someone who has not yet heard the Gospel.
- Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?

POINT: SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

- What does this mean to you?

SIN Scripture Study: Using the SIN SCRIPTURES at end of lesson, read and record what each scripture says about sin.

- Romans 3:10-11
- Romans 3:23

We sin because we are sinners.

A liar lies.
A thief steals.
A sinner sins.

Our problem is that we are sinners. We have a sin nature, a rebellious desire to do things OUR WAY, not GOD'S WAY.

SIN includes thoughts, words, actions and non-actions (things we know we should do but we do not do).

- Habakkuk 1:13
- Isaiah 59:2
- Luke 19:10
- Romans 5:19
- Acts 16:31
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- 1 John 1:9

OUR WAY and GOD'S WAY:

- Give examples of sin that represent living life OUR WAY.

- Give examples of living life GOD'S WAY.

OUR WAY and GOD'S WAY Illustration:

MATERIALS: Two Signs: OUR WAY and GOD'S WAY; Cross

Facilitator places signs on table. Each person in the group can add phrases from above on each sign.

Then place the cross and GOD'S WAY sign on top of OUR WAY sign. Share that when we trusted Jesus, we turned from OUR WAY to GOD'S WAY. God forgave our sin and gave us His gift of eternal life.

Do we still sin? Yes. But God's Word says, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:9)

Your God Story: Write your testimony.

- Describe your life before you trusted Jesus, when you were doing things YOUR WAY.
- Describe your life after you trusted Jesus, choosing to live GOD'S WAY.
- What difference does Jesus make in your life?

PROOF: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

- What does this scripture say about SIN?
- What does it mean to "fall short?" Think of running in a race and you don't make it to the finish.
- Find Romans 3:23 in your Bible. Highlight it and memorize it. Be prepared to share with others.

PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House (Luke 19:1-10)

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way, using your own words.

(The **Bible Passage** brings clarity to the SIN POINT of the Gospel Outline. **Weave the Gospel** is an activity that allows you to share the Gospel as you "weave" it into the Bible Passage.)

PROCEED: God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

PROCEED is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following questions will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- Who is Jesus?
- What did Jesus do for us? Why?

PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

Creative Connections Opportunities:

- How could you open up a conversation about doing things OUR WAY and doing things GOD'S WAY?

Idea: Take a token, coin or flat pebble and write MY WAY on one side and GOD'S WAY on the other. Use this object to begin conversations with others: "Which way do you live your life?"

Share the above with someone this week.

Plan to Share the Gospel this week, using **Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House** Bible Passage. Weave the Gospel as you share. (Remember that it is better to share the Gospel with a Christian friend than to not share at all.)

Pray: Pray for opportunities to tell others about God's everlasting love and gift of eternal life. Pray aloud the first names of people who need to hear the Gospel. Pray that Satan will be bound as the Gospel goes forth to the ends of the earth.

Sin Scripture Study

*There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands;
There is none who seeks after God. (Romans 3:10-11)*

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness ... (Habakkuk 1:13a)

*But your iniquities (sin) have separated you from your God;
And your sins have hidden His face from you; So that He will not hear. (Isaiah 59:2)*

... for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10)

... by one (Adam) all became sinners, so by one (Christ) all were made righteous. (Romans 5:19)

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved ... (Acts 16:31)

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves;
it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)*

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)*

Weave the Gospel
Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House
(Luke 19:1-10)

Creative Introduction: Use a pebble or coin. Write MY WAY on one side and GOD'S WAY on the other. Use this object to begin conversations with others: "Which WAY do you live your life? May I share with you a passage from the Bible that tells of a rich man – a tax collector – who met Jesus and then chose to live his life GOD'S WAY?"

Share **Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus' House**.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

~~~~~

**GOD:** Just like all of us, God loved Zacchaeus. He created him, loved him and wanted Zacchaeus to be with Him forever.

**LIFE:** Zacchaeus was excited to see Jesus. Others complained saying Jesus had gone to be a guest in a sinner's house. They didn't know Jesus had other plans. Jesus wanted Zacchaeus to know Him and to change his heart. Jesus would give Zacchaeus eternal life.

**SIN:** But Zacchaeus had a sin problem. As a tax collector, he had kept more than he should have. Zacchaeus admitted his guilt and offered to give half of his possessions to the poor and to give back four times as much as he had defrauded others. Jesus knew his heart and his giving back was more than he had taken. Zacchaeus was not trying to buy eternal life by these actions. It was his heart change that Jesus knew had occurred. Zacchaeus did not want to do things HIS WAY anymore. He wanted to go GOD'S WAY! Jesus said that He had come to seek and to save that which was lost. Have you asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins?

**JESUS:** Zacchaeus met Jesus, face to face. Can you imagine the guilt he must have felt? He had sin in his life, yet he now knew that all the things he had heard about Jesus were true. And that Jesus came to forgive sin.

**FAITH:** Zacchaeus admitted his sin by his actions and asked Jesus for forgiveness. Zacchaeus trusted Jesus for forgiveness and eternal life.

**DECISION:** Zacchaeus made a decision to begin a new life with God. The Bible says, "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.*" (Acts 16:31)

Are you trusting Jesus? He loves you with an everlasting love!

**THE GOSPEL**

**GOD**

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

**LIFE**

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

**SIN**

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

**JESUS**

JESUS is our Creator God.

He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

**FAITH**

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

**DECISION**

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

# JESUS

# Lesson 8

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**POINT:** JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

**PROOF:** *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)

**PICTURE:** Weave the Gospel: Two Thieves on the Cross (Luke 23:32-43)

**PROCEED:** We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

---

## Goals:

- ◆ Understand who Jesus is, and what Jesus did for us.
- ◆ Be able to share the essentials of the Christian faith, summarized in "Jesus is God" statement.
- ◆ Be prepared and willing to share the Gospel with others.

---

## Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer.
  - ◆ Review the SIN lesson. Review Weaving the Gospel using the Bible Passage from last week's lesson. Share in a conversational way as if you are sharing with someone who has not yet heard the Gospel.
  - Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?
- 

**POINT: JESUS is our Creator God. He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.**

- Who is Jesus?
- What did Jesus do for you and for all who trust Him?
- What does this mean personally to you?

### JESUS IS GOD

The statements made in the POINT are essential truths of our Christian faith.

Practice sharing these truths in a conversational way with others.

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**JESUS IS GOD Scripture Study:**

Using the JESUS IS GOD SCRIPTURES at end of lesson, read and record what each scripture says about Jesus.

---

**JESUS IS GOD Truths:** Write your response to the questions below.

- Who is Jesus?
  
- What does it mean that Jesus is both God and man?
  
- What examples does the Bible give of Jesus being the Perfect Man?
  
- Why is it important that Jesus lived a Perfect Life?
  
- Why did God require a Perfect Sacrifice for our sin?
  
- How did Jesus prove that He is God? (Name several ways.)
  
- Why did Jesus have to die?
  
- What meaning does His resurrection have to you?
  
- How does knowing that He will return again impact your life?

---

**Your God Story:** Choose a time when you had to sacrifice something, possibly due to your love for someone. Connect this to how Jesus sacrificed His life for us because that was God's perfect plan, the only way. Emphasize how great His love is, that He would give His life for us (Romans 5:8). Complete your God Story by sharing the Gospel, as if you were sharing with someone who is not saved.

- Write out on a separate paper; or share it orally.

---

**PROOF:** *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)

- What does this scripture say about God?
- What does this say about His Son Jesus?
- What promise does this scripture give us?
- Why did Jesus come into the world?
- Highlight John 3:16-17 in your Bible. Memorize it. Be prepared to share with others.

**John 3:16-17 Personalized:**

Facilitator shares John 3:16-17, using a person's name for words that refer to people (world, whoever). Insert "Jesus" when the words refer to Jesus (Son, Him).

Pair up participants. Repeat John 3:16-17 personalizing it for each other.

Encourage all to personalize this scripture as they share with others this week.

---

**PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Two Thieves on the Cross (Luke 23:32-43)**

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: Two Thieves on the Cross" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way.

(The **Bible Passage** brings clarity to the JESUS POINT of the Gospel Outline. **Weave the Gospel** is an activity that allows you to share the Gospel as you "weave" it into the Bible Passage.)

---

**PROCEED: We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.**

**PROCEED** is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following questions will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- What is saving faith?
- What does it mean to trust Jesus for eternal life?

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## PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

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### Creative Connections Opportunities:

- How could you open up a conversation with others who may not know biblical truths about Jesus?

Idea: Who do you believe Jesus is? Do you know what the Bible says about Jesus? May I share with you ...? Personalize John 3:16 using their first name; then share the Gospel.

- ◆ Practice using objects to change a secular conversation into a spiritual one. See Weave the Gospel: Using Objects to Share the Gospel (at end of lesson Four).
- ◆ Share the Gospel with a friend who may be encouraged to desire to learn how to share. Share as if he/she has not yet heard the Gospel.

---

**Plan to Share** the Gospel this week, using **Two Thieves on the Cross** Bible Passage. Weave the Gospel as you share. (Remember that it is better to share the Gospel with a Christian friend than to not share at all.)

---

**Pray:** Pray that God will give Christians broken hearts for the lost and boldness to share the Gospel with others. Pray that each person on your group will develop a closer relationship with Jesus.

## **JESUS IS GOD Scripture References**

### **Jesus is our Creator God.**

John 1:1-3; John 10:30; Colossians 1:16

### **He came from Heaven to earth.**

Luke 1:30-31; John 1:14

### **He lived a perfect life ...**

2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:22

### **... that you and I can't live.**

Romans 3:23

### **Jesus died on the cross ...**

Luke 23:44-46

### **... to pay the penalty for our sins.**

John 1:29; 1 Peter 3:18

### **He was buried ...**

Luke 23:50-54

### **... and He rose from the dead.**

Luke 24:1-7

### **Jesus is in Heaven ...**

Mark 16:19

### **... offering us the gift of eternal life now.**

Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9

### **And Jesus will someday return again.**

John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

**Gospel Weave**  
**Two Thieves on the Cross (Luke 23:32-43)**

**Creative Introduction:** Have you ever thought that God could never forgive you? Tell me about it.

No matter what your life circumstances are, God loves you and desires to have an eternal relationship with you. Jesus even shows us His love for a criminal hanging on a cross next to Him.

Using the Bible Passage *Two Thieves on the Cross*, share each POINT of the Gospel Outline. What does the Bible Passage tell us about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**GOD:** At the Crucifixion, two thieves hung on a cross like Jesus. Like us, the Bible teaches that each of these thieves was created by God with an everlasting love.

**LIFE:** Also like us, these thieves were created to be eternal. In short, they were soon going to face judgment and have an eternity in Heaven or Hell.

**SIN:** God's Word tells us that sin causes God's punishment to be upon us. So like the thieves, we too are going to face a judgment.

**JESUS:** Yet because of His great love for us, God punished Christ on the Cross for all sin. It is through our trust in Christ that we can have forgiveness for our sin debt.

**FAITH:** This trust is what is called faith. Faith is believing that Jesus alone is the reason we have the ability to have eternal life in Heaven.

**DECISION:** Going back to the two thieves, there was a time when both of the men mocked Jesus. But at one point, one of the thieves made a decision to recognize Jesus as God.

The promise that happened next is the cornerstone of our faith. The thief would never have an opportunity to do anything to earn God's favor. Jesus still looked at him and said, *"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."* (Luke 23:43)

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?  
Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

**THE GOSPEL**

**GOD**

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

**LIFE**

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

**SIN**

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

**JESUS**

JESUS is our Creator God.

He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

**FAITH**

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

**DECISION**

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

# FAITH

# Lesson 9

---

**POINT:** FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

**PROOF:** "Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)

**PICTURE:** Weave the Gospel: Jesus Calms the Storm (Luke 8:22-25)

**PROCEED:** God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

---

## Goals:

- ◆ Understand that saving faith is trusting Jesus for eternal life – transferring our trust from self to Jesus.
- ◆ Understand that saving faith is not just knowing about God. Saving faith is not just trusting God for the needs we have during this life (temporary).
- ◆ Be prepared and willing to share the Gospel with others.

---

## Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer.
  - ◆ Review the JESUS lesson. Review Weaving the Gospel using the Bible Passage from last week's lesson. Share in a conversational way as if you are sharing with someone who has not yet heard the Gospel.
  - Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?
- 

## **POINT: FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.**

- How is saving faith different from temporary faith (trusting in God for things of this lifetime)?
- How is saving faith different from head knowledge (just knowing about God)?
- How would you describe saving faith to someone?

### **GRACE (Ephesians 2:8-9)**

We are saved by God's GRACE, through faith -- God's gift to us. There is nothing we can ever do to earn or deserve eternal life.

GRACE is God's undeserved and unmerited favor ... receiving freely what we do not deserve.

**God's Riches At Christ's Expense**

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**FAITH Scripture Study:** What do these scriptures say about faith?

- John 3:16
  
- John 5:24
  
- John 6:47
  
- Acts 4:12
  
- Acts 16:31
  
- Romans 3:21-26
  
- Romans 10:17
  
- Philippians 3:7-11

**TRUST WALK Illustration:**

MATERIALS: Blindfold; MY WAY and GOD'S WAY signs in two opposite corners of room

Facilitator asks, "If I blindfold you, will you trust me to lead you down the right path (GOD'S WAY) to get to our destination?"

Do you have faith in me to lead you from here to there without being able to see where you are going?  
Is there anything that would keep you from trusting me to lead you?

Summarize that this illustrates our POINT: Faith is trusting Jesus for eternal life. God's Word says there is only one path -- one way -- to eternal life, and that is through Jesus. (John 14:6)

---

**Your God Story:** Share some facts you know about God (head knowledge). Share how you trust in God for temporary things in life (sickness, job, travel safety, family needs). Then share your testimony of how you trust God for the greatest gift, eternal life. End with "Who is God to you? May I tell you about the God I know?"

This demonstrates how you can use your God Story to introduce the Gospel.

- Write out your thoughts; share with others.

---

**PROOF:** *"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.' "* (John 14:6)

- What does this scripture say about eternal life?
- What other ways do people believe will give them eternal life?
- What promise does this scripture give us?
- Highlight John 14:6 in your Bible. Memorize it. Be prepared to share with others.

---

**PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Jesus Calms the Storm (Luke 8:22-25)**

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: Jesus Calms the Storm" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way.

(The **Bible Passage** brings clarity to the FAITH POINT of the Gospel Outline. **Weave the Gospel** is an activity that allows you to share the Gospel as you "weave" it into the Bible Passage.)

---

## **PROCEED: God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.**

**PROCEED** is the BRIDGE to the POINT of the next lesson. Writing your response to the following questions will assist you as you prepare to study the next lesson.

- When did you decide to trust Jesus as your Savior?
- How did that decision impact you?

---

## **PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field**

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### **Creative Connections Opportunities:**

- How could you introduce the "Trust Walk" to others?

Ideas: When using the Trust Walk, you could include stories of how you've used a map, oral directions, GPS or a compass to get on the right path. That's the same with God. We have His Word, the Bible, which gives us very clear directions.

Or ask them if they have ever attempted to put together something without looking at the directions. This is like our lives – We cannot put our lives together without knowing God's directions which are found in the Bible. God wants us to trust Him – He created us and loves us with an everlasting love.

- Record the names of children and families that you could share the Trust Walk and the Gospel with.
- ◆ Practice your introduction. Then share the Gospel.
- ◆ Practice the above with another person as if he/she has not yet heard the Gospel.

---

**Plan to Share** the Gospel this week, using **Jesus Calms the Storm** Bible Passage. Weave the Gospel as you share. (Remember that it is better to share the Gospel with a Christian than to not share at all.)

---

**Pray:** Pray that everyone in this group has truly placed their trust in Jesus alone for their eternal life. Pray that God will increase our trust in Him for all things in life now and forever. Pray that all will take time to meditate on His promises to us.

**Weave the Gospel**  
**Jesus Calms the Storm (Luke 8:22-25)**

**Creative Introduction:** Have you ever been in a storm, on land or on the sea? What kind of personal “storms” have you had in life? Are you in a storm now? There’s a passage in the Bible that tells us of a storm that Jesus’ followers (disciples) experienced. Some of them were expert fishermen. You wouldn’t think that another storm could frighten them. But it did—they even thought they would drown!

God’s Word tells us what it means to trust Jesus. What would you do if you had been right there, in the boat, with Jesus?

Share **Jesus Calms the Storm**.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**GOD:** This Bible Passage really speaks to us about our “storms!” Can you imagine being in that storm? There you would be with God – God who created the sea, the wind, the storms, everything! He created us and He loves us with an everlasting love. The Bible says, ...

**LIFE:** God’s love isn’t just for now – for this life. It’s forever. That’s His gift to us, eternal life, because of His everlasting love for us. He is willing to be there during every storm in our life. But most important, He is willing and wanting to have a forever relationship with us.

**SIN:** There’s one thing that keeps us from having a forever relationship with God – sin. When I think of storms in my life, I think of the ones I tried to ride out by myself. I can do it; I’m smart enough; I’m strong enough; I can handle this. But just like the disciples in the boat with Jesus, I was fearful that I couldn’t control the biggest storm – death.

**JESUS:** Can you imagine what you’d be thinking if you saw Jesus and He instantly calmed the storm? Jesus, the Creator of the universe, speaks to the storm, the waves and the wind. And they obeyed! Jesus is our Creator God ... (continue Jesus POINT).

**FAITH:** Jesus wants us to trust Him for more than the storms in our lives. Just like the disciples, He wants us to recognize Him as Creator, as our Savior and Lord (Leader of our lives).

**DECISION:** By deciding to trust Jesus, we can have a forever relationship with God, here on earth and forever in Heaven. He will be with us in all storms in our lives. But our greatest joy is that we will always be with God, and He will always be with us, if we trust Jesus for our eternal life.

**THE GOSPEL**

**GOD**

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

**LIFE**

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

**SIN**

SIN is doing things our way, not God’s way.

Romans 3:23

God’s solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

**JESUS**

JESUS is our Creator God.

He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can’t live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God’s gift of eternal life by FAITH.

**FAITH**

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God’s gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

**DECISION**

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

# DECISION

# Lesson 10

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**POINT:** DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

**PROOF:** *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..."* (Acts 16:31)

**PICTURE:** Weave the Gospel: Parable of Wise and Foolish Builders (Luke 6:46-49)

**PROCEED:** Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?

---

## Goals:

- ◆ Understand that making a decision means that you are willing to place your trust in Jesus as your Savior, turn from sin and follow Him as Lord (Leader) of your life.
- ◆ Be able to use the Gospel Outline and POINTS to clarify the Gospel with someone who chooses to receive God's gift of eternal life.

---

## Review:

- ◆ Begin with prayer.
  - ◆ Review the FAITH lesson. Review Weaving the Gospel using the Bible Passage from last week's lesson. Share in a conversational way as if you are sharing with someone who has not yet heard the Gospel.
  - Record: Who did you share with since your last lesson? Who are you praying for? Is there someone that you would like to encourage to begin this "Sharing My Faith" study?
- 

**POINT: DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.**

## DECISION Scripture Study:

Read each scripture below. What do the scriptures say about a decision to trust Jesus? What promise is given when we trust Jesus for our eternal life?

- John 6:47
- Acts 10:43
- Acts 16:31
- Romans 10:9-13

- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Ephesians 1:7

### **ME or JESUS Illustration:**

MATERIALS: Script at end of this lesson; two items marked ME and JESUS. (You can use flat stepping stones on the ground, two sheets of paper, two chairs, stools, etc.)

Facilitator chooses one volunteer and two assistants. Volunteer stands on "stones" with one foot on each stone, facing the audience. Volunteer represents a person making a decision to trust Jesus for eternal life.

Two assistants use script to read the parts representing ME and JESUS. As they read each set of statements, ME stone is moved slightly away from JESUS stone. (JESUS stone does not move, but ME stone continues to be moved away from JESUS stone.)

At end, volunteer makes a decision by placing both feet on Jesus stone. End with key scripture for this lesson.

---

### **Your God Story:**

- Share some decisions that you've made.
- Contrast these with the greatest decision a person will ever make – to trust Jesus for eternal life.
- Add a Creative Introduction to your God Story. (How could you begin a conversation about decisions with a stranger or friend?)
- ◆ Be prepared to share with others who are facing decisions in their lives.

---

**PROOF: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..."**  
**(Acts 16:31)**

- What are we saved from?
- What does this scripture say about receiving eternal life?
- What promise does this scripture give us?
- Read Acts 16:31-34. How is this an encouragement to Christians worldwide?
- Highlight Acts 16:31 in your Bible. Memorize it. Be prepared to share with others.

---

**PICTURE: Weave the Gospel: Parable of Wise and Foolish Builders**  
**(Luke 6:46-49)**

Read the sample "Weave the Gospel: Parable of Wise and Foolish Builders" (at end of this lesson). Practice sharing this in a conversational way.

(The **Bible Passage** brings clarity to the DECISION POINT of the Gospel Outline. **Weave the Gospel** is an activity that allows you to share the Gospel as you "weave" it into the Bible Passage.)

---

**PROCEED: Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?**

- What possible responses might you receive when you share the Gospel and ask these questions?
- ◆ Practice using the Gospel Outline POINTS to clarify the Gospel with someone who chooses to receive God's gift of eternal life.
- ◆ Practice praying with someone who is ready to make a decision to trust Jesus for eternal life.
- Share how you would encourage a new believer to grow in his/her faith. (There are many excellent discipleship materials available on the Internet. Most explain the five essentials: Bible, Prayer, Worship, Fellowship and Witnessing.)

**Pray through the Gospel**

When someone chooses to trust Jesus, together you can pray through each POINT of the Gospel Outline, thanking God and acknowledging:

- **God's** everlasting love
- His gift of eternal **life**
- Your sorrow for your **sin** and willingness to repent (turn away)
- Your belief in **Jesus** as Savior
- Your willingness to **trust** Him as Lord (leader) of your life

---

## PREPARE to Enter the Harvest Field

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- Review each POINT and PROOF of the Gospel. After each POINT and PROOF, ask “What does this mean to me?” Record your personal response:

**GOD:**

**LIFE:**

**SIN:**

**JESUS:**

**FAITH:**

**DECISION:**

---

**Disciple-Making:** Are you prepared to be a disciple-maker by facilitating this Sharing My Faith study with others? List names of those you will pray for and invite to begin this study.

---

**Plan to Share** the Gospel this week, using **Parable of Wise and Foolish Builders** Bible Passage. Weave the Gospel as you share. (Remember that it is better to share the Gospel with a Christian friend than to not share at all.)

---

**Pray:** Thank God for the assurance we have of eternal life, not through our works, but through trusting Jesus alone. Pray Ephesians 2:10, thanking God for His plan for our lives. Pray that many will desire to learn how to share the Gospel. (If you are in a Study Group, pray that many in the group will continue on as team facilitators of new groups, assisting others as they experience sharing the Gospel.)

Allow time for all to praise God.

## ME or JESUS Illustration

Mark two items: **ME** and **JESUS**. (You can use flat stepping stones on the ground, two paper stepping stones, two chairs, stools, etc.)

Volunteer stands on "stones" with one foot on each stone, facing the audience. Volunteer represents a person making a decision to trust Jesus for eternal life.

Two assistants use script to dramatize the parts representing ME and JESUS. (Begin with first ME statement. Then read first JESUS statement.) As each set of statements is read, they move the ME stone further away from the JESUS stone. (JESUS stone does not move.)

After last statement is read, volunteer makes a decision by placing both feet on Jesus stone.

| <b>ME</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>JESUS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| You can do without God's love. You don't need Him now. Just take care of yourself.                                                            | <i>"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."</i><br>(Jeremiah 31:3)                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Eternal life ... that's a long time away from now. You can decide later. Live it up now!                                                      | <i>"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."</i><br>(Romans 6:23)                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Your sins are nothing compared to the good things you try to do. Follow the rules, keep the Ten Commandments, be a good person.               | <i>"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."</i> (Romans 3:23)                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| You're not condemned – just continue on. Be a good person, help others. You can even go to church occasionally. You'll be fine without Jesus. | <i>"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.<br/><br/>For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."</i> (John 3:16-17) |
| There are many ways to peace and happiness. Don't let anyone tell you there's just one way.                                                   | <i>"Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.'" (John 14:6)</i>                                                                                                                                                                |
| Believe in yourself! You can work on the God stuff later.                                                                                     | <i>"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved ..."</i> (Acts 16:31)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

**Weave the Gospel**  
**Parable of Wise and Foolish Builders**  
**(Luke 6:46-49)**

**Creative Introduction:** Make two circles on the ground in the dirt; or place your feet side by side with space between. One is the rock. The other is shifting soil.

Discuss: Have you ever lived in a home that was not built on solid ground? Or have you ever stood on shifting soil? What's the risk? What could happen?

The same is true with our lives. The Bible tells us to build our life on the rock. Then it will last forever.

May I share with you a passage from the Bible that tells us of the rock-solid foundation to build our lives on?

Share or read **Parable of Wise and Foolish Builders**.

Using the Bible Passage, what can you share about **GOD? LIFE? SIN? JESUS? FAITH? DECISION?**

Below is an example. You will want to add the scriptures (PROOF) and personalize it — Make it your own.

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GOD: God is the rock. He is your Creator. He loves you and His greatest desire is for you to build your life on Him. This is life forever, eternally.

LIFE: It's not our own work and goodness that creates the firm foundation. Actually our work is like shifting soil compared to the Rock ... God. The firm foundation can only be God! He offers us Himself and His ways.

SIN: For many years I chose to build life MY WAY (move both feet to the place that stands for shifting soil) on shifting soil, a shaky foundation, not on the rock. This rebellion, wanting to build life MY WAY, is sin. Sin separated me from God, just as it separates anyone from God.

JESUS: Then someone told me about Jesus. Jesus is our Creator God. He came from ...

FAITH: Trusting Jesus for our eternal life is like moving our life from the shifting soil onto the rock. (Move both feet to the place that stands for the rock.) By placing our trust in Jesus we receive God's gift of eternal life.

DECISION: Are you ready to make a decision to build your life on the rock-solid foundation that lasts forever? Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life? Are you ready to give up YOUR WAY and go GOD'S WAY?

THE GOSPEL

GOD

GOD is our Creator who loves us with an everlasting love.

Jeremiah 31:3

God created us to have ETERNAL LIFE.

LIFE

ETERNAL LIFE is having a forever relationship with God.

Romans 6:23

But we have a problem called SIN.

SIN

SIN is doing things our way, not God's way.

Romans 3:23

God's solution to our sin problem is JESUS.

JESUS

JESUS is our Creator God.

He came from Heaven to earth. He lived a perfect life that you and I can't live. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. He was buried and He rose from the dead. Jesus is in Heaven offering us the gift of eternal life now. And Jesus will someday return again.

John 3:16-17

We receive God's gift of eternal life by FAITH.

FAITH

FAITH is trusting Jesus for eternal life.

John 14:6

God's gift of eternal life can be yours by DECIDING to trust Jesus.

DECISION

DECIDING to trust Jesus is the only way to have eternal life.

Acts 16:31

Do you know Jesus the way I have shared with you?

Would you like to trust Jesus for your eternal life?