

·THE BOOK OF JOHN·

Evangelism

TRAINING

DEAR EVANGELISM TRAINING PARTICIPANT,

Welcome! I am encouraged and thankful for your willingness to go on this journey with me and am hopeful that God will use it to alter the trajectory of your life. In February of 2014 I had the opportunity to sit with a church leader and faithful evangelist named Randy Pope. He shared with a small group of pastors the principles of evangelism that he and his people had embraced over the nearly 40-year history at their church. As he spoke something happened inside of me. I was simultaneously convicted by my lack of concern for non-Christians coming to saving faith in Jesus and overwhelmed with excitement and anticipation that God was going to begin using me to help save the lost. Since those few fateful days, everything has been different for me. I now sit with multiple people a week who do not have a relationship with Jesus and extend to them the invitation to trust him with the whole of their lives. As a result of those meetings, I have had the distinct privilege of regularly watching people move from darkness to light - from death to life - and let me tell you nothing compares with it. I am hooked, and long for God to give me the grace to live like this for the rest of my days.

My aim in writing these materials was to make this training and these principles accessible to the local community that I serve. I am deeply indebted to Randy for the basic framework that is used in this training. I have synthesized some of his ideas as well as expanded on and deepened others in ways that connect with our particular context. I am begging the Holy Spirit to use my meager efforts to usher you into a similar experience that I have had.

So, let us set out on this journey with anticipation. God is on the move and he is inviting us into the flow of his eternal work. Should we be willing to trust him and to courageously jump in, he will let us witness the greatest miracle unfolding in our midst time and again. We will become his agents of redemption who call the prodigal home to the loving Father. We will become agents of light who push back the darkness with the hope of Jesus. It is both daunting and exhilarating, and we need his help. So, God hear us! Save the lost and use us, your children! Meet us, empower us, and go before us. To you be the glory!

Your fellow journey man,

Jeremiah Morris



THE BOOK OF JOHN SUMMARY DOCUMENT

▶ WHO IS JESUS?

- Jesus is God, Come and See!
- Jesus Came To Die
- Jesus is Miraculously Revealed
- Jesus Satisfies Our Deepest Thirst
- Jesus Heals Those Who Want It

▶ WHAT IS SAVING FAITH?

- Saving Faith is Required
- Saving Faith is Not Knowledge
- Saving Faith is Not Belief
- Saving Faith is Miraculous Trust
- Saving Faith is Key

▶ WHAT HAPPENS WHEN OUR FAITH IS IN JESUS?

- We Are Resurrected
- We Are Followers (not fans)
- We Are Servants
- We Are Filled
- We Are Fruitful

▶ WHAT DOES GOD PROVIDE?

- God Provides The Holy Spirit
- God Provides A High Priest
- God Provides A Willing Sacrifice
- God Provides A Finished Work
- God Provides Life and Direction
- God Provides On-Going Grace



EVANGELISM TRAINING INTRODUCTION

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 What words come to mind when you hear the word evangelism?
- 2 What is your background with evangelism? What has it looked like in your life?
- 3 What are the major roadblocks that keep you from sharing your faith more regularly?

PROPER MINDSET

- 1 Being a faithful witness is a life and death issue.
- 2 Making disciples is non-optional for obedient believers.
- 3 Fruitful ministry is possible for any believer.
- 4 Expect God's empowerment for mission.

5 Anticipate correlation between spiritual fruit and fervent prayer.

DEFINITION OF EVANGELISM

- To evangelize is *'to make known by word and deed the love of the crucified and risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, so that people will repent, believe and receive Christ as their Savior and obediently serve him as their Lord in the fellowship of the church* (From the 1988 Lambeth Conference).

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

- Three simple statements will help us get a handle on “the gospel.”

1 We Lost it All (Not A Lot!)

2 Jesus Did it All (Not A Lot!)

3 We Get it All (Not A Lot!)

Coming to terms with the gospel and its implications motivates our sharing of the message.

▶ **HOW DOES SOMEONE BECOME A CHRISTIAN?**

- ▶ It is a miraculous work of God (By Grace Alone).

- It is unlocked by human trust placed in Jesus (Through Faith Alone in Christ Alone).

- It is initiated through the gospel proclaimed.

▶ **WHAT *MUST* WE REMEMBER THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS?**

- God saves people, we do not – SO, we must pray, pray and pray some more!

- God uses a spoken gospel to inspire faith – SO, we must proclaim, proclaim and proclaim some more!



EVANGELISM TRAINING INITIAL MEETING

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 What stuck out from the introduction? Anything new? Anything confusing?
- 2 Where do you spend time with non-Christians? What are those relationships like?
- 3 What do your current church commitments look like? How many hours a week/month are you spending on church activities?

IDENTIFYING YOUR FISHING POOL

- "And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'" - Matthew 4:19
- Your flock is the people where you live, work and play.
- Consider your "third place."
 - **Pursue Your Passions**
 - **Be a Regular**
 - **Love People**
 - **Extend an Invitation**
- It may be (and most likely is) necessary for you to eliminate some of your church commitments!

- Pause, pray and write down the names of 3 people who do not know Jesus and whom you will commit to pray for throughout this process.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

▶ **THE FIRST MEETING: EXTENDING AN INVITATION TO THE JOURNEY**

- 1 Have the person generate a "heart map" in their own words.

- This will require *good* questions

- ...and reflective listening.*

- Ultimately, these are tools to help you love people more.

An ideal first meeting will have you talking 10-15% of the time.

Good starter questions:

- **FAMILY** -- Especially pay attention to father relationship. When was your dad most proud of you? What was it like growing up in your house? Are you close to your siblings? What are 3 adjectives you would use to describe your relationship with your parents?

- **PASSIONS** -- When are you most fulfilled? When do you feel most yourself? When do you feel like you are most beneficial to the people around you? Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years? You would be supremely happy if...?

- **RELATIONSHIPS** -- Have you ever been in love? Are you dating currently/how is your marriage? Who is your best friend? When do you have the most fun?

- **FAITH** -- When you think of God, what do you imagine? When God thinks of you, what does he think? When in your life did you feel closest to God? Furthest away? What do you think about Jesus Christ?

Be sure to give them lots of space to express themselves to you. Don't aim to correct, defend, debate, etc... Get to know their hearts. Rub your fingers over the surface looking for the rough spots.

2 Paint a picture of redemption in their heart language.

Use their words of brokenness and struggle back to them, explaining how Jesus can and will accomplish redemption if trusted.

- Then explain that you can't accomplish those changes, and that they can not do it either. They need God to show up and move.

3 Extend an invitation to read the Gospel of John with you over the next four weeks.

- Why John?

- What is included in the process?

- MUST read every day
- Five chapters a week
- Answer simple questions and mark things that are confusing or inspiring
- Meet weekly to discuss
- Only continue if they desire it

- Explain how this is an absolute win/win.

• **GROUP PRAYER**

- Split into groups of 2-3 around your tables and pray for the 3 people whose names you wrote down earlier.

- John the Baptist is not the Christ, introduces the Lamb of God (v. 20 and 29)

- Jesus and Phillip both say, "come and see" (v. 39 and 46)

John 2 - Jesus Came to Die

- Jesus discusses "his hour" (v. 4)

- Master of the feast is amazed that the best is served last (v. 10)

- Jesus angrily predicts the temple's destruction (v. 15 and 19)

John 3 - Jesus Is Miraculously Revealed

- Nicodemus is the understated narrator of John's gospel

- The Son of Man to be lifted up like a serpent on a stick (v. 14-15, Numbers 21)

- It is not enough that you think Jesus is miraculous; something miraculous must happen in you.

- John the Baptist is the best man, not the groom (v. 29-30)

John 4 – Jesus Satisfies Our Deepest Thirst

- Jesus offers living water welling up to eternal life (v. 14)
- Jesus graciously and boldly exposes the woman's real thirst (v.16-18)
- Once exposed she no longer has to hide! (v. 29 – come and see!)

John 5 – Jesus Heals Those Who Want It

- Jesus asks a seemingly absurd, yet very revealing question (v. 6)
- The paralyzed man lists excuses rather than answering (v.7)
- We see a similar dynamic emerge in Jesus' commentary of the people (v.39-40)
- Do you want to be healed?

KEYS TO FACILITATING JOHN 1-5

- Engage the senses through close reading and use of imagination.
- Highlight John 1 audacious claims – John starts with a series of haymakers.
- Bait the Nicodemus hook; John 3 and subsequent appearances are key for the journey to faith.
- Finish by boldly asking Jesus' question – "Do you want to be healed?"



JOHN 1-5

WHO IS JESUS?

▶ JOHN 1

- Who/What is “the word”? Why do you think the author chose that name? (v. 1 and 14)
- What did John the Baptist mean when he called Jesus the Lamb of God? (v. 29)

▶ JOHN 2

- What did Jesus mean when he said ‘my hour has not yet come’? (v. 4)
- Why did Jesus say, ‘destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up’? (v. 19)

▶ JOHN 3

- Who is Nicodemus? Why do you think he came at night? (v. 1, 2, 10)
- Why does Jesus talk about a serpent on a stick? How does that connect to re-birth? (v. 3, 14-15)

▶ JOHN 4

- What does Jesus mean when he says we will never be thirsty again? (v. 14)
- Why does Jesus tell the woman to go get her husband? (v. 16)

▶ JOHN 5

- What is odd about Jesus’ question to the paralyzed man? (v. 6)
- What is odd about the paralyzed man’s response? (v. 7)



EVANGELISM TRAINING

THIRD MEETING

▶ **JOHN 6-10 | WHAT IS SAVING FAITH?**

▶ **John 6 - Saving Faith is Required**

- Jesus feeds the 5,000 and the excitement grows (v.15)
- Jesus proclaims that belief IS the work of God (v.29)
- Jesus proclaims, "I am the bread of life" (v. 35)
- Jesus oddly demands cannibalism (v.53)

▶ **John 7 - Saving Faith is Not Knowledge**

- Jesus' brothers did not believe in him (v.5)
- Everyone has an opinion about Jesus (v. 12)

- Belief in Jesus will cause living water to spring forth from one's heart (v.38)

- Nicodemus now sitting on the fence (v. 50-51)

John 8 – Saving Faith is Not Belief

- Jesus is FULL of grace AND truth (v. 11)
- This is a single exchange that builds like a gurgling volcano (v. 12-59)
- The crowd narrows - this is key to understanding biblical faith! (v.31)
- Jesus makes a BOLD claim of deity - I AM (v. 58; Exodus 3:14)
- The group that "believed" in him now tries to stone him (v. 59)

John 9 – Saving Faith is Miraculous Trust

- Man whose eyes were miraculously opened confesses Christ (v. 25)

- This man's belief is costly and worshipful (v. 34, 38)

- Wheelbarrow story explains difference between knowledge, belief and trust

John 10 – Saving Faith is Key

- Jesus proclaims, “I am the door” that leads to salvation and pasture (v. 9)

- Jesus offers abundant life NOW (v. 10)

- Jesus proclaims, “I am the good shepherd” (v. 11)

- Jesus divides the crowd – he will be worshipped or crucified (19-21)

- Liar, Lunatic, Lord – Indifference to Jesus is NOT an option

KEYS TO FACILITATING JOHN 6-10

- Jesus divides the crowd in EVERY chapter this week – we should feel the weight of it.
- John/Jesus pushes readers to make a decision about Jesus; we need to do the same.
- Next section is about placing faith in Jesus – leave your reader with the question – what are you going to do about Jesus?



JOHN 6-10

WHAT IS SAVING FAITH?

▶ JOHN 6

- How does Jesus define the work of God? What does that mean? (v. 29)
- Why would Jesus demand cannibalism? (v. 53)

▶ JOHN 7

- What did Jesus' brothers think of him? Is that surprising to you? Why or why not? (v. 5)
- As best you can tell, what is Nicodemus' current state of mind? (v. 48-52)

▶ JOHN 8

- Who is it that Jesus is addressing from v. 31-59? Why is that surprising? (v. 31)
- Why do the people try to stone Jesus at the conclusion of their exchange? (v. 59)

▶ JOHN 9

- What happened when the healed man boldly confessed Jesus? (v. 34)
- What accompanied this man's confession of Jesus? (v. 38)

▶ JOHN 10

- What does Jesus mean by "the door" and "the good shepherd"? (v. 9, 11)
- How do the people respond to Jesus? (v. 19-21, 31, 39)



EVANGELISM TRAINING

FOURTH MEETING

▶ **JOHN 11-15 | WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PLACE OUR FAITH IN JESUS?**

▶ **John 11 - We Are Resurrected**

- Jesus' love motivated his delay in coming to see Lazarus and his sisters (v. 5-6)
- Jesus asks, "Do you believe this?" - pay attention to his questions (v. 26)
- Jesus moves from anger to sadness to anger (v. 33, 35, 38)
- Jesus bellows and calls Lazarus by name - life v. death! (v. 43)
- When we experience new life, still need the community (v. 44)

▶ **John 12 - We Are Followers (Not Fans)**

- Chief priests planning to put Lazarus to death because he is causing faith (v. 10)
- Messianic hopes are high at the triumphal entry (v. 19)

- Jesus makes it clear that the Father will honor followers, not fans (v. 26)

- The people are unable to believe because their eyes were blinded (v. 38-40)

John 13 - We Are Servants

- Jesus actively aware of divinity as he wraps towel around waist! (v. 3-4)

- We also ought to wash each other's feet (v. 13-15)

- John playing off of the light/darkness theme as we draw near to the cross (v. 30)

- Jesus issues a new commandment to love one another (v. 34-35)

John 14 - We Are Filled

- Jesus proclaims, "I am the Way, the truth, and the life" (v. 6)

- Jesus accurately reveals the father (v. 9)

- Whoever believes in Jesus will do the works he has done (v. 12)
- Those who love and obey Jesus will experience a divine filling (v. 23)

John 15 – We are Fruitful

- Apart from Jesus we can do nothing; in Jesus we bear fruit (v. 5)
- Fruit glorifies God and proves our identity as disciples (v. 8)
- Where there is an obedience problem, there is a love problem (v. 9-10)
- Abiding in Jesus leads to fullness of joy (v. 11)
- Faith in Jesus leads to rejection and persecution from the world (v. 18ff)

KEYS TO FACILITATING JOHN 11-15

- This week obliterates the idea of a nominal faith that does not affect real life.
- Pray, pray, and pray some more that you will be sensitive to the Spirit.
- Affirm the places where you see God moving, people need help identifying God's presence.
- Make sure that the reader knows that affection for and trust in Jesus IS the miracle.
- Ask them if they are ready to say yes to Jesus.



JOHN 11-15

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN OUR FAITH IS IN JESUS?

▶ JOHN 11

- Why did Jesus delay in going to see Lazarus and his sisters? (v. 5-6)
- What were Jesus' emotions at the grave? Why? (v. 33, 35, 38)

▶ JOHN 12

- Why were the people so excited to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem? (v. 17-18)
- Why did Jesus make the strong statements about following him at this point? (v. 25-26)

▶ JOHN 13

- What was Jesus thinking about when he decided to wash his disciples' feet? (v. 3-4)
- How will people know that someone is a disciple of Jesus? (v. 34-35)

▶ JOHN 14

- What does Jesus mean when he says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life?" (v. 6)
- What does Jesus promise to those who love and obey him? (v. 23)

▶ JOHN 15

- Why does Jesus describe himself as the true vine? (v. 1ff)
- What happens if we abide in the vine? What happens if we do not? (v. 1-11)



EVANGELISM TRAINING FIFTH MEETING

JOHN 16-21 | WHAT DOES GOD PROVIDE FOR US?

John 16 – God Provides the Holy Spirit

- It is to our advantage that Jesus goes away?! (v. 7)
- The Spirit will lead us into all truth (v. 13-15)
- Jesus asks another question – “Do you now believe?” (v. 31)

John 17 – God Provides a High Priest

- We see Jesus practicing for his full-time job
- This is eternal life – to know God and Jesus Christ whom he sent (v. 3)
- Jesus makes a strong distinction between his own and the world (v. 9)
- We are to be in the world as a sanctified and sent people (v. 15, 17-18)

- Our oneness is evidence of Jesus' sentness (v. 21)

John 18 – God Provides a Willing Sacrifice

- “I am” is now packed with such power that everyone falls over! (v. 6)
- Jesus rebukes Peter – “Shall I not drink the cup the father has given me?” (v. 11)
- Jesus does not squirm before the high priest or Pilate
- Jesus' kingdom is not of this world (v. 36)

John 19 – God Provides a Completed Work

- Pilate is afraid and Jesus is not (v. 8, 11)
- Psalm 22 narrates the passage 1000 years in advance!
(v. 24, 28, 30, 33, 34; *Psalm 22:1, 6-8, 14-18, 30-31*)
- Nicodemus has seen the snake lifted up on a stick – 1st to be born again?! (v. 39)

• **John 20 – God Provides Life and Direction**

- The face cloth convinces Peter and John that Jesus is alive (v. 7-8)
- Jesus proclaims that we are sent in the same way that he was (v. 21)
- The purpose of John's book is so that you would believe and have life! (v. 31)

• **John 21 – God Provides On-Going Grace**

- Peter, the denier, goes back to his old way of life (v. 3)
- Jesus cooks breakfast for Peter and the guys (v. 12)
- Jesus re-instates Peter with a question repeated 3 times (v. 15-17)
- John identifies himself clearly as the author (v. 24)

KEYS TO FACILITATING JOHN 16-21

- In the wake of miraculous re-birth we need to make it plain that God provides for us and walks with us – help highlight the comfort offered to Jesus' followers through these chapters
- Apply what we are reading and pray for/trust the power of the Holy Spirit more than you ever have
- Soak in Psalm 22 and the crucifixion story in advance, be stunned by this prophecy
- Re-trace the Nicodemus story – curiosity, confusion, commitment
- Finally, be encouraged that Jesus wants to cook us breakfast when we falter



JOHN 16-21

WHAT DOES GOD PROVIDE?

▶ JOHN 16

- How could it possibly be to our advantage that Jesus goes away? (v. 7)

▶ JOHN 17

- When we are unified as one, what does it prove to the world? Why? (v. 21)

▶ JOHN 18

- To what is Jesus referring when he says, "the cup that the Father has given me"? (v. 11)

What is Jesus' tone when alone with Pilate? Why do you think that is? (v. 33-37)

▶ JOHN 19

- Why was Pilate even more afraid? (v. 8)
- What is Nicodemus doing when he appears again? Why? (v. 39)

▶ JOHN 20

- What is it that caused Peter and John to believe in the resurrection (v. 7-8)
- What does it mean when Jesus says, "As the Father sent me, even so I am sending you"? (v. 21)

▶ JOHN 21

- Why does Jesus cook Peter breakfast and ask him three times if he loves him? (v. 12-17)

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