

***How To
Give Away
Your Faith***

HANDOUT #5

Communicating The Plan of Salvation

I. Benefits of Utilizing the “Red Booklet”

A. Reasons to consider using a self-contained tract.

1. While this booklet can certainly be given to someone to read on their own or to watch it by scanning the QR code on the back—it is ideally written so that one individual can take another person through it.
2. A personal presentation of the gospel allows for the opportunity to answer someone’s questions and to encourage them to receive Christ as their personal Savior (Acts 8:26-35; 2 Cor. 5:20).

18 Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:18–20).

3. The booklet contains everything a person needs to know about sin, salvation and the Savior in order to become a Christian.
4. It will help you not to stray from the subject (John 4:19-23).
5. The booklet presents the gospel in a logical order which will make sense to the listener.
6. This booklet contains all the Scripture needed for someone to understand in order to become a Christian, so that even if you do not have a Bible with you, you can still share the gospel (2 Timothy 3:14-17; Romans 10:12-15).

14 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:14–17).

7. While the Spirit convicts, the booklet is a tool where He can use you to tactfully help the person admit his need for Christ & then to lead him to make the decision to trust Jesus as their Savior (Prov. 27:1; Is, 55:6; Luke 12:19-21; 2 Corinthians 6:2; 2 Peter 3:9-10; Hebrews 3:7-8).

2 for He says, “AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU, AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU.” Behold, now is “THE ACCEPTABLE TIME,” behold, now is “THE DAY OF SALVATION”— (2 Corinthians 6:2)

8. It provides a prayer that the person can use to express faith in Christ as Savior and Lord (Romans 10:10-13).
9. It provides some introductory concepts on assurance of salvation.
10. It encourages someone to _____ Christ’s command to be baptized (Matthew 10:32; Matthew 28:19; Acts 16:31-33).

31 They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” 32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house. 33 And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household (Acts 16:31–33).

11. It can also provide an opportunity to present the need to understand principles of spiritual _____ like finding a local church, utilizing prayer & reading the Bible (Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Peter 5:7).

24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near (Hebrews 10:24–25).

B. The human side of establishing an open door to share Christ.

1. Be friendly and if appropriate you might ask some questions like:

“Let me ask you first name _____, did Christianity play a role in your upbringing, or is it relatively _____ to you?”

“Did you grow up in any particular denomination or _____?”

“Do you _____ to church anywhere?”

“Are you interested in spiritual _____?”

“I like to encourage people spiritually when I am given that privilege and knowing that in our day I can meet people who rarely go to church and some who regularly go to church. Some who have read the Bible through many times while others who do not even own a Bible. So my desire is to be sensitive to where people are in their spiritual journey. Can I ask you a question that would help me to understand where you are in your spiritual journey?

“If you were to place yourself on a scale from 0 to 100 — with 0 meaning unsure and 100 meaning absolutely certain — how sure are you, if you were to die right now, that you would go to heaven? Would you say 25%, 50%, 75%, or 100%? Where would you place yourself on that _____?”

“If your life were to end today and you suddenly found yourself standing before God, and He asked, ‘Why should I let you into heaven?’—how would you _____ Him?”

“_____, from what you understand about Christianity as of now, what do you believe God requires for someone to _____ heaven?”

“If you are not 100% certain what do you think you would have to _____ in order to change your current status?”

“In the church you were raised in, what is your understanding as to _____ a person is able to go to heaven when they die?”

“What do you think it _____ to be a Christian?”

“If your way to heaven contradicts the Bible, would you want to _____?”

C. Taking the next step to walk through the plan of salvation.

1. On the one hand, we need to pray for “opportunities” or “**a door for the word**” (Col. 4:3) and go with a sense of expectancy for God to _____ us.
2. On the other hand, when God brings us “**a door for the word**” we need to go through that door to _____ the waters to see how open he/she might be.
3. If you sense they are open, transition from the questions _____ the gospel.

“_____, “I have a short booklet of _____ Bible verses that summarize the message of Scripture and explain how you can know for sure you’ll go to heaven when you die or when Jesus returns. May I share it with you?”

II. Making the Issue of the Gospel Clear

A. Introducing the “red booklet.”

1. Your goal in pages 1-3—is to you to discern what a person’s theology is concerning salvation & to express God’s original design in creating ____.
2. Listen carefully to their answers to both diagnostic questions & do _____ forget how they respond.
3. Your remembering how they responded to these initial questions might be helpful to you & to that person if you think he or she have _____ assessed their spiritual condition when asked the questions on p. 25.

Have you ever thought about knowing God as your friend?

Having a personal friendship with God is the most important friendship anyone can ever establish.

Some Questions Concerning Your Friendship With God

1 If you were to place yourself on a scale of zero to one hundred, zero measuring unsure and one hundred measuring absolutely certain, how sure are you if you were to die right now that you would go to Heaven?



1

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2 Suppose you were to die today and stand before God and He asked you, “Why should I let you into My heaven?” what would you say?

The following five principles will help you discover how to know God as your friend while on earth and for all of eternity in Heaven.

1 **God Created Man To Have A Friendship With Himself**

God Began By Creating The World

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1).

God’s creation of the universe is described in the first two chapters of Genesis. By His command the entire universe was created, with the height of His creation being a man and a woman whom He makes to be His friends.

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B. Objective for Point #1 — Your goal in sharing the first principle as found on pages 4-6 — is to help them to see “the big picture” of the plan of salvation in light of God’s _____ design.

1. Earlier in this course we considered how years ago, most gospel _____ presupposed that most Americans had some basic knowledge of the Bible.

2. And so, during the 60's, 70's & 80's — most gospel presentations that were either memorized — or in booklet form — were considered an Acts 2 presentation of “**the gospel**” or an Acts _____ presentation.
3. In discussing evangelistic presentations—the distinction between an Acts 2 & an Acts 17 presentation of the gospel is centered around the different _____ points in which the gospel is shared.
4. In Acts chapter 2, on the Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem, Peter's audience was primarily “**Jews and proselytes**” (Acts 2:10) who _____ much of the Bible, sin, sacrifice, the promised Messiah & the coming judgment.
5. The traditional Acts 2 gospel presentation that was “safe” to use with most people—as it assumed biblical literacy and a theistic worldview, which is why _____ assumed their knowledge of Joel 2 & Psalm 16.
7. Today, especially if an individual is under the age of 40, it is not safe to assume that—they know or embrace—basic truths of the _____.
8. In Acts 17, when Paul gives his sermon at **Mars Hill** or the **Areopagus**, his audience are **Greeks**—who are ignorant of biblical truth but who are highly in tuned with _____ philosophy, polytheism & idolatry.
9. Apart from general revelation — (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:18-20; Genesis 3:6-13; 4:4-7; Romans 2:14-16) — the people in **Athens** did _____ share the Jewish worldview of God, sin & the Messiah.
10. Sadly, this is the spiritual state of many people across the globe, for most who have been raised—with an evolutionary world view _____ in ignorance not knowing & having ever been taught the Bible.
11. While some people you share “**the gospel**” with—may already _____ some background, ‘the red booklet’ assumes no biblical foundation.
12. The Acts 2 vs. the Acts 17 distinction is hugely relevant in evangelism today because people's background knowledge varies so _____.
13. Please know the gospel is the _____ in both—Jesus crucified and risen.
14. The only difference in terms of what changes concerns how far _____ you must go in order to make that message intelligible.
15. As America becomes more & more like Athens than Jerusalem, we must increasingly start in Genesis to provide a broader biblical framework demonstrating God's original plan and their _____ of the gospel.