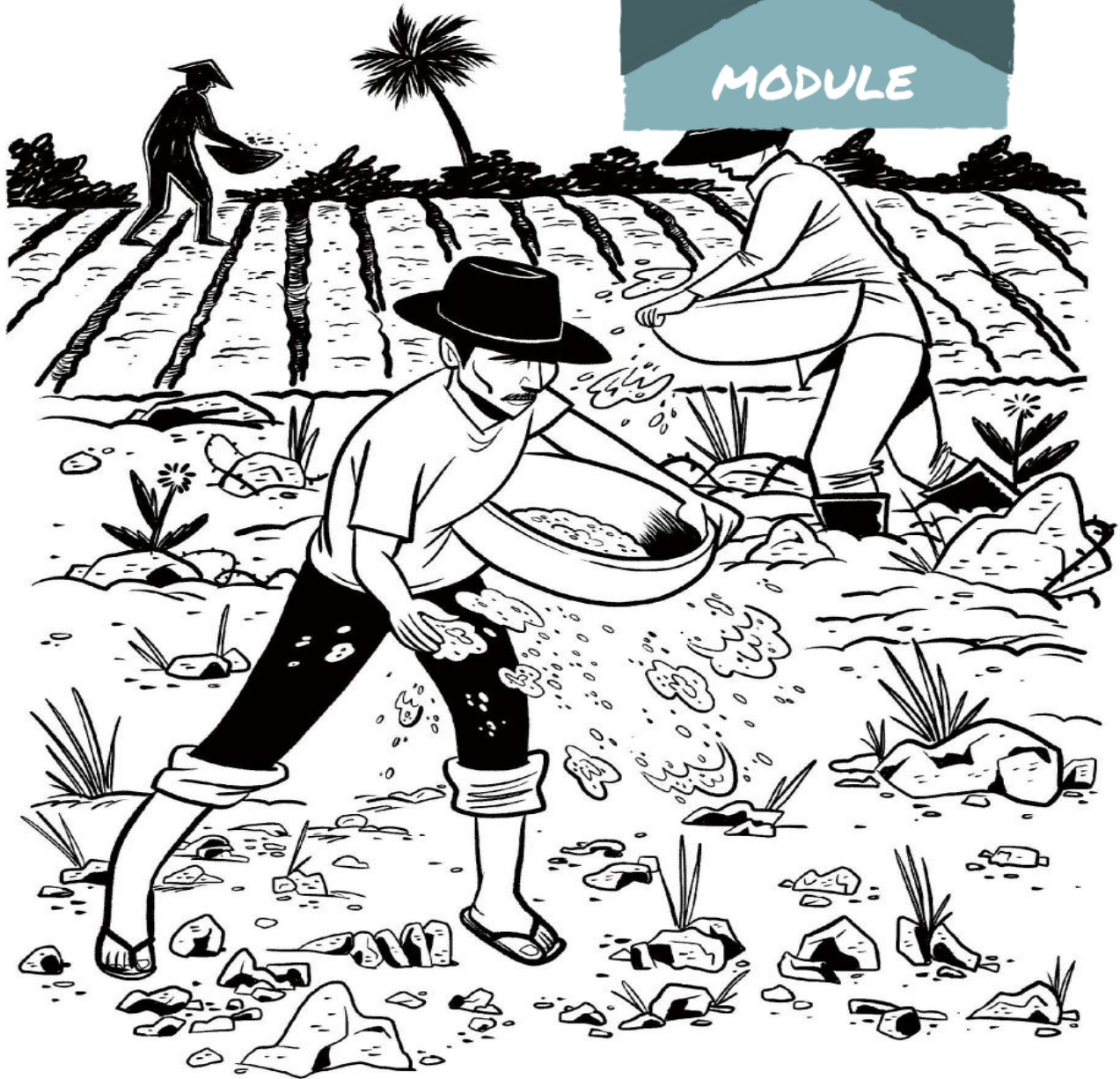


TRUTH
CENTERED
TRANSFORMATION

MODULE



EVANGELISM TEACHER GUIDE

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Evangelism:

Sample Schedule for a 3-day Training

TIME	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
8:00-8:30	Welcome, worship, review previous training	Worship, prayer for TCT, review Day 1	Worship, prayer for transformation, review Days 1&2
8:30-10:00	Lesson 1: Who is an Evangelist?	Lesson 5: Your Testimony Helps Prepare the Soil	Lesson 9: Waiting for New Sprouts
10:00-10:30	Break		
10:30-12:00	Lesson 2: The Goal of Evangelism	Lesson 6: Prayer Helps Prepare the Soil	Lesson 10: From Sprouts to Fruit
12:00-12:30	Sharing, prayer, problem solving*	Sharing, prayer, problem solving*	Sharing, prayer, problem solving*
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00-15:30	Lesson 3: Evangelism is Like Farming	Lesson 7: Opportunities to Plant	Bonus Lesson for Pastors: Sermons Based on Bible Stories**
15:30-15:45	Break		
15:45-17:15	Lesson 4: Your Personal Life Helps Prepare the Soil	Lesson 8: Planting Seeds	Personal prayer, deciding next steps

*Let each participant share about their lives and how TCT is going. Then, let the group pray for them and spend time problem solving with them as needed.

**This lesson does not need to be taught to congregations. It is a short lesson. There should be time after the lesson for pastors to begin preparing a sermon.

Lesson 1: Who is an Evangelist?

Key Idea

Every Christian is an evangelist. Anything we do that helps people become Christians is evangelism. We must invite people to share our relationship with God.

Materials

1. Bread or other food that needs to be prepared
2. Role Play handout (3 copies)
3. A bottle or cup

Introduction - 15 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Hold up some type of *bread or other food*. Ask the class to think about a good meal they have had. Ask who helped make the food. After a few answers, help the class think of even more people who are involved in making the food.

(Examples: Someone mixed the dough and baked it. A farmer grew grain. Someone ground grain. Someone carved the stone to grind grain. Someone mined salt. Someone transported salt and grain to the store. Someone sold the salt. Someone got the water. Someone gathered wood for the fire. Someone made the pan used to cook the bread.)

It takes many people to make food, not only the one who cooks.

- Who do we usually think of as evangelists?
- Think of how you became a Christian. Who helped you? *(Ask the following questions slowly enough to give everyone time to reflect.)*
 - Did someone pray for you?
 - Did someone help you when you had a need?
 - Who shared the gospel with you?
 - Did you see a Christian act differently from others?
 - Did you grow up in a Christian home? Who taught you about Jesus as you grew up?
- All these people helped you become a Christian. Were they all pastors, church leaders, or people who do evangelism as their career?

You are an Evangelist - 20 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

We are going to read three Bible passages. They all give instructions about evangelism. Before we read, let's see who these instructions were written to.

- 1) In the passage in Matthew, Jesus is giving instructions to His disciples.
 - Today, who are Jesus' disciples? *(every believer)*
- 2) In the passage in Colossians, the Apostle Paul is writing to 'God's holy people' in the city of Colossae.
 - Today, who are 'God's people'? *(every believer, the whole Church)*
- 3) In the passage in 1 Peter, the Apostle Peter is writing to 'God's elect [who are] scattered'.

- Today, who are 'God's elect'? (*every believer, the whole Church*)
- So, who is supposed to follow all these instructions for evangelism? (*every believer*)
- Then who is an evangelist? (*every believer*)

Facilitator: Ask someone to read each verse out loud. After EACH verse, ask the following question:

- What does this verse say about how to do evangelism?

Read Matthew 28:18-20

- *Make disciples [by] baptising and teaching; do this in all nations.*

Read Colossians 4:5-6

- *Be wise in interacting with outsiders.*
- *Know how to answer.*
- *Use every opportunity.*

Read 1 Peter 3:15

- *Be prepared to give an answer at any time to everyone who asks you about the hope you have.*

- Do these verses tell us EXACTLY what to say or how to do evangelism? (*no*)

These verses don't say exactly how to do evangelism. They say that we should make disciples. They say we should share about Jesus whenever we can. They say we need to be ready when God gives an opportunity. Anything we do or say that helps people become Christians is evangelism.

- If you tell a Bible story to a child, that is evangelism.
- If you refuse to cheat at the market and someone notices, that is evangelism.
- If you talk with someone about how our sin hurts our relationships, that is evangelism.
- If you explain to a non-Christian friend that you help your wife with chores because God wants you to love her, that is evangelism.
- If you pray with your neighbour, asking God to bless her and provide for her needs, that is evangelism.
- Think again about the people who helped you become a Christian. Which of these people were evangelists? (*all*)

Every Christian is an evangelist. Anything we do that helps people to know more about God and become Christians is evangelism. Evangelism isn't just officially calling people to repent and follow God. It is everything we do that prepares someone to make a decision to follow Him.

You Have Something to Share - 25 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Ask three people to read the *role play*. Give the *cup or bottle* to the healthy person. (You may want to choose the volunteers early and have them practise once or twice before reading to the group.)

The Special Drink

NEIGHBOUR 1: *(moaning, looking very sick)* Oh, my body is so sick. I'm so tired these days.

NEIGHBOUR 2: *(groaning, looking sick)* Yes, me too! I feel sick ALL the time. I wish I could find a cure so that I could be healthy and strong!

NEIGHBOUR 1: Me too. But I don't have time to look right now. I need to get back to work... if I can.

(slowly leaves)

NEIGHBOUR 3: *(energetically walks in, holding a bottle or cup)* Hello!

NEIGHBOUR 2: *(faintly)* Hello. Weren't you sick yesterday? Now you seem healthy and strong!

NEIGHBOUR 3: I was, but I have found the cure to being sick! It is here in this special drink. If you drink this, you will feel healthy and strong. Would you like to have it as well? *(hands drink to Neighbour 2)*

NEIGHBOUR 2: Oh, yes, please! *(takes a drink and becomes healthy and strong)* Thank you so much!

NEIGHBOUR 3: No problem! I'm glad you feel better. *(walks out)*

The next day, Neighbour 2 met Neighbour 1 again

NEIGHBOUR 1: *(stumbling back in, sees neighbour 2)* Wow, you have changed! You look so healthy and strong!

NEIGHBOUR 2: *(still holding his drink)* YES...I am! It is a good feeling to be healthy and strong.

NEIGHBOUR 1: I hope I can be healthy and strong someday.

NEIGHBOUR 2: I hope so, too. Maybe you'll find someone who can help you. Well, I need to go. Now that I have so much energy, I need to go to work. Goodbye! *(Neighbour 2 leaves, drinking his special water with a lot of energy. Neighbour 1 leaves, moaning, still sick.)*

- How was the healthy person able to help his sick friend? *(He shared the special drink.)*
- How can the person who is still sick become healthy and strong? *(if someone shares the drink with him)*
- Who could share the drink? *(anyone who has the drink)*
- Who showed more love—the person who shared, or the person who didn't? *(the person who shared)*

The healthy people had something that they could share with the sick person. Just like this, we have something that we can share with unbelievers.

We have a relationship with God. Evangelists help people come to know God.

- Think again about all the people who helped you want to follow Christ.
 - Did the person who prayed for you have a relationship with God?
 - Did the person who told you a Bible story have a relationship with God?
 - Did the person who explained how to follow Jesus have a relationship with God?
- Could you see yourself doing what these people did? Are you already doing it?

Conclusion - 5 min

Every Christian is an evangelist. We each have a relationship with God. Anything we do that helps other people come to know God is evangelism. In this module we will talk more about what this means. We will talk about how to evangelise well.

In partners, take a few minutes to pray together for people you know who are not believers.

Lesson 2: The Goal of Evangelism

Key Idea

The goal of evangelism is to bring people into a relationship with God so that they become disciples.

Materials

1. Items to throw - enough for every person to have 1-2 (i.e. crumpled papers, wadded socks...)
2. Hoop or basket

Introduction - 10 min

LARGE GROUP ACTIVITY

Facilitator: Give each person something they can throw. Tell everyone to throw their object toward the goal. They will ask what the goal is. Say 'Yes! That is the point of this activity! It is hard to reach a goal when you don't know what you are aiming for!' Hold up a hoop or basket. Have them try to throw through that, just for fun and to finish the activity.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: During this discussion, do not worry if the answers are right or wrong. The rest of the lesson will address this.

Before we talk about how to do evangelism, we have to know what the goal of evangelism is.

- What are evangelists trying to do? How would an evangelist know if they are successful?
- Raise your hand if you said the sinner's prayer when you became a Christian.

The sinner's prayer is an announcement of our trust in Jesus and what we believe in our hearts. In this prayer:

1. We admit that we are sinners and we repent of our sins.
 2. We ask for forgiveness and new life through Jesus Christ.
 3. We commit to love God and obey Him day by day.
- Is it enough for someone JUST to say the sinner's prayer?
 - If someone says the sinner's prayer but then never comes to church or changes anything about their life, can we say that evangelism was successful?
 - If someone says the sinner's prayer but keeps on sinning and does not want to learn about God's word, did they really become a Christian?

Let's see what the Bible has to say about the goal of evangelism.

A Relationship with God - 30 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Read John 3:16

- Why did God send Jesus to earth?
 - Because He loved the world

- *So that we won't perish but have eternal life*

Read John 11:25-26

- What does Jesus say He is?
 - *The resurrection and the life*
 - *The one who gives eternal life to whoever believes in Him*

Read John 17:2-3

- According to verse 2, what is Jesus giving us?
 - *Eternal life*
- If Jesus is giving us eternal life, and Jesus IS the resurrection and the life, can we have eternal life without having a relationship with Jesus?
 - *No*
- According to verse 3, what is eternal life?
 - *Knowing God and Jesus Christ*

God sent Jesus so that we could live forever with Him. You must have a relationship with God to have eternal life.

Read Romans 10:9

- What two things must we do to be saved?
 - *Declare with your mouth*
 - *Believe in your heart that Jesus is Lord*
- If we only say with our mouths that we believe, but don't believe in our hearts, are we saved? (*no*)

Read Matthew 7:21-23

- Could someone say that Jesus is their Lord, but not know God? (*yes*)
- Could someone say the words of the sinner's prayer without knowing God? (*yes*)
- Would they be saved? (*no*)

SUMMARY

Knowing Jesus is the only way to get eternal life. The sinner's prayer is not a magic prayer that turns people into Christians. You don't get eternal life by saying, 'Jesus, please forgive me of my sins and give me eternal life'. You receive it by having a relationship with God.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 10 min

- How do you know if you have a relationship with someone? (Think of your spouse, siblings, parents, or good friend. Compare this to people you know *about* – the president or someone you just met today.)

Read John 14:21-23

- What are we supposed to do in our relationship with God? (*Obey Jesus' commands, love Him*)
- What will God and Jesus do?
 - *Come to us*
 - *Love us*
 - *Make His home with us*
- How is our relationship with God similar to a relationship with another person? How is it different?

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

Having a relationship with God means that we trust Him. We love Him. We obey Him. We spend time talking with Him. The goal of evangelism is to bring people into a relationship with God.

The Great Commission - 5 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Just before Jesus went back to Heaven, He gave His disciples instructions to do evangelism.

Read Matthew 28:16-20 again – ‘The Great Commission’.

- What did Jesus send His disciples to do? (*make disciples, baptising them and teaching them*)

Read John 15:8

- How does someone show that they are a disciple of Jesus? (*bear fruit*)

SUMMARY

Let’s put these two ideas together. The goal of evangelism is to bring people into a relationship with God, so that they become disciples. When people show fruit, we know they are disciples. We know they have a relationship with God.

The Fruit of a Disciple - 20 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Let’s talk about this fruit.

The Widow Who Showed Fruit

After her husband’s death, Nagamani wanted to die. Her husband’s family sent her away. She returned to her home village with two young children. She felt worthless and hopeless. A believer in the church told Pastor Paul about Nagamani. Pastor Paul visited her. She asked him, ‘What do I have to live for?’ He told her ‘You have to live for God and your children, not for yourself’. The church began to care for Nagamani like a family. They paid for her son’s education. They prayed with her when she was very depressed. They gave her a sewing machine. With the sewing machine, Nagamani was able to earn money by making saris. She made enough money to pay for her daughter’s school fees and to maintain her home. She saw how the church loved her even though she was not a Christian. Because of this, Nagamani gave her life to Jesus. She came out of her depression. She began attending worship services. She contributed money for Acts of Love. She now teaches girls from the village how to sew, so they can support themselves. She also helps prepare food for other widows in the church. Sometimes she donates saris for them as well.

- What sort of fruit did Nagamani show after she gave her life to Jesus? (How can you tell that she has a relationship with God?)
 - *Came out of depression (joy)*
 - *Attended church*
 - *Showed love to others (gave money, food, saris; taught others to sew)*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 6 min

- Think about your life as a Christian. Share how your life is different because you accepted Christ. (For example, do you have a desire to learn God's word? Do you feel sorry when you sin?)
- What other kinds of fruit might a disciple have?

(If groups need ideas, the facilitator can prompt them using this list of example attitudes and behaviours)

<i>Is willing to learn</i>	<i>Wants to please God in every area of life</i>
<i>Is sad/repentant when sins</i>	<i>Puts others' needs first</i>
<i>Has humility and integrity</i>	<i>Reads the Bible and prays</i>
<i>Forgives when wronged</i>	<i>Trusts God with problems</i>
<i>Tries to heal bad relationships</i>	<i>Uses resources to bring glory to God</i>
<i>Tries to obey the Bible</i>	<i>Is willing to for people to know they are a Christian</i>
<i>Helps others, especially the poor</i>	<i>Attends church</i>
<i>Builds relationships with other Christians</i>	<i>Spends time with God</i>

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

Facilitator Instructions: If possible, record groups' ideas of 'fruit' on a white board.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- Think about the fruit you listed. Is this fruit to be shown now, or after death? *(now)*
- Is this fruit shown only on Sunday, or every day? *(every day)*
- Is someone a Christian if they say the sinner's prayer but do not bear any fruit? *(no)*

True disciples bear fruit. They love God. They try to obey and please Him.

Conclusion - 5 min

The goal of evangelism is to bring people into a relationship with God, so that they become disciples. It is not to get a person to say the sinner's prayer. Saying some words doesn't mean a person is saved and has eternal life. We know people are disciples when they show fruit. This means that their life changes because they are following Jesus. When this happens, we know they have a relationship with God and have eternal life.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- Do you know people who say they are Christians, but who do not show fruit? Spend a few moments praying for them.
- What about you? Would someone recognise you as Jesus' disciple by your fruit?

Lesson 3: Evangelism is Like Farming

Key Idea

Evangelism is a process, like farming. For most people, the decision to follow Christ doesn't happen after hearing the gospel just once.

Materials

1. Visual Aids: Process of Evangelism cards (6 cards)

Introduction - 10 min

In the last lesson we learnt that the goal of evangelism is to bring people into a relationship with God so that they become disciples. Now let's talk about *how* people become disciples.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Slowly read these questions out loud. Give time for people to reflect as you read them.

- Who first told you about Jesus? When did it happen? Did you come to Jesus the first time you heard about Him, or did you hear several times?
- Who prayed with you to receive Jesus? How did it happen?
- If you were raised in a Christian home, can you remember a time or circumstance when you decided to make your faith in God the most important thing in your life? What happened?

REPORT BACK

Facilitator: To report back, ask people to raise their hands as you ask these questions.

- How many of you grew up in Christian families?
- How many of you first learned about Jesus from someone outside your family?
- How many of you became Christians after hearing about God just one time?
- How many of you knew some Christians for several years before giving your life to God?
- How many of you had to go through a difficult situation in order to realise that you needed the Lord to change your life?
- How many of you still had a lot to learn about how to be a Christian after you said the sinner's prayer?

SUMMARY

Most people don't become disciples of Jesus through a one-time experience called 'evangelism'. This is true even for those who grow up in Christian families. God uses many different things to bring people to Himself.

Evangelism is Like Farming - 35 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

In this module, we are going to compare evangelism to the process of farming. Jesus used many examples of gardening or farming to talk about spiritual things. (Grapes and thorns - Matthew 7:16-20; vines - John 15:1-8; weeds and grain - Matthew 13:24-29; sowing seeds - Mark 4:1-9; and harvesting fields - Matthew 9:37, Luke 10:2.)

Read Matthew 9:35-38.

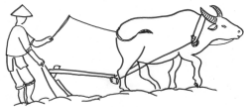
- Who is the Lord of the harvest? (*God*)
- Who are the workers? (*we are*)
- What is the harvest? (*people knowing Jesus, more disciples*)

We can think of all unbelievers as God’s field, and we are His workers. **Evangelism is like farming. The harvest is disciples who bear fruit.** In the rest of this module, we will learn about evangelism by thinking about farming.

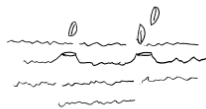
- In farming, what must workers do to get a plentiful harvest? (*prepare soil, plant seeds, water, weed, take care of new plants, harvest*)
- Is this a slow process, or a quick one? (*slow*)

LARGE GROUP ACTIVITY

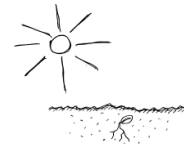
Facilitator: Lay **'The Process of Evangelism' cards** on the floor. Have participants put them in order. Then, read the heading for each step (in bold) and a brief explanation of what each step is.



Preparing the soil
softening hearts toward God



Planting seeds
sharing the gospel



Waiting for sprouts
waiting as God works



A new sprout
giving an invitation to follow Jesus;
if they decide to follow, they are a
new sprout



Tend new sprouts
helping new believers grow



Fruit
disciples show fruit

Evangelism isn't always a clear step-by-step process. For example, people may hear about Jesus, but their hearts may still be hard. These steps are just a helpful way to think about how to evangelise.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Let's apply these ideas to a true story of evangelism. As you listen, try to think about how the parts of the story fit with each stage.

Ling

Ling grew up in a Buddhist home. When he went to university, he struggled to pay the fees. His family was not wealthy. He often worried so much about money and whether he would be able to afford to continue his studies

that he could not sleep at night. He had tried every way to get good sleep but completely failed. One day, he met a group of Christians in the park. They were playing football. They invited him to join the game and go out with them afterward for coffee. Eventually, they shared the gospel with Ling and gave him a Bible. Ling was not interested in becoming a Christian. However, one night as he lay awake worrying, he decided to try reading the Bible. After reading the Bible for a little while, he felt peaceful. He was able to sleep the rest of the night. He continued to read the Bible to sleep peacefully each night. His football friends left the city but introduced Ling to some other Christians. These Christians became his friends as well. They answered his questions about God. After several months and reading the four gospels, Ling accepted Christ as his Saviour. His new friends showed Ling how to pray, trust, and follow Jesus in every area of life. Ling told his family about Jesus. His family was not happy about his decision, but they allowed him to continue as a Christian—at first. Then Ling’s mother passed away, and his family expected him to worship her at her funeral ceremony. This is a Buddhist custom. Ling knew he should only worship God, and so he refused to worship at his mother’s altar. Because of this decision, his father and siblings rejected him. Although this made Ling very sad, he continued to follow Jesus faithfully. He continued to show love to his family. Years later, as they saw Ling’s dedication to honouring and caring for their father, his family once again accepted him. The relationship began to heal, but Ling’s family was still not willing to follow Jesus. Ling still prays for them.

- How did the Christians ‘prepare the soil’? What did they do before they told Ling about Jesus? (*played football, spent time with him*)
- Which part of the story was ‘planting seeds’? (*when they shared the gospel and gave him a Bible*)
- How long did it take for Ling to become a Christian? (*several months*)
- What did God do while the Christians waited for a sprout? What problems caused Ling to read the Bible? (*he couldn’t sleep, worried about money*)
- Which part of the story was a ‘new sprout’? (*when Ling accepted Christ*)
- Who tended the ‘new sprout’? (*the second group of Christians*) What did they do to tend the sprout? (*showed Him how to follow Jesus in all areas of life*)
- What fruit did Ling show?
 - *Read the Bible, was discipled*
 - *Shared gospel with his family*
 - *Refused to worship anyone but God*
 - *Showed love after being rejected*
 - *Honoured and cared for his father*

Ling learned to like and trust some Christians. God used these people to ‘plant the seed’ of the gospel. God used Ling’s problems to help Ling know he needed a Saviour. In time, Ling gave his life to Jesus. The other Christians helped him to keep growing so that he produced the fruit of righteousness and love.

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION - 5-6 min

- Think of one or two people in your life who do not yet know Jesus.
- What stage is each person at? (Do they have hard hearts? Are they interested in spiritual things? Do they feel the need for a saviour? Have they heard who Jesus is? Do they know what it means to be a Christian?)
- Ask God what He might have you do to prepare the soil or plant seeds.

REPORT BACK

Facilitator: *Invite people to share if they wish.*

God Makes Things Grow - 5 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Look again at Matthew 28:19-20.

- What does Jesus say at the end of the Great Commission? (*I am with you always*)
- Are we doing the job of evangelism alone? (*No. Jesus is with us.*)

Jesus promised to be with us. God Himself is working in His field with us, even though we can't see Him.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:6

- When you plant seeds, can you force the plants to grow? (*no*)
- Who makes the plants grow? (*God*)

Our job as evangelists is to be 'workers in the field', but we cannot make things grow. God is the one who makes new life grow. This is good news! We do not have to worry about doing everything right.

Conclusion - 5 min

Evangelism doesn't start with telling someone about Jesus. It doesn't end when someone says the sinner's prayer. It is much more than that. Evangelism is the whole process of bringing people into a relationship with God so that they become disciples. Like farming, it is a slow process. God uses us to help prepare the soil of people's hearts. He uses us to plant the seeds of the gospel. He uses us to tend new sprouts as they grow and produce fruit.

- Spend some time thanking God for the people and circumstances He put in your life that helped you come to Him.

Lesson 4: Your Personal Life Helps Prepare the Soil

Key Idea

How you live as a Christian can make people interested in the gospel. On the other hand, it can give them a bad impression of the Christian God. We need to build relationships with non-Christians in order for them to see the difference in our lives.

Materials

1. Visual Aids: Process of Evangelism card: Preparing the soil

Introduction - 5 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- Would a good farmer ever throw seed on the ground that was not prepared? Why or why not?
- What is the first thing the farmer will do?
- Is there anything else they might do before planting seeds?
- If seeds are planted in poor soil, what happens?

Facilitator: Show **Process of Evangelism card: Preparing the soil**

- Preparing soil for planting is like preparing people's hearts to hear the gospel.

Just like a farmer prepares the soil before planting seeds, God uses us to prepare people's hearts to hear the gospel. He does this in three ways: (1) our day-to-day lives, (2) our testimony, and (3) prayer. Today we will look at the first one—our day-to-day lives.

Our Daily Lives Make A Difference - 20 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Soon after the Church was formed, non-believers noticed that people in the Church were different. The book of Acts talks about life in the early Church.

Read Acts 2:42-47.

- What were these Christians doing differently from others around them? (*wonders and signs, shared everything, gave to everyone in need, had joy*)
- Are these things that happen only at Sunday services, or also things that happen in everyday lives? (*everyday lives*)
- How did the people around them feel about the Christians? (*they were 'filled with awe', saw the Christians favourably*)
- What was the result of how the Christians were living? (*many people getting saved*)

We've already learned how important it is to do Acts of Love to show God's love to our community. How we act in our daily activities is also very important.

Matthew's Actions Tell People About Jesus

Matthew worked at a secondary school. Most of the students and teachers at the school were Muslim and Hindu. According to the laws in his country, Matthew was never allowed to speak about his Christian faith at work. Matthew obeyed the law and never told people about Jesus. However, he always treated everyone fairly. He was very honest and worked hard. He had joy, even during difficult situations. He always tried to smile and encourage others. Coworkers began to come to Matthew when they had problems. They knew he would listen to them with love and give them wise advice. One day, a student who was Muslim came to Matthew and said, 'I know you are a Christian because I see you are different'.

- How do you think the student knew that Matthew was a Christian?

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 8 min

Facilitator: Ask the question and list the areas. Use the additional prompts (in italics) as needed if people are struggling to think of ideas.

- How should Christians act in each of these areas?
 - At work (*What did Matthew do that was like Jesus? What other ways could a worker act like Jesus?*)
 - At home (*Remember what we learned about God's intentions for Marriage & Family.*)
 - At school (*How might you show love to classmates? Your teacher? Younger children?*)
 - At the market (*Would Jesus overcharge people? Underpay? Steal?*)
 - In the field (*How ought we to care for God's creation? Help others? What should our attitude be toward hard work?*)

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

Christians should live differently from other people. We should be generous and loving towards others. We should behave with integrity and humility. If we do, then some people will be attracted to Christ and want to know more about Him.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Elam's Testimony

When I was a boy in Congo, I heard the gospel many times. Sometimes it was from people as they were walking on the street or people teaching about Jesus on the bus I rode. I knew I was sinful, but when I thought about some of the things I was doing, I said to myself, 'No, being a Christian is not worth leaving these things'. When I was in secondary school, I met a boy who was different from other people. The way that he lived was so attractive to me that I wanted to be his friend. I found out that he was a Christian. I was so impressed by how he behaved that I wanted to be like him. I didn't want to give up my sinful desires, but the way my friend was behaving and speaking at school was so attractive to me that I decided I wanted Jesus to be my Lord.

- Why did Elam want to be a Christian? (*he wanted to be like his friend and his friend was a Christian*)
- If we are not trying to obey God in every area of our lives, will people be attracted to Christ? (*no*)

Like Elam, some people will be attracted to Christ when they see evidence of His work in our lives. But if someone is preaching about Jesus and everyone knows they are cruel to their children or that they cheat people at the market, people will say, 'Their religion makes no difference. Christians are just like everyone else'. The way we live each day is an important part of our witness. It is part of the process of evangelism.

Building Relationships with Non-Christians - 40 min

Facilitator: Read the following stories.

Helping a Prostitute

In one community, there was a girl who was an orphan. She had no income, no skills, and no parents to guide her. The girl became a prostitute to survive. At age 22, the girl became pregnant. Although she had lived in the village all her life, the community shunned her. She had no family to care for her when it came time to give birth. She had no one to help her with the baby or teach her what to do. But the women in the church cared for the prostitute while she was in the hospital to deliver the baby. When she brought the baby home, they made sure she had tea and food. They helped wash the clothes and clean the house. The neighbours were horrified. They said to each other, 'That girl is a prostitute! Why should the church mamas do all this for her? Why do they even talk to her?' But the women of the church explained, 'She is made in the image of God. She's very important to Him'. Then the villagers said, 'The church sees her very differently from us. We despised her and thought "God doesn't know her because she's a prostitute, but the church shows her love"'. And they gave God glory. The girl herself was humbled by the love of the church, but could hardly believe that she had value to God. When she met the pastor, she said, 'Pastor, I know that I'm a sinner, but my baby is innocent. Please pray for my baby'. The pastor prayed and named the baby 'God Intervenes'.

A Christian Woman Meets Her Neighbours

In one community there were both Muslims and Christians. The different groups did not usually talk to each other. One very hot day, a Christian woman noticed that her Muslim neighbour was sitting in the sun with her children. The woman stopped and talked with the Muslim family. She discovered they were locked out of their house. She invited the family to come cool off at her house, but they refused. So she went home and came back with cold water. Again, she invited them to her home. Finally, the family came and stayed until the Muslim woman's husband returned and took them home. After that, the two women often spent time together. Their children played together, and their families took meals together.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 10 min

- In the first story, did the church mamas do the right thing in building a relationship with the prostitute? Why or why not?
- In the second story, did the Christian woman do the right thing in building a relationship with the Muslim woman? What about allowing her children to play with Muslim children?
- What concerns might Christians have about building relationships with people who are not Christians?

REPORT BACK

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Read the following verses about Jesus building relationships with non-believers.

Read John 4:4-18

- How many people was Jesus preaching to in this passage? (*one*)
- Did the woman come looking for Jesus? (*no*)
- Who started the conversation? (*Jesus*)

- Why was the woman surprised that Jesus spoke to her? (*because she was a Samaritan and a woman*)

Read Matthew 11:19

- Who were Jesus' friends? (*sinners and tax collectors*)
- What did He do with these friends? (*He ate and drank with them*)
- Could He have done this by staying at the temple and waiting for them to find Him? (*no, He must have gone to them*)

Jesus went to sinners, talked to them, and ate with them. He did this no matter what their reputation was. He built friendships with them, even though people were shocked at this.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 10 min

- Think about the reasons Christians might be hesitant to be friends with people who are not Christians. What would Jesus do in those cases?
- What can our church do to build relationships with non-believers? What can individuals do?

REPORT BACK

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- Choose something that you can do as a church to build relationships with non-believers in your community.

Conclusion - 5 min

If we obey God in every area of our lives, some people will want to know Jesus. But if we live just like the rest of the world, we will not bring people to God. People need to see the difference Christ has made in us before they will listen to our words about the Good News. Unbelievers will not see how we live if we never get to know them. We have to build relationships with them, like Jesus did.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- Quietly ask God if there is anything you need to change in order to honour Him in all areas of your life. Spend a minute listening to the Holy Spirit.
- Ask God if there is something you should do to begin building a relationship with a non-Christian. Spend a minute listening to see if He gives you an idea.

Lesson 5: Your Testimony

Helps Prepare the Soil

Key Idea

If you are ready to share, God can use your testimony to make someone interested in the gospel.

Materials

1. Process of Evangelism cards: Preparing the soil and A new sprout
2. Something to throw and catch (for example, wadded-up paper)

Facilitator Note: Be ready to share your testimony.

Introduction - 5 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Let's review for a moment.

- Who is an evangelist? (*every believer*)
- What is the goal of evangelism? (*bringing people into a relationship with God so that they become disciples*)
- Is evangelism a one-time action, or is it a long process? (*a process*)

Facilitator Instructions: Show **Process of Evangelism card: Preparing the soil**

- What is the first way we learned that God can use us to prepare the soil of people's hearts? (*our everyday lives and relationships*)

When people see that Christians are different, some will be attracted to us. They will want to know what makes us different.

- Has anyone ever asked you why you are different?
- How did it make you feel when they asked?
- How did you respond? What did you say?

Ready to Share - 5 min

LARGE GROUP ACTIVITY

Facilitator: Call the name of someone in the class. Throw an **object** (for example, wadded up paper) towards them while saying, 'catch!'

- If they catch it, say 'Oh, you were ready!'
- If they don't catch it, say 'Oh, you weren't ready!'

Read 1 Peter 3:15

- What does this verse command? (*revere Christ; be prepared to give an answer*)

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Why Are You So Happy?

Joy went walking several times a week with her neighbour, Van. Van was not a Christian. One day, Joy was eating breakfast at an outdoor food stall near her home. Van came by and sat down. Joy greeted her cheerfully. Van said, 'Joy, why are you so happy all the time?' Joy was surprised at the question. She had been praying for Van, but had never thought about what to say if Van asked her about what made her different from other people. She didn't know what to say. She stammered, 'Oh, I guess because God loves me'. Later that day, Joy decided that she needed to prepare a better answer.

You can be sure that God will give you an opportunity to share your testimony if you are ready to do it. You probably won't ever hear someone say, 'What is the reason for the hope that you have?' But they might say:

- 'Why are you so happy all the time?'
- 'Why don't you go to the witch doctor? Aren't you afraid of the spirits?'
- 'How did you get your children to be so respectful?'
- 'I can tell you are a Christian. What makes you different?'

Your Reason for Hope - 45 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

When someone seems interested in why you are different, that is a great time to share your testimony. Your testimony is your story about Jesus giving you new life. You are explaining why you are a different person than you would be without Jesus. Listen to this story from John 9.

Read John 9:6-12

- Was the blind man ready to share what Jesus did for him with anyone who asked? (*yes*)
- What did the blind man say that Jesus did for him? (*I was blind. Now I see.*)

'I was blind. Now I see' is the blind man's testimony.

Read Acts 26:9-16

- What was Paul like before he met Jesus? (*persecuting Christians*)
- How was Paul different after Jesus changed him? (*telling people about Jesus*)

'I persecuted Christians, but Jesus appointed me as a servant and a witness' is Paul's testimony.

Read Acts 3:6-10

- What might be the testimony of the man who was healed? (*I was lame. Now I can walk.*)

Let's read Ling's story again.

Ling

Ling grew up in a Buddhist home. When he went to university, he struggled to pay the fees. His family was not wealthy. He often worried so much about money and whether he would be able to afford to continue his studies that he could not sleep at night. He had tried every way to get good sleep but completely failed. One day, he met a group of Christians in the park playing football. They invited him to join the game and hang out with them afterward for coffee. Eventually, they also shared the gospel with Ling and gave him a Bible. Ling was not interested in becoming a Christian. However, one night as he lay awake worrying, he decided to try reading the Bible. After reading the Bible for a little while, he felt peaceful and was able to sleep the rest of the night. He continued to read the Bible to sleep peacefully each night. His football friends left the city, but introduced Ling to

some other Christians who could answer his questions. These Christians became his friends as well. After several months and reading the four gospels, Ling accepted Christ as his Saviour.

- What problem did Ling face? *(he was anxious so he couldn't sleep)*
- How did Jesus change him? *(reading the Bible helped him sleep peacefully)*
- What is Ling's testimony? *(I was so worried I couldn't sleep, but Jesus gave me peace)*

SUMMARY

In our testimony, we tell people how our lives are different because of Jesus. A testimony can be about how Jesus changed you when you first became a Christian, but it doesn't have to be. You can also talk about a way that God has helped you change recently.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Joy's Testimony

When I was quite young, I decided to follow Jesus. Ever since then, Jesus has been helping me become a better person. For example, you asked why I am so happy. When I was young, I thought that if I did everything right, it would prove that I am important and valuable. I felt terrible when I did poorly at school, and great when I did well. Jesus helped me realise that doing well or poorly at school didn't make me more or less valuable than other people. I already am important to Him. That's what makes me happy. I can use my talents to help other people instead of using them to try to show how good I am. I'd be happy to tell you more about Jesus if you are interested.

- What problem did Joy face? *(she felt terrible when she did poorly in school)*
- How did she change because of Jesus? *(He helped her see that she was important and valuable to him. Now she's happy.)*

Facilitator's Testimony

*Give your own testimony.
Make sure it is simple and short so that it is easy for the students to follow your example.
End with, 'If you are interested, I can tell you more about Jesus'.*

- What problem did I face?
- How did I change because of Jesus?

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY - 10 min

Now it's your turn to prepare your own testimony. It should explain how you are different because of Jesus. Think about these questions.

- What fears or problems has Jesus helped you with? (for example: health, relationships, fears, burdens)
- How is your life different because of Jesus?

Give about 10 minutes of silence for people to prepare a testimony.

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY - 10 min

Move into small groups of 2–3 people and share testimonies with each other. After your testimony, offer to share more about Jesus.

REPORT BACK

- How did it feel to hear people's stories?
- How did it feel to share your own story? Was it difficult or easy to share?

Conclusion - 10 min

Facilitator: *Encourage people to share their testimony with the whole group. Allow sharing until the end of the class time. This is good practice for sharing their testimony.*

We are called to offer other people the same hope that we have. God will give us opportunities to share what Jesus has done for us. We must be ready to do this.

Lesson 6: Prayer Helps Prepare the Soil

Key Idea

Prayer is an important part of evangelism. We can ask God to get people ready to respond to the gospel. We can pray with unbelievers about their needs, and we can pray for opportunities to show God's love and share the gospel.

Materials

1. Process of Evangelism card: Preparing the soil

Introduction - 10 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Show *Process of Evangelism card: Preparing the soil.*

- What are the first two ways God uses us to prepare the soil? (*our daily lives, our testimony*)

Prayer is another way to prepare the soil of people's hearts.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 7 min

- What unbelievers have you been praying for? How long have you been praying for them?
- How do you usually pray for unbelievers? What are some of the main things that you pray for?

REPORT BACK

Today we are going to look at three ways that we can pray for unbelievers.

- 1) Pray that God makes them ready to respond to the gospel.
- 2) Pray with unbelievers.
- 3) Pray for opportunities to share and show God's love.

Pray that God Will Make People Ready to Respond - 10 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Remember that we are not doing evangelism alone. We cannot force someone to become a Christian. Only God can make them ready to respond to the gospel.

Read 2 Timothy 2:25-26, John 6:44, and Acts 16:14

- From these verses, how can we pray for those we are trying to reach? (*pray that God opens their hearts*)

Ron and Rita

Shortly after Rita and Ron were married, Rita began to go to church and became a strong Christian. She shared her faith with Ron, but Ron would not go to church. Ron eventually divorced Rita. He wouldn't even talk to her. Rita continued to pray for Ron every day. She asked God to make Ron ready to respond to the gospel. Another friend from Rita's church regularly invited Ron to lunch. This man talked and prayed with Ron as well. After many years, Ron became friends with another Christian man he met during a martial arts class. This Christian man also told Ron about Jesus. Finally, ten years after his divorce, Ron responded to the gospel. He became joyful instead of angry

and depressed. He joined a local church and became reconciled to Rita. He began sharing his faith with people until he died.

- How did God use people to prepare the soil of Ron's heart? (*Rita praying, sharing, others praying and being friends*)
- Did God answer Rita's prayer? Did He work in Ron's heart? (*yes*)
- What might have happened to Ron if Rita, her friend from church, and the other Christian man hadn't continued to pray and talk to Ron and stay friends with him, even when he didn't seem to respond? (*he would not have come to know God*)
- Are there people that you have been sharing with or praying for who still aren't Christians?

SUMMARY

When we are praying for someone who doesn't know God, we should pray that God will make them ready to respond to the gospel. We must continue to pray and not get discouraged. At the end of today's lesson, we will spend time praying for these people.

Pray With People for Their Needs - 20 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

A good way to prepare the soil of people's hearts is to pray with them about their needs or problems. Let's read two stories.

The Widow Who Showed Fruit

Remember Nagamani? The church began to care for her like a family. They gave her a sewing machine. They paid for her son's education. When Nagamani was very depressed, the church prayed with her. Because she saw how the church loved her even though she was not a Christian, Nagamani gave her life to Jesus. She came out of her depression. She began attending worship services. She contributed money to the church fund for Acts of Love. She now teaches girls from the village how to sew, so that they can support themselves. She also helps prepare food for other widows in the church. Sometimes she donates saris for them as well.

God Answers Youths' Prayer

As a service project, pairs of youth went door-to-door visiting in a certain neighbourhood. They were young, and most had not visited and prayed with non-Christians before. They were nervous that they would not know how to talk to people or pray with them. At one house, a child told the youth that her father was an alcoholic. The youth prayed that he would stop drinking and return to the family. Before they had finished praying, the father walked into the house and said he wanted to repent and give his life to Jesus.

- When Nagamani was depressed, did the people of the church pray FOR her at a prayer meeting, or did they go to her and pray WITH her? (*they prayed with her*)
- How did the youth feel about praying with people? (*nervous*)
- Did God answer their prayers? (*yes*)
- Did they need to have perfect words? (*no*)

It is natural to be nervous about offering to pray with an unbeliever. Here are some things to remember:

- Prayer is talking to God about your genuine care for the person.
- Keep your prayers short.

- Don't worry about whether God will answer or not. Trust that God is listening to your prayers.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 10 min

- Have you ever offered to pray with someone who was not a Christian? What was their response?
- What might be the benefits of praying with an unbeliever?
- What might make it difficult to offer to pray with them?

REPORT BACK

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Sarah's Neighbour

There was a woman in Sarah's neighbourhood whose husband abandoned her. Sarah prayed with her neighbour that God would heal the marriage and that her husband would return. The neighbour's husband did not return. Instead, he divorced her. Sarah and her husband kept showing their neighbour love. Sarah helped care for the children. Sarah's husband helped fix things around the house and property. Even though the prayer wasn't answered as she hoped, Sarah's neighbour could tell how much Sarah cared.

- Did God answer Sarah's prayer the way she had hoped? (*no*)
- When her prayers were not answered like she hoped, what did Sarah and her husband do? (*kept showing love*)

If God doesn't answer the prayer you pray for an unbeliever, don't worry. Here are things you can do:

- Tell them how sad you are that they have to go through this.
- Share how God helped you through a hard time in the past.
- Reassure them of God's love for them.
- Do what you can to help them (God sent YOU as His representative).

SUMMARY

Praying with other people lets them know you care about them. It shows them that you trust God. We don't have to have perfect words. We can trust that God is working in people's lives. This is true even if He doesn't answer the prayers like we hoped. And if He does answer the prayers, they can see His power!

Pray for Opportunities - 10 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- Who remembers the first two things we said about prayer for unbelievers? (*pray that God will make them ready for the gospel, pray with them for their needs*)

Here is one more thing we can pray for:

Read Acts 4:23-31

- What do the believers pray for? (*boldness and miracles to show God's power and glory*)

Read Colossians 4:2-6

- What does Paul ask the Colossian Christians to pray for? (*open door, clear words, opportunity*)

God can bring opportunities for us to show His love and share the gospel. He can give us words to say. He can give us the courage to speak, even in difficult situations. Listen to this story, which you might remember from Module 1.

Ministering to a Gang Member's Wife

In one community, the church decided to do an Act of Love. They prayed about what to do and felt that God was telling them to help the wife of the gang leader in the area. They were fearful, as the gang leader had a reputation for becoming very angry and beating up people with little reason. However, the church wanted to obey God. They waited until the gang leader was out of town, and then they helped his wife to harvest the fields and prepare the crops for selling. When the gang leader came home, he saw all the crops harvested and started to shout, "Who did this?" His wife was afraid to tell him, fearful he would make trouble, but eventually confessed that the church had helped. The gang leader stormed off to the church and pounded on the door. After calling the deacons for back up, the pastor opened the door, and the gang leader came in. 'Why did you do that?' He demanded. They replied that they simply wanted to show God's love. The man started to cry, sharing that no one had ever loved him before in his life. They shared about Jesus with the man. He became a Christian, turned his life around, and went on to lead six more families from the gang to Christ.

- What did the believers pray for? (*what Act of Love to do*)
- Did God give them courage? (*yes*)
- Did God give them an opportunity to share the gospel? (*yes*)

We should pray that God gives us opportunities to show His love and to share the gospel. He will give us opportunities at the right time.

Conclusion - 15 min

Facilitator: Show *The Process of Evangelism card: Preparing the soil.*

How does God use us to help prepare the soil of people's hearts?

- *Our personal lives*
- *Our testimonies*
- *Our prayers*

What are the three ways we learned to pray for unbelievers?

- *Pray that God will make them ready to respond to the gospel*
- *Pray with them for their needs*
- *Pray for opportunities to share and show God's love*

SMALL GROUP PRAYER - 10 min

Break into groups of 2-3 people, and spend a few minutes praying for unbelievers you know. Also pray for each other— for opportunities, wisdom, and courage.

Lesson 7: Opportunities to Plant

Key Idea

God may provide opportunities to share the gospel when we do Acts of Love and when we are talking to people.

Materials

1. Process of Evangelism card: Planting seeds
2. Role play - Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (2 copies)
3. Role play - Hard Work (2 copies)

Introduction - 15 min

Facilitator: Hold up *Process of Evangelism card: Planting seeds*.

Today we are going to start talking about planting the seeds of the gospel. God will provide opportunities to share the gospel. **We know we have an opportunity to share the gospel when people are interested in learning more about Jesus.**

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 7 min

- What first made you interested in Jesus?
- Do you remember any conversations you had about Jesus before you were a Christian?
- Did you have a problem or a need?

REPORT BACK

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Remember the evangelism stories we've heard:

- Ling couldn't sleep. He was interested in the Bible because it made him feel peaceful so he could sleep.
- Nagamani felt she had no reason to live after her husband died. She was interested in becoming a Christian because of the ways the church treated her like family and helped meet her needs.

This lesson is about looking for opportunities to share the gospel. This often happens because we can connect to people's experiences and needs. We'll specifically look at two areas where God may provide opportunities:

- through Acts of Love
- through conversations

We aren't yet sharing the gospel, but paying attention to see whether people are interested in learning about Jesus.

Opportunities Through Acts of Love - 5 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

The Grieving Family

A non-Christian family in Segdaya, Benin, lost their four-year old child. Their grief was so strong that even though their corn fields were ready to be harvested, they couldn't do anything but mourn. The church members went to

their field, harvested all the corn, and brought it to the house. The family was surprised and very touched. They asked, 'Why are you doing this?' The pastor told them, 'We saw what happened to you, and we just want to show you that even though you lost your child, God's love is still for you. We love you. God loves you. We just want to show God's love to you'. They didn't invite the family to attend church, but the next Sunday, the whole family of 12 people came to the church. They said, 'We are here because you helped us and showed us love. We came here because we want to thank you again, and also we want to worship the God you are worshipping'.

- What happened in this story?
- Why did the family want to worship God? (*because the church showed them love*)
- Do you think the family would have had the same response if the pastor had only told them that they needed to repent and receive Jesus? (*Probably not. They were too sad.*)

Acts of Love often cause people to ask 'Why are you doing this?' We can share with them that the reason you are helping them is because you want to show God's love.

Even if the people we serve never give their lives to Jesus, we still show them love. This is a way to obey God and glorify Him. However, God often uses Acts of Love to make people interested in Jesus. If people do seem interested in hearing more, we can be ready to share the gospel.

Opportunities through Conversations - 35 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

God can also give opportunities through normal conversations. Earlier, we read the story of Jesus' conversation with a Samaritan woman. If we read more, we can see that Jesus brings up God during the conversation.

Facilitator: Ask two people to read the following **role play**. (*No acting is necessary.*)

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (adapted from John 4:4-26)

Jesus:	Would you give me a drink of water?
Woman:	How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?
Jesus:	If you knew how generous God is, and who I am, you would be asking me for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water.
Woman:	Sir, you don't even have a bucket to draw with, and this well is deep. So how are you going to get this 'living water'? Are you a better man than our ancestor Jacob, who dug this well? Jacob and his sons and his livestock drank from this well, and passed it down to us.
Jesus:	Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will become a spring inside, gushing fountains of endless life.
Woman:	Give me this water, so that I won't ever get thirsty again!

- How did Jesus begin the conversation? (*asking for water*)

- Did He only talk about water, or did He bring God into the conversation? (*talked about God*)
- What did Jesus say He could give the woman that is better than what she has now? (*living water - never thirsty*)
- Did the woman seem interested in what Jesus was saying? (*yes*)

The Apostle Paul went to a public place in Athens to share the gospel. Read Acts 17:22-23

- What was Paul talking about when he brought up God? (*idol worship*)

Read Acts 17:32-34

- How did people react to Paul sharing? (*some were interested, some were not*)

Facilitator: Ask two people to read the following **role play**. (No acting is necessary.)

Hard work

Simon: This is hard work! Did you know that when God first created the earth it was easy to grow food? There were no storms or floods or drought. Adam, who was the first man God created, farmed the land but it was not hard work. That's what the Bible says.

Mark: Really? Why is it so hard now?

Simon: It is hard because of all the wrong things that we do. The Bible calls these things sin. God told Adam and his wife Eve not to eat the fruit of a special tree. But they disobeyed Him and ate it. Ever since then, farming has been hard work, but someday God is going to make everything new. No more sin! I could tell you more if you are interested.

- What was Simon talking about when he brought up God? (*hard work in the field*)

Jesus, Paul, and Simon all used everyday conversations to begin talking about God. They tried to get people to wonder about God. Anyone can bring God into a conversation, not just pastors or church leaders or evangelists. Then, if people are interested in learning more, we can share the gospel.

- What are some everyday problems that people talk about in your community? (For example: Do people feel a great burden to sacrifice to the spirits? Do people talk about problems with their children or their marriages?)

Facilitator: Wait until several topics have been brought up. Then ask:

- How can you bring up God when you are having conversations about these things?

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY - 8 min

In pairs, prepare a short role play. Show someone bringing up God when they talk about one of the topics we discussed.

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

Ask for volunteers to do their role plays for the whole group. Have the group give feedback and ideas.

When you talk about normal life, bring up God. Ask if people are interested in learning more. If they are, you can share the gospel.

Interested, or Not? - 5 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

God may provide opportunities to share the gospel through Acts of Love. He may provide opportunities through everyday conversations. But there will be times when people don't seem interested in hearing more. Let's talk about what to do in that case.

Read Acts 17:32-34 again.

- What did Paul do after he tried to get people interested in hearing about God? (*he left*)
- Did he keep trying to convince the people who *weren't* interested? (*no*)
- Did he talk more with the people who *were* interested? (*yes*)

If people aren't interested in hearing more, we don't need to force them. Instead, we can:

Keep praying.

Keep doing Acts of Love and bringing up God in conversations.

Be ready to share with anyone who IS interested.

If people are interested in hearing more, we can share the gospel. In our next lesson we will talk about what to say.

Conclusion - 10 min

God sometimes uses Acts of Love to provide opportunities to share the gospel. He might use everyday conversations to provide these opportunities. We want to show people God's love and bring up God in conversations.

If people respond and show an interest, then we can ask them if we can tell them about Jesus. If people don't want to hear more, we can wait. We can keep praying, loving, and bringing up God in conversation.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION AND PRAYER

In groups of 2 or 3, think of someone whom you have a relationship with who isn't a Christian. Think of a topic or question you can ask to help this person begin to think and talk about spiritual things. Pray that God will help you to take this step and will open the person's heart.

Lesson 8: Planting Seeds

Key Idea

Four pictures can remind us to share about God, sin, Jesus' sacrifice, and our new life and hope for Heaven.

Materials

1. Process of Evangelism card: Planting seeds
2. The Three Relationships cards: (Four cards: Creation, The Fall, The Cross, Eternal Life)

SPECIAL NOTE TO FACILITATOR: *This lesson presents the whole gospel. Some groups may be very familiar with these ideas. They may learn this gospel presentation quickly. If the ideas about God and sin are not common in your culture, you should go more slowly. Allow time for questions. It is important to make sure students understand each part of the gospel story. You may need to split this into two lessons.*

Introduction - 15 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Peter carefully plowed his field. He removed all the rocks and weeds and worked in a good fertilizer. He waited for weeks but nothing grew in his field.

Facilitator: Hold up **Process of Evangelism card: Planting seeds**

- What did Peter forget to do? (*plant seeds*)

If you don't plant, you don't get a harvest. Becoming a Christian is like that. A person cannot begin a relationship with God and become a disciple unless they hear the gospel.

In our last lesson, we learned that God will give us opportunities to share the gospel. These might come through Acts of Love or in everyday conversations. We can share the gospel when people seem interested in hearing more about God.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 7 min

- Have you ever tried to share the gospel?
- If YES - What happened? Share any good or bad experiences.
- If NO - Why not? What makes it hard to share the gospel?

REPORT BACK

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

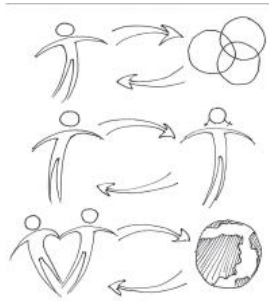
Sometimes we want to share the gospel, but it is hard to know if we've explained it well. Or we aren't sure exactly what to say.

Facilitator: Place the **four cards showing Three Relationships** where the class can see them.

The very first TCT lesson talked about three relationships that Jesus came to reconcile. These pictures will remind us what to share with people when we are planting the seed of the gospel.

Creation - 5 min

Facilitator: Show **VISUAL AID Picture 1: Creation**. This story comes from Genesis 1-2. You may read the summarised story below or use the biblical account.



People need to know who God is. Begin by telling the story of Creation. Talk about the story, and what it means for us.

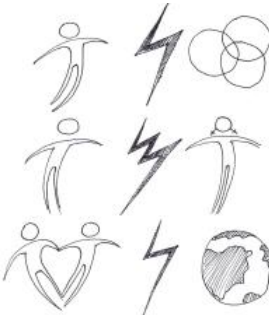
THE STORY: God created the world and everything in it. Everything He created was perfect. God created a beautiful garden for the first humans, Adam and Eve, to live in. In the beginning, God and Adam walked and talked with each other in the garden. Adam and Eve lived in harmony with each other. The world God created provided everything Adam and Eve needed.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR US: God is not like other spirits. He is more powerful and rules over everything. Everything in the world belongs to God because He created it. God is good. He never does anything bad. God intended for humans to have good relationships with Him, with each other, and with the world.

The Fall - 5 min

Facilitator: Show **VISUAL AID Picture 2: The Fall**. This story comes from Genesis 3, Genesis 12, and Exodus.

People need to know what sin is. Tell the story of the Fall. Talk about the story, and what it means for us.



THE STORY: God told Adam and Eve not to eat a certain fruit in the garden. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Disobeying God, doing bad things, is called sin. This allowed evil to enter the world. When God came into the garden, Adam hid from God. Adam and Eve now had arguments with each other. From that time on, people began to fight each other. The land became difficult to farm. People had to work hard to survive. The result of sin is broken relationships and finally the punishment of death.

God desires to restore what is broken by sin. God gave His laws that show His good intentions for every area of life, but no one could ever fully obey the laws. They made sacrifices to pay for their sin, but it was never enough.

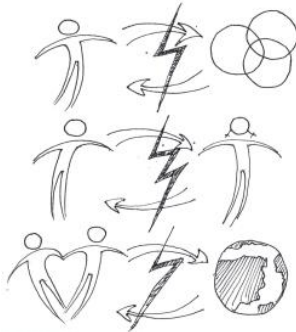
WHAT IT MEANS FOR US: All people, even if we don't know God, know that some things we do are wrong. We all sin. Sin causes our relationships with God, each other, and creation to be broken. Sometimes we try to balance out the bad things we do with good deeds or religious rituals. Sometimes we feel despair because we can never be the people we know we should be. We all deserve the punishment of death.

The Cross - 5 min

Facilitator: Show **VISUAL AID Picture 3: The Cross**. This story comes from the gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

People need to know who Jesus is and what He did for us. Tell the story of the Cross: Talk about the story and what it means for us.

THE STORY: God had a plan to reconcile the relationships broken by sin. About 2,000 years ago, God sent



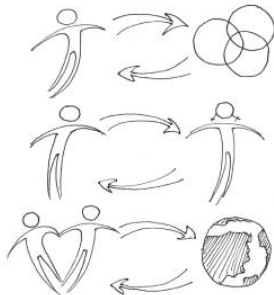
His Son Jesus to earth. Jesus was born a human. He lived a sinless life. He allowed Himself to be killed as a perfect sacrifice for sin. He died on a cross, taking our sin on Himself. After three days, He came back to life, conquering death. He is still alive today.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR US: Jesus can forgive our sins. He can heal our relationships with God, others, and creation. To be saved, we believe in Jesus. We ask Him to forgive our sins. We commit every part of our lives to do His will. This is what it means to be a Christian.

Eternal Life - 2 min (7 min if you spend time memorizing John 3:16)

Facilitator: Show **VISUAL AID Picture 4: The Return**. John 3:16 and Revelation 21:1-7 are the key verses in this section. If there is time, memorise John 3:16 together.

Share about Eternal Life:



The Bible says that God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not die but have everlasting life. Anyone who trusts in Jesus will live forever, even after death. This new life starts NOW, as we learn to obey God. Our relationships will begin to be restored to how God intended them to be in the beginning. Someday, Jesus will come back and completely restore everything. *'There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain'*. All three relationships will be healed forever.

Practise Sharing the Gospel - 40 min

Facilitator: Hold up each **card** as you summarise.

This is the gospel that we want to share

Picture 1: Creation: God created a perfect world.

Picture 2: The Fall: Sin entered that world. It broke our relationships with God, each other, and nature.

Picture 3: The Cross: God loved us so much that He sent His Son Jesus. Jesus died to restore the relationships that were broken in the Fall. We can ask Jesus to take away our sins so that our relationships can begin to heal.

Picture 4: Eternal Life: We can live forever with restored relationships. Our new life starts NOW.

Sharing the gospel with someone doesn't need to be done all at once. There may be many different conversations over a period of time. When you share, it is a great idea to ask, *'Do you have any questions?'*. This gives people a chance to think about what they have just heard. If they ask a question you don't know how to answer, you can invite them to talk with your pastor.

Again, DON'T worry about having the perfect words. Don't worry that you will leave something out. Our job is to do our best, and trust God to work in people's hearts.

PARTNER ACTIVITY

***Facilitator:** Split into pairs. Each person should take a turn sharing the gospel with their partner. They should think about the four pictures. After 15 minutes, switch to new pairs and do it again. After 15 minutes, switch one more time. In total, this activity will take about 45 minutes. Each person will have 3 chances to explain the gospel message and 3 chances to hear it explained.*

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

- Was it easier to share the gospel the first time or the third time?
- What questions or problems do you still have?

***Facilitator:** If anyone has a question or problem, have the group try to help them. This will let them practise answering questions about the gospel. It will also show you if there are areas where the whole group is confused.*

Conclusion - 3 min

This week you have an assignment!

- Practise sharing the gospel with at least one person. (It can be another believer.)

Pray that God will give opportunities to share the gospel with someone who doesn't yet know Him.

Lesson 9: Waiting for New Sprouts

Key Idea

God is at work. We do not have to worry while we wait for people to respond to the gospel. We do not need to bargain about the true cost of following Jesus.

Materials

1. Process of Evangelism cards: Planting seeds and Waiting for sprouts
2. The Three Relationships cards: (Four cards: Creation, The Fall, The Cross, Eternal Life)

Introduction - 10 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Hold up **Process of Evangelism Card: Planting seeds**

In the last lesson, we talked about planting seeds. We used the Three Relationships pictures to help us remember what to share. We practised sharing the gospel.

REVIEW

Facilitator: Hold up **The Three Relationships cards** when you ask these questions. Answers do not need to be exactly what is listed; remind the group that they do not need to have the perfect words to share.

Picture 1: Creation

- What is the first thing we share?
 - *God created a perfect world.*
 - *God is not like other spirits. He is powerful and good.*

Picture 2: The Fall

- What is the next thing we share?
 - *Sin entered that world and broke our relationships with God, each other, and creation.*

Picture 3: The Cross

- What do we share about the Cross?
 - *Jesus is God's Son.*
 - *He never sinned.*
 - *He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins.*
 - *When we give our lives to Jesus, He forgives our sins and begins to heal our relationships.*

Picture 4: Eternal Life

- What is the final thing we share?
 - *We can live forever with restored relationships.*
 - *Our new life starts now.*

Facilitator: Hold up **Process of Evangelism Card: Waiting for sprouts.**

This lesson is about waiting for sprouts.

- After you plant a seed, can you see what is happening under the soil? (*no*)
- Can you force the seed to grow? (*no*)
- What can a farmer do while waiting for seeds to sprout? (*Wait. Trust. Hope. Pray for a good harvest.*)

Evangelism is like this. After you share the gospel, people may need time. We don't have to bargain or sell anything. We trust God to bring people into His kingdom.

The Challenge of Repentance - 15 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

The Young Cambodian

Once there was a missionary in Cambodia. He had been sharing about Jesus with a young man. The man became distressed when he realised that he was a sinner and would go to hell as punishment for his sins. However, when he thought about giving up his way of life to become a Christian, he wasn't willing to do it. Every week he would come to the missionary and say to him – I want to be a Christian. The missionary would reply – are you willing to give up your own dreams, your own desires, and live for Christ alone? Are you willing to not sacrifice on the family altar but worship God? Are you willing to spend time learning about God? Each time the young man went away sad because he wasn't willing. However, he was afraid of paying for his sins and going to hell, so he would come back every week and ask the missionary again – is there any other way to be a Christian? The missionary would reply – no, you either walk away from your life of sin or you don't become a Christian at all.

- Why was the young man sad? (*he wanted to have his sins taken away while still keeping them*)
- Why would the missionary not pray with him so that he could be a Christian? (*he wasn't willing to follow Jesus*)
- Do you think that the missionary was right not to pray with him to become a Christian? Why, or why not?

Eventually, the man met another missionary and told him that he desperately wanted to be a Christian. The second missionary was happy – this man wanted to be a Christian. The second missionary shared with him that all he needed to do to become a Christian was to say the sinner's prayer. The young man was so happy – there was another way. All he had to do was say a prayer. It was so simple, he couldn't imagine why the first missionary had made it so difficult. He prayed the prayer and returned to his life of sin, happy that he didn't have to worry about going to hell. Neither of the missionaries ever saw the man again.

The story we just read is very similar to another story found in the Bible.

Read Mark 10:17-22

- When the rich young man first arrived, what did he ask? (*how to get eternal life*)
- What did Jesus tell the rich young man to do? (*sell everything he has and give to the poor*)
- What was the young man's response? Did he do what Jesus said? (*He goes away sad. He did not do it.*)
- Was the rich young man saved? (*no*)
- Why not? (*he wasn't willing to obey Jesus*)

Jesus knew that the young man loved his money more than God. The man was not willing to give up his wealth for Jesus. Jesus wouldn't allow the young man to follow Him unless he would obey Jesus in every area of life.

- If someone is not willing to stop sinning and obey Jesus, will saying the sinner's prayer make them saved? (*no*)
- Was the young Cambodian man saved after saying the sinner's prayer? (*no, he didn't change*)

SUMMARY

We must not push someone to say the sinner's prayer. Only God can change someone so they want to follow Jesus. We must be faithful to prepare the soil and plant the seeds of the gospel. We can trust God to bring a harvest in His time.

The Cost and the Value - 25 min

Let's think about other reasons that someone might not be ready to follow Jesus.

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION - 2 min

Facilitator: Read the following questions and give 2 minutes for individual reflection.

- Do you know anyone who caused trouble in their family when they decided to follow Jesus? In their community?
- Was it easy or difficult for you to decide to follow Christ? What costs did you have to consider? What changes did you have to make in your life? Was it worth it?

REPORT BACK

Facilitator: Invite people to share stories about the cost of following Jesus.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Luke 14:25-33

- According to this passage, what is the cost of being a disciple?
 - Hate even their family compared to how much they love Jesus
 - Carry a cross - be willing to sacrifice and suffer for Jesus
 - Be willing to give up everything we have
- What might non-believers not want to change or give up to follow Jesus? (*possible answers might include: their family's approval, status or respect in the community, safety, or worshipping other spirits*)

Read Matthew 13:44-46

- What does Jesus compare the Kingdom of Heaven to?
 - A treasure
 - A pearl
- How much was the treasure worth?
 - Everything they had
- Were the men sad to pay the cost?
 - No, they had joy

If someone says they want to follow Jesus, they must try to obey God in every area of life. They must choose Jesus over pleasing their family and friends. If people don't think about this cost, they do not really understand what it means to follow Christ. But Jesus is so wonderful that the cost is worth it!

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY - 10 min

Facilitator: Choose two questions that are best for your context. Assign the first question to half the groups and the second question to half the groups. As the groups discuss, remind them not to bargain or convince.

- Imagine you have shared the gospel with someone and they said, 'I want to have eternal life, but my family will not allow me to become a Christian'. What could you do or say?
- Imagine you have shared the gospel with someone and they say, 'I want to be a Christian, but my income is from making alcohol. I can't stop doing that'. What could you do or say?
- Imagine you have shared the gospel with someone and they say, 'I want to worship Jesus alongside our other household gods'. What could you do or say?

REPORT BACK

If Someone Rejects the Gospel - 7 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Think again of the story of the rich young man and Jesus.

- Did the young man accept Jesus? (*no*)
- Did Jesus do a bad job at evangelising the young man? (**note:** *This question might cause a lot of confusion! Allow them to discuss it for a few minutes if needed. Ask questions like, 'What do others think? Do you agree? What makes a successful evangelist?'*)
- If we share the gospel but people still don't become Christians, did we fail? (*no*)

Jesus never sinned or failed. He always did God's will perfectly. Yet after Jesus talked to this young man, he didn't get saved. As evangelists, we might worry that if the person doesn't get saved, we did it wrong. But God is pleased with us as we obey Him. We can trust Him with the results.

What else can we do?

The best thing we can do is to continue to pray for them to be saved. Only God can give people new life. We must keep showing love to the person. We can also pray, 'God, help me know what to do next'. God may show us things to do, for example:

- Share your testimony.
- Share more Bible verses and Bible stories.
- Bring the pastor to visit them.
- Invite them to church or Bible study.

Whatever happens, we don't need to bargain or convince them. Jesus didn't do that with the rich young man. He let the man choose to go away, even though it was sad.

Conclusion - 3 min

When we share the gospel, we might want to try to make the cost of following Jesus seem cheaper. We do not need to do that. God will help people to understand how wonderful and valuable He is. We must faithfully show love and share the gospel. We can trust God to work in people's hearts.

Lesson 10: From Sprouts to Fruit

Key Idea

When people are ready, we can invite them to follow Jesus. We must disciple new Christians.

Materials

1. Process of Evangelism cards (6 cards)

Introduction: New Sprouts - 8 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- What questions were you asked when you were baptised?

Facilitator: Hold up *Process of Evangelism card: A new sprout*

When someone wants to become a Christian, ask them these questions.

- Do you believe Jesus is the only one who can save you from your sin?
- Are you willing to stop sinning and obey God in every area of your life?

Facilitator: Have the class repeat the two questions several times.

If someone can say yes to these questions, they are ready to become a Christian. Here is a simple prayer you could pray with them. (You can also bring them to your pastor or another church leader. That person can pray with them.)

Jesus, I'm sorry for my sins. I believe you are God and you are good. Please forgive my sins. Make me clean. I give you my life, all of it.

Sprouts to Fruit - 7 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Facilitator: Hold up *Process of Evangelism cards: A new sprout and Fruit.*

When someone becomes a Christian, they are like a new sprout. Today we are going to talk about how to get from here (hold up *A new sprout*) to here (hold up *Fruit*).

- Do you remember the goal of evangelism? (*to bring people into a relationship with God so they become disciples*)
- How do we know when someone is a disciple? (*they have fruit*)
- Do new plants grow fruit right away? (*no*)
- What sorts of things will farmers do as their baby plants begin to grow?
(*possible answers include: removing weeds, protecting from animals, watering, etc*)

Facilitator: Hold up *Process of Evangelism card: Tending new sprouts*

Evangelism doesn't stop when people become Christians. Just like a farmer tends new sprouts, we must help new believers grow.

Tending the Sprouts: Discipleship - 15 min

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - 7 min

Read the Great Commission again (Matthew 28:19-20).

- What are the two parts of making disciples? (*baptising them and teaching them to obey all Jesus commanded*)
- When you first became a believer, what things did you not understand? What things did more mature believers teach you about?
- What parts of your old life were hardest to change or quit?

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

New believers will not suddenly become perfect. It is normal to still struggle with sin. Some relationships will still be difficult. They will not always act in ways that honour God. We must teach them to follow Christ in every area of their lives. This is called discipleship because we are helping someone grow as a disciple.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Joshua's problem

When Joshua became a Christian, he was very happy. His sins were forgiven! But as the weeks passed, he began to feel discouraged. For many years his marriage had been difficult. Joshua thought that when he became a Christian, his marriage would be easier. He thought he wouldn't get angry with his wife anymore. Joshua was afraid to talk to other people in the church. Would they think he wasn't really a Christian?

- Why did Joshua feel discouraged?
- How can we help new Christians to share their struggles? What would help you feel free to share?

It is important to help new believers know that it is safe to share their struggles. They cannot receive help if no one knows they need it. We can share our own struggles from the past. We can share about problems we face now. When another believer is struggling, we can show compassion and forgiveness.

Basic Ways to Disciple - 25 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Hebrews 10:24-25

- What does this verse say we should do?
 - *Spur (motivate) one another to love and good deeds*
 - *Not give up meeting*
 - *Encourage one another*

The verse says not to give up meeting together. Do NOT let new believers try to grow in their faith alone.

Meet with them often, not just during church! During this time you can:

- ENCOURAGE them:
 - Pray for them and with them.
 - Share what God has done and is doing in your life.
 - Invite others (friends, your pastor) to come share.
 - Share a Bible story or some verses.

- MOTIVATE them to love and good deeds:
 - Invite them to go to Bible study with you.
 - Invite them to participate in Acts of Love with you.

PARTNER ACTIVITY - 8 min

Facilitator: Split the group into pairs. Give each pair a challenge from the list below. (Choose situations that are relevant to new Christians in your area.) Have them prepare a short role play. It should show someone discipling the new believer by encouraging (prayer, sharing) and motivating (inviting to Bible study or AOL). Have each pair do their role plays for the rest of the group. Have the rest of the group give feedback and ideas.

- Their family is angry that they became a Christian.
- Their family wants them to worship at the family altar.
- Their child is sick, and they are preparing to take them to a witch doctor.
- They are tempted to drink alcohol when they get stressed.
- They have a difficult relationship with a neighbour.

REPORT BACK AND SUMMARY

Facilitator: Have each pair do their role plays for the rest of the group. Have the rest of the group give feedback and ideas.

Discipling means we walk through life together. We show younger believers how to pray, study the Bible, and grow in Christ. We encourage them not to give up!

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION - 2 min

Think of someone in your church who is a believer, but does not seem to be growing as a disciple. Pray for the person and ask God what you can do to help them grow.

Review of Evangelism Module - 7 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

We've talked about how evangelism is like farming. This is the last lesson in the evangelism module. Let's review the main points.

Facilitator: If the class has trouble with an answer, review the main points of the lesson with them and then ask the questions again.

Hold up the **Prepare the soil card**

- What is the goal of evangelism? (*making disciples/ having a relationship with God*)
- Who is an evangelist? (*every Christian*)
- What does God use to prepare the soil? (*our daily lives, our testimonies, our prayers*)

Hold up the **Planting seeds card**

- What can bring opportunities to share the gospel? (*Acts of Love, everyday conversations*)
- When sharing the gospel, what do the Three Relationships remind us to share about? (*Creation, the Fall, the Cross, eternal life*)

Hold up the **Waiting for sprouts card**

- Do we need to bargain about the cost of following Jesus? (*no*)

Hold up the **New sprouts card**

- Can you remember the two questions we can ask people who want to become Christians? (*Do you believe Jesus is the only one who can save you from your sins? Are you willing to stop sinning and to obey God in every area of your life?*)

Hold up the **Tending the sprouts card**

- When someone becomes a Christian, what do we need to keep doing? (*disciple them/help them grow*)

Hold up the **Fruit card**

- How do we know when someone is a disciple of Jesus? (*they have fruit*)

When a person shows fruit, we know that they are a disciple and have a relationship with God. This is what evangelism is all about.

Conclusion - 13 min

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- What is the most surprising thing you learned during this module?
- What is one thing God might want you to begin doing?
- What other questions do you have about evangelism? Are there other topics you would have liked to talk about?

Facilitator: *Invite the class to respond to questions. If there are other topics to talk about, write them down so that the TCT leadership team gets feedback.*

Pray for the participants as they apply these lessons.

Bonus Lesson: For Pastors

Key Idea

There are many Bible stories that will help believers grow in their faith.

Introduction

All of the stories in the Bible can teach us about God and help believers grow in their faith. This lesson will teach you how to prepare sermons using Bible stories. It also suggests 20 Bible stories that you can begin teaching right away. Each story shows an important truth about who God is and our relationship with Him.

If you don't have access to your own Bible, you should get together with another pastor who does. Work with them to turn each passage into a story and memorise it. Then you can retell the story to your congregation.

How to Prepare Sermons using Bible Stories

Steps to preparing a story

1. Understand the story.
Read the story in the Bible. Think about the story.
 - i. What does it teach you?
 - ii. What is the main idea?
 - iii. Why do you think this story was included in the Bible?
2. Visualise the story.
Imagine you were one of the characters. Take time to imagine yourself as all the main characters. How would you feel? (For example, if you were telling the story of the visitors coming to tell Abraham and Sarah that in a year they would have a child, how would Abraham have felt in that story? How would Sarah feel?)
3. Tell the story out loud.
You can tell the story to anyone – your spouse, child, or a friend. Telling the story out loud helps you think about what you want to say. Once you have told the story a few times, you can write it down or record it if that helps you to remember it better.
4. Try to keep the dialogue.
Dialogue makes the story more interesting. (For example, if you are telling the story of the Garden of Eden and the serpent, make sure you include the actual words that the serpent says to Eve.)
5. Explain why the story is important and what it teaches about God and people.
For the Bible stories we present in this lesson, we will give you some points to bring out.
6. Give ways that we can apply this to our lives.
People need to apply what they learn, or it will not become a part of them and their behaviour. James 1:22-25 says, 'Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do'.

20 Bible Stories to Teach

In Module 1 you learnt the story of the Creation and the Fall. In the Evangelism Module lesson 8 you practised telling this story from Genesis 1-2. This story explains that God created everything. It teaches that human sin is the reason for the brokenness in the world. Here are more stories to teach, and some important points you can draw from them.

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

Genesis 12:1-9, Genesis 15

- God chose Abraham because Abraham believed Him, not because of anything Abraham did.
- God's promises do not depend on us, but on His character, which never changes.

ABRAHAM AND ISAAC

Genesis 22:1-19

- Abraham chose to trust God with the thing he cared about most.
- God provides everything we need.

JOSEPH

Genesis 37-45

- God uses even terrible struggles and pain for His plan.
- God knows the future and is in control of everything.

MOSES AND THE EXODUS

Exodus 5-14

- God is stronger than all other gods. He rules the earth.
- God heard His people.
- God keeps His promises.

IN THE DESERT

Exodus 16, 17:1-7

- God provided everything His people needed. With God, resources are not limited.
- God leads His people.

THE GIVING OF THE LAW

Exodus 20-21

- God cares about every area of life.
- God's intentions for us are good.
- The people couldn't keep the law. We all need a Saviour.

THE BATTLE OF JERICHO

Joshua 6:1-21

- God fights our battles when we trust Him.
- We must obey even when it doesn't make sense to us.

DAVID AND GOLIATH

1 Samuel 17:1-50

- God can use anyone who trusts Him.
- With God, we will be victorious. There is no need to fear.

JONAH AND THE BIG FISH

Jonah 1-3

- God has compassion for all people.
- When we repent, God forgives us.

ELIJAH AND THE PROPHETS OF BAAL

1 Kings 18:16-40

- If you worship God, you cannot worship anything else. Every person must choose between God and idols.
- Our God is more powerful than all other spirits and 'gods'.

THE FIERY FURNACE

Daniel 3

- God can help us in any situation. He is more powerful than earthly rulers.
- Even if God doesn't do what we want, we can trust and obey Him.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 1:26-38, Luke 2:1-21

- Jesus is fully man and fully God (not just a special man, and not God disguised as a man).
- Jesus is the promised Messiah, born to save us from sin.

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

Luke 8:22-25

- Jesus has power over nature.

JESUS HEALS A DEMON-POSSESSED MAN

Luke 8:26-39

- Jesus has power over all spirits.

JESUS TELLS TWO STORIES - THE LOST COIN AND THE LOST SHEEP

Luke 15:1-10

- Every person is valuable to God.
- God wants every person to repent and become part of the Kingdom of God.

JESUS BRINGS LAZARUS BACK FROM THE DEAD

John 11:1-44

- Jesus has power over death.
- Jesus cares about us so much that He is sad when we are sad.

THE LAST SUPPER

Luke 22:14-20

- Jesus is God, but came to serve.

- We must serve each other also.

THE CRUCIFIXION AND THE RESURRECTION

Luke 23:13-56, Matthew 28:1-10

- Jesus willingly died for us. He took our sins and the punishment of death on Himself.
- Jesus is stronger than death; there is no need to fear death.

PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-12

- When Jesus went back to Heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit to live in us.
- The Holy Spirit gives us the power to live as God intends.

PAUL'S CONVERSION

Acts 22:1-21

- We are saved by grace, not by works (Paul was a Pharisee).
- The gospel is for everyone.