

**CROSS TRAINING – ESSENTIALS 1, CLASSES 7-8**  
**EVANGELISM TRAINING**

*“We are on the threshold of the greatest spiritual awakening since Pentecost.” –James Stewart*

**Mt. 28:18-20** - Then Jesus came and spoke to them saying, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded to you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

**1. Sharing the Gospel effectively.**

- a. Today we’ll discuss how to share the gospel intelligently and effectively through the power of the Holy Spirit.
  - i. All Christians are called to be active in the Great Commission.
  - ii. Most Christians are rarely involved in the Great Commission.
    1. They are scared to witness.
    2. They don’t know how to witness.
    3. They are afraid they aren’t good enough to witness.
- b. We’ll also address how to use the 4 Spiritual Laws and your own personal testimony.
- c. Two important questions:
  - i. What is the greatest thing that has ever happened to you?
  - ii. What is the greatest thing you can ever do for someone else?
- d. How many people in this city have an adequate understanding of the gospel?
  - i. **Rom. 10:13-17** – They who call upon the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on Him if they haven’t believed; how can they believe if they haven’t heard; how can they hear without someone sharing with them?
- e. The Great scientist and theologian Pascal said, “There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of each person that cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by God made known by Jesus Christ.”
  - i. **Mt.9:37, Lk.10:2** - The harvest is ripe – the workers are few.
  - ii. Will you be obedient to God’s command by training yourself and being available to fulfill the Great commission wherever you go and whatever you do?
    1. **Is.6:8** – “Here am I! Send me.” (The correct attitude)
    2. **1Peter 1:13** – “Prepare your minds for action.”

**2. Key Biblical passages concerning the Great Commission.**

- a. **Mt.28:18-20**, Jn.6:35-40, 44, **Acts 1:8**, 2Cor.5:17-21, Eph.5:18-21, Col.4:2-6, 2Peter 3:9.

**3. Common misconceptions – If you witness you:**

- a. Are an insensitive fanatic
- b. Are a weird, inconsiderate person
- c. Must know all the answers to all questions
- d. Must be a gospel “used car salesman.”
- e. Must have a special gift of evangelism

**4. Key Principals to remember.**

- a. Expose the Gospel, don’t impose.
- b. Go in love in the power and direction of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).

- i. Are you being filled with His power and direction – Ask, Believe, Confess and Desire.
    - ii. Make sure Christ is on the throne.
  - c. First talk to God about people (prayer), then talk to people about God (witnessing).
  - d. You are called to present the gospel clearly in the power of the Holy Spirit. Trust God with the results – Present the opportunity for a response but don't force it.
- 5. **Benefits of using the 4 Spiritual Laws.**
  - a. It is a simple but complete summary of the full gospel.
  - b. It is a great conversation starter.
    - i. “Have you ever seen the 4 Spiritual Laws and had them presented to you?”
  - c. They begin with a positive – God loves you.
  - d. They clearly present how to receive Christ.
  - e. They give you confidence – you know what you're going to say before you say it.
  - f. You can show a person how to receive Christ in a short period of time.
  - g. They present a transferable method for teaching others to witness.
  - h. They are concise but essential information is not left out.
- 6. **Avoid a “canned approach” by reading, then illustrating and finally personalizing.**
  - a. Without an adequate understanding of the gospel there can't be a legitimate response.
- 7. **How to present the 4 Spiritual Laws.**
  - a. Read the booklet out loud as it is written.
  - b. Finish the booklet before answering tangential questions.
  - c. Depend on the Holy Spirit, not yourself. It is the Holy Spirit that will convince that person.
  - d. Be aware of your listener. If there seems to be no response, ask questions like, “is this making sense.” Go back and explain everything they don't understand.  
**Understanding the key issues of the gospel is vitally important!**
  - e. Hold the booklet up so it can be clearly seen. Use a pen to focus attention by pointing at what you are reading.
  - f. Fold back the page that isn't being read.
  - g. If you are talking to a group give each person a booklet and present as usual.
  - h. Be sure that people understand that Christ comes into their lives and forgives their sins. If they merely repeat a prayer without understanding that Christ comes into their life and forgives their sins they do not experience true salvation.
  - i. Never force, badger or push someone to receive Christ.
- 8. **There are a few common misconceptions people may have about Christianity – be ready to address these.**
  - a. Christianity is nothing but rules and regulations.
    - i. Brief answer: Christianity is a relationship – we act out of love.
  - b. Christianity is a bore –fun is not allowed.
    - i. Brief answer: **Jn.10:10** – Jesus promises the abundant life.
  - c. Christians are hypocrites.
    - i. Brief answer: Focus on Jesus not bad impersonators of Him.
  - d. God would turn me into a "Christian mold," I could not be myself.
    - i. Brief answer: **2Cor.5:17** - A true Identity flourishes upon receiving Christ.
  - e. I must get my life straightened out first.

i. Brief answer: You don't get cleaned up to take a shower.

**9. What to focus on when presenting the 4 Laws.**

**LAW 1:**

1. Communicate God's Love
2. Communicate eternal life
3. The abundant life (the ability to live above your circumstances, and experience the fruit of the Spirit on a daily basis)

**LAW 2:**

1. What is sin?
2. Why is sin such a big deal to God?
3. Why does sin separate men and women from God?

**Illustration:** after Rom. 6:23: This verse paints a hopeless picture for man. The death penalty is bad news. It's like a criminal waiting to be executed on death row. There is no hope.

**Diagram:** Explain the performance game (arrows)

- Illustration: Jumping the Grand Canyon
  - Illustration: Climbing to heaven on a six foot ladder
  - Illustration: Swimming to Hawaii - some would make it further than the rest, but no one would make it to Hawaii on his own efforts, even if it was the world's greatest swimmer.
4. How many sins does it take to separate a person from a perfectly righteous, holy God?
  5. Why can't a Holy God allow a sinful person into His presence?
  6. From what we have seen in this Law, is there any possibility that man can reach God through his own efforts? Romans 9:30-32; 10:2-4; 11:6; Eph 2:8-9

**LAW 3:**

1. After Rom, 5:8, emphasize "Christ died for us."
2. Why did Jesus Christ have to die for our sins? Why not Moses, Peter, Paul, George Washington, or Mohammed?
3. What if you talked your best friend into dying for your sins. Would his death qualify to wipe away your sins? Why not?
4. Why was Jesus qualified to die for our sins and bridge the gap?
  - a. He lived a perfect life - never sinned once.
  - b. He bodily rose again conquering death for Himself, thus proving that He could conquer death for us too.
  - c. He was God, and only someone greater than man could have a solution to mankind's sin problem.
5. What did Jesus establish for each person by dying for their sin? (a pardon)

**Illustration:** A criminal on death row could receive a pardon from a Governor or a President, but if the pardon was refused, the criminal was executed.

**Illustration:** Suppose the son of a Judge is brought into court guilty of speeding, and his Dad, the judge, is sitting on the bench. If the judge is impartial he must give his son the same fine as anyone else. Then let's say that the son does not have enough money to pay for his fine, so he will have to go to jail. If his loving father did not want to see his son go to jail, he could come down from the bench and pay the son's fine for him. Basically, that is what Jesus did for us.

6. Why won't God force His pardon for sin upon us?
7. If we reject God's pardon for us, who then will die for our sin? (we will)

**LAW 4:**

1. Stress the word "**INDIVIDUALLY**" in the Law.
2. Stress the phrase "**gift of God not of works**" in Eph. 2:8-9
3. Also in Eph. 2:8, ask - "What are we saved from?"
4. Rev. 3:20, ask - "What does the door open to?" Explain the two parts:  
Our part (to open the door) and His part (to come into our life)
5. Explain the difference between intellectual assent and an emotional experience with respect to having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Illustration:** I may know a lot intellectually about a very beautiful woman, possibly more than anyone else does. Also, I may feel really close to her emotionally and physically, BUT that does not make me her husband. I become married to her when by an act of my own will and her will we commit ourselves to each other in an inseparable partnership.

**THE PRAYER:**

1. Explain that this prayer is not a "Magic Formula," but that this prayer is different from any other prayer.
2. Can you think of any reasons why you would need Jesus Christ?  
(Getting the pardon and sin issue straight)
3. Would you like to be the kind of person that God wants you to be?  
(Submission to Christ, the will)
4. Do you think that Christ would come into your life if you asked Him?  
(Faith-trust issue)
5. Do you think that this is something that you would like to do? (Will issue)
6. Can you think of any good reasons why you wouldn't like to invite Christ into your life?  
(Over-all perspective)
7. When do you think would be the best time to invite Christ into your life?
8. Would you like to take a few minutes and invite Christ into your life right now, or would you like to do this on your own? (readiness issue)

**OTHER QUESTIONS TO ASK ACCORDING TO THE SITUATION:**

1. If you were to accidentally "check out of this world" (die) next week, where would you go absolutely for sure?
2. If you did die and went up to the gates of Heaven, and God asked you what reason could you give Him for letting you come in and stay, what would you say?
3. What side of the gulf would you say that you are on?
4. Do you think that you have a personal relationship with Christ or are you still in the process of getting that relationship?
5. What do you think would happen to you if you did invite Christ into your life?
6. If you want to know for sure that Christ is in your life, what should you do?
7. What do you think that God would demand of you to become a Christian?
8. Have you ever seen what Jesus said were the requirements for eternal life?
9. Why do you think that God gave the Ten Commandments? Rom. 3:19-24  
(Sin explained, God's Holiness revealed)

**10. Remember to trust the results to Him.**

**11. Practice in groups of 2.**

**Pray and look for opportunities to share the 4 laws this week!**