



good news

conversation guide



**COOPERATIVE
PROGRAM**

why learn and share the Gospel?

Because it's literally the best news on the planet! Forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and a relationship with God are just a few reasons why the Gospel message is GOODNEWS! But... there is a certain urgency that comes with sharing this message. Here are three urgent reasons to learn and share the Gospel.

COMMAND

Jesus commands every Christian to share the Gospel with those around them, to the ends of the earth! We should do it because we love the Lord and want to obey Him! (Acts 1:8)

COMPASSION

There is a literal hell people are heading to if they don't have their sins forgiven through the Savior, Jesus. There is also a hell they go through by going through life broken in their sins and separated from God. (2 Thes 1:8-9; Matt 9:36)

INVEST

The best way to invest your life is to store up treasures in heaven by investing in getting as many people there as possible. (Matt 6:19-21, 1 Cor 3:11-15)

It's our prayer that you'll do everything in your power to learn how to share the GOODNEWS with excellence and lead as many people to the Savior as possible. Through God's Spirit you can do this! Go for it!

go to God in prayer

First off, remember that salvation is a work of the Spirit.

So, ask God to be involved, soften hearts, and give you opportunities to show and share the Gospel.

Pray for THREE people with laser-like focus.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Prayer Ideas

Set an alarm to pray for lost friends daily.

Pray specifically for lost people with other believers at church, school, home, etc.

Prayer walk your school campus, neighborhood, or work place.

Pray through your phone or social media contacts.

Be creative in regularly getting their names in front of you (mirror, phone, prayer wall, etc.)

see the cause circle on page 12



The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.
James 5:16b

open up a conversation

Be yourself and talk about:

- L Location**
From? Going?
- I Interests**
Sports? Music? Movies?
Favorite things to do?
- F Family**
Brothers/Sisters? Older/Younger? Parents?
- E Education**
Always gone to this school? Future plans?

Look for ways to switch your natural conversation to a spiritual one.

Example: After talking about their interests, you can talk about your interest in church, and then ask if they attend anywhere regularly.

Don't assume that if they do go to church, they are automatically a Christian.

Tips

- **Don't pressure yourself to bring up Jesus so much that you don't act like yourself.**
- **Make your first goal a conversation.**
- **Remember, they are people, not projects.**

The purpose in a man's heart is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out.
Proverbs 20:5

observe and admire what they believe

Use questions like these to go deeper:

Go to church? Have any spiritual beliefs?

Where did everything come from?

What happens to us after we die?

Do you believe in a Heaven/Hell?

Who goes where?

Do you think God would consider you to be a good person?

Who do you say Jesus is?

Resist the temptation to argue. Seek to make a difference, not a point. **Admire all you can about their beliefs.** Build a bridge with them, not a wall.

Athiest: Appreciation for science and logic.

Mormon: Hardworking, nice, family values.

Humanist: Desire for a better world, good person, positive attitude.

Religious: Goes to church, reads the Bible, good person.

Jehovah's Witness: One god, dedication to evangelism.

Muslim: Committed to prayer, devout life.

Remember

- **If you listen and admire their beliefs, they will most certainly let you describe what you believe.**

*A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.*
Proverbs 15:1

describe what you believe

One great **GOD**

Describe some of His attributes: **Creator**, Loving, and most importantly describe that He is **Holy/Just**.

One great **PROBLEM**

Sin (broken 10 Commandments, Romans 3:23). **Good deeds won't justify anyone** (Isaiah 64:6). Because God is good/holy He will punish sin. (Romans 6:23, Hell)

One great **HOPE**

Even though we broke God's law, **Jesus paid our penalty**. (John 3:16) He proved all He said was true by **rising from the dead** which gives us assurance of life after the grave (1 Corinthians 6:14) and an abundant life on earth!

One great **DECISION**

We must decide to put our **trust in Jesus** (believe) by relying on what He did on the cross to pay for our sin so we can come to God and go to Heaven. Or we reject Him and pay for our own sins in Hell.

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8

note your testimony

A witness simply gives testimony of what they know to be true.

It is important to tell your story of when you received Christ, because it is personal, hard to argue with, and it demonstrates what God has done.

Write down a few key things about:

BEFORE you were saved (*LOST*):

WHEN you were saved (*FOUND*):

AFTER you were saved (*GROWTH*):

Remember

- **Keep it short (less than 2 minutes) and focused on Jesus.**

that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:3

examine if that has happened to them

After you share your testimony, ask if anything like that has happened to them... or are they still trying to figure this out?

Listen to what they are putting their trust in. Is it in the Savior or in being a “good person” or being “religious”?

If they don’t appear to have put their trust in Jesus you might ask...

“If we were skydiving and I noticed your parachute was loose would you want me to say something?”

Yes!

“Well I noticed you didn’t mention very much about Jesus.”

Remember

- **A true Christian’s testimony should always mention Christ**

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”
Acts 4:12

welcome them to trust in Jesus

**You've explained the Gospel,
don't drop the ball now.**

How do you bring them to a point of decision?

Ask 2 Questions:

1. Has what I said **made sense**
and do you **think it is the truth?**
2. Is there anything holding you
back from **trusting Jesus right now?**

Remember

- **How do we put our trust in Jesus?**
We call on Him through prayer.

*For "everyone who calls on the
name of the Lord will be saved."*
Romans 10:13

show them what to do next

Ask them if they would like to pray or be led by you in a prayer to call on the name of the Lord.

Emphasize the importance of the heart's motive. Lead them in a simple prayer to acknowledge their sin and trust in Jesus.

Dear God, // I know I'm a sinner. // I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins // and rose from the dead. // Please forgive me of all my sin. // I turn away from my sin, // confess you as Lord, // and trust you alone for my salvation and eternal life. // Thank you for your love, forgiveness, and the gift of eternal life. // Thank you for saving me. // Amen.

Be excited for them! They may not fully understand the importance of this moment, but you do. Now, help them take next steps in their new journey with God and have ONE focus.

O - Obedience

Now that you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you want to walk in obedience.

Baptism (Matthew 28:19-20, Romans 6:4)

Baptism is the outward symbol of what God has done in your life through Jesus. Be baptized as soon as possible. It would be good to have friends and/or family present when you are baptized.

Church (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Connect with other followers of Jesus in local, Bible-believing church. Get involved in a small group or Sunday School. Your new church family will help you grow and learn.

N - New Life

A lot of things that are new, grow. As a new follower of Christ, you want to grow in your understanding of God's plan and desire for your life.

Assurance (John 10:28-29)

Salvation is secure because it comes from Jesus. Once you have trusted Christ for salvation, nothing can change that!

Bible (Psalm 119:11, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Bible is God's truth and a guide for us to live our lives by.

like Jesus

Prayer (Psalm 121:2, Jeremiah 33:3)

Praying is listening for and talking and to God. It shows dependence on the Lord over self.

E - Express Your New Faith

Expressing your new relationship with Jesus Christ is important. You have friends and family who would love to know what God has done and may need to trust and know Jesus themselves.

Confidence (2 Timothy 1:7)

Because you are secure in Christ, you can be bold in living out your faith.

Witness (Romans 1:16, Acts 1:8, Matthew 29:19)

You can express to others, in your own words that you have repented and received God's love and forgiveness. Just tell the truth about what Jesus has done in your life. Just share Jesus! Who can you share this good news with? You could call or text someone or post on social media what Jesus has done in your life!

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

steps to maturity in Christ

unbelief

lost ↓ **come & see**
John 1:39, 46

saved ↓ **trust in Jesus (believe)**
John 3:16-18, 36

grow to ↓ **follow me**
John 3:16-18, 36

be like ↓ **fish for people**
Matthew 4:19

Jesus ↓ **bear much fruit**
John 15:16

maturity

Remember

Anything anyone has ever been good at was because they **practiced**. *If there's anything we should seek to be excellent in, it's sharing the Gospel.*

This will be a bit **messy** until you've done it a few times, but push through it. *Like learning to play an instrument, you can't expect to sound like an expert from the start.*

The Gospel is the **power** of God, not your polished message. *God can use your trembling voice and insecurities, but all He needs is for you to speak up.*

Your conversation will likely not fall in the order you've planned, so be ready to **adjust**. *Soldiers prepare for battle so they can react instead of panic when the plan changes - we should too.*

It's about being **faithful** to share, not successfully getting someone to make a decision. Being success driven creates false guilt or false pride. *Faithfulness gives you peace no matter the outcome. (Matthew 25:21)*

the cause circle

You have 100 times more influence on your friends and family than a stranger does! The Cause Circle is a simple tool that will help you be more intentional about sharing Jesus' message with them. Here's how it works:

Prayer: When we start by praying for people, it prepares their hearts to hear the good news of Jesus. Ask God to be involved and give you opportunities to share the Gospel with them.

Care: We must love those we are trying to reach. We do this by listening to them and caring for them. They are not projects, they're people! How can you show them you care about their physical, spiritual, and emotional needs?

Share: After prayer and care, we must lovingly share the Gospel message clearly and confidently. It's the most important issue in a person's life! Don't be afraid to ask them to put their trust in Jesus!

Who is God prompting you to Pray for, Care for and Share the Gospel with? Write their names on the center of the Cause Circle.



**Post it. Text it. Tweet it.
Pin It. Share it. Vlog it.**

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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goodnewstrain](https://oklahomabaptists.org/goodnewstrain)**