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How to Lead a Soul to Christ

Matt. 28:19-20

Winning people to Christ is a part of the Great Commission.

There are four steps:

1. Go ye.

You need to take the effort to step out and speak to someone.

2. Present the Gospel. (Teach all nations.)

We are supposed to reach out with our message.

God never intended for us to have a secret message.

3. Baptize our converts.

4. Teach and train them everything that we know.

That is part of what we are doing at church week by week.

When we teach and preach through the on Sunday or Wed. night, we are trying to have a well-rounded message, to fulfill that part of the Great Commission.

I want our teaching to cover as many themes as we can: Book studies, verse studies, chapter studies, character studies, studies on a certain theme, exhortation, comfort ...

That fourth step of the Great Commission is a life-long effort.

It is all directed at preparing to train more people to be ready to go out and do steps one, two, and three.

Sometimes the simplest truth is the one we overlook.

If we are going to win other people to Christ, then we need to know how to put it into words.

We need to know what verses to show them and how to make it clear.

Is salvation difficult? No

Do you have to be a genius to get saved? No

We could study the rest of our lives and never understand what happened the moment that we got saved.

I was justified, sanctified, (looking forward to be glorified), regenerated, received the atonement, adopted, saved, redeemed, born again, restored to fellowship with God, received imputed righteousness of Christ, redemption, grace, trusted by faith, received the propitiation (satisfaction or covering) by the blood of Christ....

At the same time, can a child understand enough to get saved? Yes

I didn't come from a Christian home, but at age 8, I heard it for the first time and it was clear enough to understand.

I got saved and I knew it.

Later I learned more about what happened at that moment, but I knew enough.

As Christians, we need to be able to present the Gospel in a clear manner.

We know what happened to us, but it can be hard to put it into the right words.

Most people will have no true spiritual background, so we have to aim for simplicity.

The lost world doesn't know the spiritual words you may know.

As you share the Gospel, you are not trying to impress them with how much that you know.

Simplicity is the key.

You want them to understand.

In presenting the Gospel we want complete accuracy and we want complete understanding so that the Holy Spirit can deal with their heart.

On the other hand, the religious lost have been taught a different meaning than the Bible means.

Example:

If you ask a Catholic if he has received Christ, what will he say? Yes. He does that every Sunday when he takes the mass and accepts the wafer.

Words don't always mean the same.

Are you saved?

Are you a Christian? Many people will say everyone is a Christian - you have to be something.

Everyone has heard of being born again, but they have never thought to look in the Bible and find out what it means – so they don't know if they are for it or against it.

There are hundreds of verses that you could use to lead a soul to Christ.

This evening, I am going to give you one set of verses that is among the easiest to present and understand.

It is simple, straightforward, and they can understand it.

Remember, you are not trying to impress them with all that you know.

You want the message simple. No rabbit trails.

You are talking about one topic and only one – how to be saved.

You do not want to confuse them.

- The Gospel is simple and I want them to see that.

- Show them that the Bible presents it simply.

Also, you don't want to confuse yourself.

Illus

One time a fox and a groundhog were in the forest talking.

All of a sudden they heard dogs barking.

The groundhog said, "I'm going in my hole."

The fox started laughing and said, "That silly groundhog, all he can do is go in his hole.

I'm smart as a fox.

I can jump over a fence.

I can climb a tree.

I can hide in the bushes.

Or I can hide in a hole too.

Let's see, what will I do this time?

And while he was trying to decide, the dogs got him.

Question I ask to lead into presenting the Gospel:

"If you were to die today, do you know 100% for sure that you would go to Heaven?"

(Not asking if saved, born again, etc.)

"If I could take a few minutes of your time and show you, from the Bible, how you could be 100% for sure, would you be willing to listen?"

There Are Four Things That You Are Going To Show Them

1. **All are sinners.** Romans 3:10, 3:23

Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

This is the first thing that a person must realize to be saved.

Why would a person need a Savior if they don't need to be saved from anything?

Explain what sin is.

Make sure to admit that you are a sinner – all are sinners.

2. **There is a penalty for sin.**

Rom 6:23a For the wages of sin *is* death

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Explain that because we have sinned, the Bible says that there is a punishment that we deserve.

If we break a law, then we go to jail.

If a child disobeys, they face a punishment.

The same is true when we think of ourselves with God.

The wages of sin is death.

Because we have sinned we deserve to die.

This goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden when God made us. Adam sinned and that has been passed to us. Rom 5:12

This is because we have all sinned.

There is nothing surprising there. We all know that we have to die.

When God speaks of death, He isn't just talking about us dying and going to the grave.

The Bible talks about a Second Death, an eternal death.

This is talking about hell.

Because we have sinned we deserve to go to that place called hell.

That isn't what God wants, but it is what we deserve.

Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

God is giving us a list of sins and saying that everyone who has committed sin, even something as small as lying (have you ever lied?) deserves to go to this place.

This doesn't sound like good news does it?

But the Gospel is the good news.

The good news is that God doesn't want you to go to that place.

He wants you to go to heaven.

3. **Jesus died to pay the penalty for us.** Rom 6:23b, 5:8

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (commendeth just means proved)

Jesus never sinned.

Because I have sinned, the penalty is death. (Rom 6:23a)

Someone must die to pay for my sins – either I die and pay for them by spending an eternity in hell, OR I can accept the payment that Jesus made when He died on the cross.

As He was dying He was making a payment for the sins of the whole earth.

That is how much that God loved us.

His righteousness requires that the payment be made.
We couldn't make the payment ourselves.
So He stepped down, was born into this world, lived a sinless life, and died for us.

So, we see that we are sinners, that we owe a penalty, and that Jesus paid the penalty.
The thing that we now need to know is, how can I receive this for myself?
Is it something that I can work for?

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Salvation is offered as a gift.
A gift is something that you receive from another; something you don't work for.

Example:
If I were to offer you my Bible and say, "This is a gift, just give me \$5." Is that a gift? No
What if I said, "This is a gift, just go wash my car and I'll give it to you." Is that a gift?" No

A gift is something that you do not pay for or work for.
That doesn't mean that it doesn't cost anything, because the giver has to pay for it.

When it comes to salvation, we are offered salvation as a gift, so you don't pay for it, but it was very costly because Jesus had to die to pay the price.

It is important that we understand that we do not receive salvation because of our goodness.
It is completely because of what Jesus did for us.

4. They must receive the payment by faith and ask Him to save them. Rom 10:9,10,13

Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
Rom 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

In order to receive this salvation we need to believe that Jesus was crucified, buried and rose again – and that He did this so that we could have salvation.
We need to trust only what Jesus did, and not anything that we have done.

Then we need to call out to Him in prayer and tell Him that we believe and ask Him to be our Saviour.

At this time I review what we have said and ask them if they believe.

1. Do you admit that you are a sinner? Yes
2. Do you accept that there is a punishment for your sins and that the punishment you deserve is hell?

Many people will accept the fact that they are a sinner, but will not accept the fact that **their sins** were deserving of hell.

If they will not accept that their sin deserves hell, then stop at this point and encourage them to accept what the Bible says.

Repentance is not there if they cannot admit this.

If a person is going to get saved they must need to be saved from something.

You don't want to lead them to pray while they are really still trusting their good works and not Christ.

(You can also ask them at this point, if you died right now do you think that you would go to heaven? Even if they said no when you started, they may now say yes. They are trusting their own works and goodness because, the more they think about it, they are not bad enough to go to hell.)

If they admit that they deserve hell, then continue.

3. Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross for you and that He paid for all of your sins? Yes
4. Would you be willing to pray with me right now and we can tell Jesus that you are trusting Him, and nothing else, to take you to heaven?

Even if someone won't let you present the Gospel with the verses, you should know those four points so that you can present it in a few sentences quickly.