

Lesson One

Testimony WHY should we tell others about the good news of Jesus Christ?

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The Great Commission

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20 ESV)

The Five Truths: Grace, Man, God, Christ, Faith (see next page)

Practice

- Rehearse the Five Truths - speak them out loud.

Homework

- Make a list of people you want to tell about Jesus, and pray for the opportunity.
- Memorize these Five Truths with the verses that accompany them.

The Five Truths

Grace:

- Grace is receiving something good we do not earn or deserve.
- We do not get into heaven by doing good deeds, by being a good parent, or by being a friend.
- We get into heaven by God's grace, because He loves us. He also says we must believe in Him in order to accept that free gift.
- o "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works..." (Ephesians 2:8, 9 ESV)

Man:

- Let's admit it: we mess up, we make mistakes, we are not nice, in fact, we sin. We violate God's laws and commit sins.
- And our sin separates us from God.
- o "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..." (Romans 3:23 ESV)
- "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
 (Romans 6:23 ESV)

God:

- God loves us: "...I have loved you with an everlasting love..." (Jeremiah 31:3 ESV)
- O God is also just: "...who will by no means clear the guilty..." (Exodus 34:7 ESV) God is righteous and must judge our sins.
- o So, we have a problem: our sin separates us from God.
- This causes a chasm -- a gap between us and God. God made the Way for us to be close to God.
 He built a bridge over that chasm, in His Son Jesus Christ.

Christ:

- Who is Jesus Christ? Jesus is 100% God and 100% Man at the same time: "In the beginning was the Word (Jesus). . . and the Word (Jesus) was God. And the Word (Jesus) became flesh and dwelt among us..." (John 1:1, 14 ESV)
- o Jesus is 100% God, even when He was here on earth for 33 years.
- Jesus was 100% man when He was here. He came to teach us about the Kingdom of God and to pay the penalty for our sins by dying on the cross.
- He didn't die on the cross to pay the penalty for HIS sins He didn't commit any sins.
- He was not killed on the cross because some mean people got the best of Him He could have escaped His crucifixion easily.
- Rather, He obeyed His Father's plan and submitted Himself to die on the cross to pay the penalty for OUR sins.

Faith:

- Faith is not an intellectual assent or an emotional response, but Faith is believing in our heart and trusting in Him.
- "...Believe (trust) in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31 ESV)
- "Because, If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9 ESV)
- What do we need to do in order to be close to God, to know for certain that we will go to heaven when we die, and live an abundant life while still here on earth, close to God?
 - Believe these truths in our heart.
 - Tell the Lord in prayer that you want Him to be your Lord and Savior.
- And you will then know for certain that you will live with Him now and forever.