

Practicing What You Preach

HomeWork #4

NOTE: This homework is ***NOT*** optional. To receive the maximum benefit from this course, you *must* commit to completing the “Break Out of Your Comfort Zone” activities. You will also be expected to share your experiences during the next session.

1. ***At-Home Preparation:*** Practice “Shower Power” – As you shower each day, practice bringing up the subject of God. Don’t worry about people hearing you; your family has probably heard you talking to yourself in the shower anyway. Here are a few suggestions to help you get started:
 - a)*** What do you think about all these hurricanes, earthquakes, and tsunamis? We never know when a tragedy may strike. Have you thought about what would happen to you if you died?
 - b)*** What do you think of the “Killer Bird Flu” in Asia? Scary, isn’t it? Makes me think about how precious life is. What do you think happens when a person dies?
 - c)*** Have you noticed how much we hear on the news about religion these days – religious movies, TV shows, celebrity beliefs, etc. Do you have a religious background?

Thinking through several different ways to bring up the subject of God, and hearing yourself say them out loud, will help you feel much more comfortable and confident as you talk with people.

2. ***Real-World Application:*** Okay, get ready for sweaty palms. If you feel confident, as you continue to leave or give out tracts this week, warmly greet strangers then hand them your favorite Ice Breaker. Simply give it to the person the same way you did in class. You can do this! For example, when you are at the checkout stand, greet the cashier and give him a tract as you are leaving. Or as you are going through a fast food drive-through, engage the person in a conversation about his job or day. You want him to warm up to you. Pass him a tract, say, “Please read this when you’ve got a minute,” and then drop the pedal to the medal and drive away saying to yourself, “I did it! Thank you Lord!”

Better to do it and run than to not do it at all. This may sound scary, but think of that person's eternal welfare. Then consider your worst-case scenario. You may hear, "No, thanks." If that happens, deal with it. It won't be pleasant to be rejected, but it isn't the end of the world. But more than likely, the person will take the tract, and even thank you for it. Again, remember to smile and offer a warm greeting like, "Good morning. How are you doing?" Just the person's response will help dissipate your fears. Then when you ask, "Did you get one of these?" he will be more likely to respond positively because of your friendly greeting. And if someone asks what is it, be ready to just say, "It's a gospel tract" or "It has a gospel message on it. Please take the time to read it. Nice to meet you." If you hand out the \$1 Million Bill, you may want to say, "It has a million-dollar question on the back. Be sure to read it!"

3. **Handouts:** (Not Optional)

*Read all handouts that you were given as daily devotions.

Important Notes on Handouts: _____

4. **School of Biblical Evangelism Book** (Not Optional)

*Read Lessons #15 (pages 103-109)

#25-#26 (pages 168-178)

#29-#30 (pages 190-202)

5. **For Deeper Study:** (optional)

a. Read John 4:1-42. What does this passage show us about the priorities of the Son of God? (See Luke 15:4-7)

b. What did Jesus say about the Samaritans and God (verse 22)?

c. What does this tell us about the religions of the world? (See Acts 17:23; 1 Corinthians 10:20; and 2 John 9)

d. In John 4:16-18, to which commandment was Jesus alluding as He spoke with the woman at the well? (See Romans 7:3)

e. According to verse 39, what was the result of her testifying?

f. Based on this, how can we best imitate Jesus?

g. Read Daniel 12:3. To what are we to “turn many”?

h. According to Proverbs 11:4, what delivers us from death?

i. What does the Holy Spirit convict the world of? (See John 16:8)

j. What is the relationship among these items?

k. Why should we therefore mention the Law (See Romans 7:13)?

Matthew Henry said, *“As that which is straight discovers that which is crooked, as the looking-glass shows us our natural face with all its spots and deformities, so there is no way of coming to that knowledge of sin which is necessary to repentance, and consequently to peace and pardon, but by comparing our hearts and lives with the Law.”* What is the link between the Law and repentance?

Memory Verse

John 3:3