www.TheCommandsOfJesus.com

Use this guide when most of the group have become new followers of Jesus.

Why obey? **Because OBEDIENCE Reveals ALLEGIANCE**, Romans 6:16

This resource is currently being developed and beta-tested. Each week, an update will be uploaded.

Commands to BECOME a follower of Jesus.

1. Repent & Believe
2. Be Baptized
3. Pray
4. Worship in Spirit & Truth
5. Love God
6. Love Others
7. Do what it says
8. Go Make Disciples

Commands to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus.

1. Be Reconciled to God
   - ✦ Training Activity: Watch this 4-minute video as a group.
2. Now Go
   - ✦ Training Activity: How to visit people you ALREADY KNOW.
3. Freely Give
   - ✦ Training Activity: How to visit people you HAVE NOT MET YET.
4. Ask Him for Workers
   - ✦ Training Activity: How to share your 15-second story.
5. Sent 2x2
   - ✦ Training Activity: How to share God's story in 4-minutes.
   - ✦ Extra Handout: 3-Circles Video Transcript
6. Know Them By Their Fruit
   - ✦ Training Activity: Red-Lights, Yellow-Lights, Green-Lights
7. Produce Lasting Fruit

Commands to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus

1. Endure to the End
2. Obeying God's commands 2 John 1:6
3. Do not fall for worldly bait, 1 John 2:15-17
4. Assurance verses study
5. The Big "If? Rom 11:22, 1 Cor 15:12, Col 1:21-23, Heb 3:6, 14
6. Draw Near, Hold Fast, Meet Together
7. Do These 4 Things
8. Give to the Needy
9. Pray & Fast
10. Serve One God
11. Don't Judge
12. Effective Prayer
13. Do to Others
14. Seek with all your heart.
15. Come unto to me - rest
16. Make no provision for the flesh Rom ??
17. Conduct yourself teamwork oneness Philippians 1.27&28
18. Think About These Things Eph 4:28-29, Phil 4:8
19. Avoid it! – anger Proverbs 27:8
20. The Way of Escape 1 Corinthians 10:13
21. Walk, Do, and Show Show your faith, James.
22. Wisdom James

Commands to fight the good fight with Jesus.

1. Continue -- **John 8:31, James 1:25, John 8:31. 1 John 2:3, 5:2-4**
2. Remain in Me -- ??
3. Let your light shine – Matthew 5
4. Love mercy, do justice, walk humbly
5. Contentment – Ecclesiastes
6. Pray for workers and fruit that will last – Luke 10:2, John 15:16
7. Pray Like This Matthew 6:5-18
8. Love Illogically Luke 10:25-37
9. Ask, Seek, Knock – continually – Luke 11:10ish
10. Tithe, Mal 3:8-12
11. Do not grieve the HS, Eph 4:30
12. Stop being angry, Ps 37
13. Stop quarreling, 2 Timothy 2:24

Commands for living free from shame, guilt, and addictions

1. The truth will set you free – John 8:32
2. Thoughts – 2 Cor 10:5, James 1:4, Pr 23:7
3. Comfort Each Other Death
4. Other 8 S's
5. Give Generously – Luke 6:38 and Mark 12:41-44

6. Be Devoted – Acts 2:36-47
7. Do this in Remembrance of Me
   Luke 22:7-30
8. Gather & Worship
   Not forsake, Rev 14

Commands for end-of-time living.

1. Keep my 10 Commandments –
   John 14:15, 15:14, Ex 20
2. Remember – Ez 20:20 & 12 & Ex 20:80-11, If you love me, keep my 10. (Meet on Sabbath)
3. Why remember, why longest air time, why forgotten,
4. Come Out – Rev
5. Join God in His Mission –
   seek and save the lost, 3 parables of the lost coin, sheep, etc.

What is Next? Download

www.SixQuestionsForAnyBibleStory.com/
Then, pick a book of the Bible to study.

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus: **Repent & Believe**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a time when you decided to change plans and do something completely different?

Read Bridge: Changing plans is part of life — we change driving routes. We change how we spend our finances. We change habits. And we even change careers. But to change directions, you have to leave something behind in order to gain something new. Today's story is about making a change that will cost you everything. But don't be deceived. You will gain more than you ever dreamed about. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* **Mark 1:15***? And who else would read the story in* **Luke 19:1-10***? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think would motivate a person to make these kinds of changes in their life?
   ✂ ——————————
2. Let's reread Luke 19:8-9. Why do you think Jesus told Zacchaeus that he was saved before he fulfilled his promise of making things right?
   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answers to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]
   From this story, what is an example to follow or a command to obey this next week?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today.
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus:
Be Baptized

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What are some of the common and not-so-common reasons people would go all the way under the water?

Read Bridge: Today's story gives another example of going underwater that most people don't think about. As we read about Jesus' baptism, you may wonder, What is baptism? Why is it important? What does baptism symbolize? Who should be baptized? And, if Jesus did not sin, why would He need to be baptized? These are excellent questions. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* **Matthew 28:18-20***? And who else would read the story in* **Matthew 3:13-17***? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. If you and a blind friend were watching someone being baptized, how do you think you could practically explain what is happening so your friend could see the baptism in his mind's eye?
   ✂ ——————————
2. Let's reread Matthew 3:16. Jesus showed us how He wants us to be baptized. He wants us to go all the way under the water. What do you think going under and coming out of the water symbolizes?
   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answers to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]
   From this story, what is an example to follow or a command to obey this next week?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today.
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus: **Pray**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When people hear the word "prayer," what do you think comes to their minds?

Read Bridge: Today's story will teach us how to pray. We will discover that we can talk with God about any topic that comes to our mind. But there are humble ways to pray and attention-getting ways to pray that this story warns about. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* **1 Thessalonians 5:17***? And who else would read the story in* **Matthew 6:5-15***? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What are 3 things you see these prayer instructions teach us about humanity, both the good and the bad?

   ✂ ——————————
2. Let's reread verses 9-15. What are the different prayer topics Jesus includes? And why do you think He spends extra time on the topic of forgiveness?

   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   From these prayer instructions, what parts of this prayer do you want to obey this next week?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus: **Worship**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* How would you describe happiness?

Read Bridge: People have tried everything imaginable to find peace and happiness. Today's story shows us what it takes to experience a life of peace, happiness, and contentment. But we will have to dig a bit to discover it. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in **John 4:23-24**? And who else would read the story in **John 4:1-26?** After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. In today's world, what are some of the common and no-so-common things people try in their search for lasting peace and happiness in life?

   ✂ ——————————————

2. Let's read the two verses again, verses 14 and 24. If God were to explain more about both these verses, what do you think He would share with us?

   ✂ ——————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What do you see as your next step in following Jesus and worshiping God in Spirit and truth?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus: **Love God**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* How many pages of laws do you think the US government has? (*Answer*: About 75,000 pages. Source)

Read Bridge: Did you know that God's 10 Commandments are the *only* part of the Bible He writes with His own finger? They make up the great Constitution that governs God's Kingdom. As we read the 1st half of the original 10 Commandments, remember we obey them not to *get* saved, but when we accept Jesus, we *are* saved. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* **John 14:15***? And who else would read the story in* **Exodus 20:3-11** & **Exodus 31:18***? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. We just read the first half of the 10 Commandments that teach us how to show our love for God. Which of these commandments are familiar to you, which ones are new to you, and which are challenging for you?

   ✂ ——————————
2. Let's reread John 14:15. Instead of forcing us to obey, why do you think it is so important to God that we obey his commands because we love him?

   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   From these verses, which of these Commandments in Exodus 20:3-11 do you want to do a better job obeying this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus: **Love Others**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What do you think is easier for you, to say "I love you" or to show someone that you love them?

Read Bridge: The New Testament summarizes the 10 Commandments by saying they are based on our love for God and our love for others. God's 10 Commands give us specific details on how to do this. As we read the 2nd half of the original 10 commandments, remember we obey them not to *get* saved, but when we accept Jesus, we *are* saved. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* **John 15:14 & 17***? And who else would read the story in* **Exodus 20:12-17***? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. We just read the last half of the 10 Commandments that teach us how to show our love for others. Which of these commandments are familiar to you, which ones are new to you, and which are challenging for you?

   ✂ ——————————
2. Let's reread John 15:14 & 17 again. Why do you think Jesus is so interested in how we treat other people?

   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   From these verses, which of these Commandments in Exodus 20:12-17 do you want to do a better job obeying this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus:
Do What It Says

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When you hear the word "prophecy," what comes to your mind?

Read Bridge: A prophecy is a foretelling or prediction of what is to come. Have you ever wondered if Jesus obeyed God or if Jesus could do whatever He wanted? The Bible records lots of predictions that come true in Jesus' life simply because He obeyed what God said to do. Believe it or not, today's story describes something that Jesus would do 500 years before it actually happened. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***James 1:22-25?*** *And who else would read the story in* ***Matthew 21:1-11?*** *After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. If disobedience to God's commands leads to self-deception. Why do you think people typically do what they think is best instead of simply obeying God's commands?

   ✂ ——————————————
2. Let's read verse 4 & 5 again. When Jesus rides in on a colt, what do you think He was announcing to everyone? And what do you think would have happened if Jesus had decided to disobey God?

   ✂ ——————————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What is something that, deep down in your heart, you know you need to obey God?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to BECOME a follower of Jesus:
Go Make Disciples

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* Using appropriate discretion, when was a time when you were embarrassed?

Read Bridge: For many people, today's story would have been very embarrassing and even shameful. Instead, this lady is excited and very impressed with what she is told, runs back to her friends and family, and announces to everyone what just happened to her. Why would she do this? *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***Matthew 28:19-20****? And who else would read the story in* ***John 4:26-42****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Let's read verse 29 again. Why do you think "being told all you have ever done" was such positive and convincing evidence for her that she wanted to tell everyone what had just happened?

   ✂ ——————————————

2. Let's read verses 39-42 again. Describe a person in your life that God used to help you learn more about Jesus.

   ✂ ——————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   How could you be more proactive in leading people to Jesus this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Be Reconciled to God

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of the next page for each person.*

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When you hear the word "reconciled," what comes to your mind?

Read Bridge: According to the dictionary, to reconcile is to "the restoration of friendly relations." Today's story is an invitation to have a friendly relationship with God. A friendly relationship makes us right with God. He is our friend, and he invites us to be His friend. That is how He makes us new people. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***2 Corinthians 5:20****? And who else would read the rest of the story in* ***2 Corinthians 5:17-21****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Let's read verse 17 again. What do you think it practically looks like to be a new person in Christ?

   ✂ ——————————————

2. Let's read verse 20 in all the translations we have in our circle. Even though we have faults and struggles, why do you think God decided to depend on us to invite other people to become friends with God?

   ✂ ——————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What can you do this week to become a more effective ambassador for Jesus?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

Essential Skill #1 of 6:

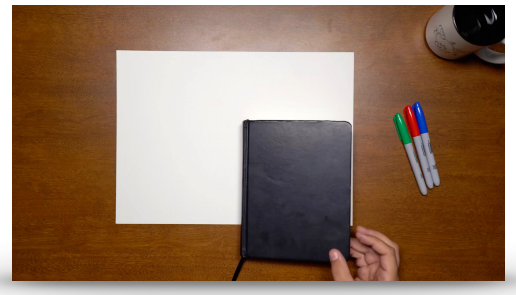
How to be an Ambassador of Jesus

After lunch, training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

Directions:

1. **Download Why?** https://vimeo.com/883547357
2. **Watch** this 4-minute video clip together.
3. While the video is playing, **draw the picture** that is in the video on this piece of paper.



How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Now Go

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of the next page for each person.*

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a recent time you visited with a friend or neighbor in their home or at work? And what did you talk about?

Read Bridge: We visit with people all the time. It is something we naturally do in life. Today's story is going to teach us how to visit people to see where God is already working in their lives. Then, immediately after lunch, we are going to watch a 3-minute video clip to help us connect with friends and neighbors who we cross paths with where we live or at work. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***Luke 10:1-3****? And who else would read the rest of the story,* ***10:4-20****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ———————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Let's read verses 4-5 again in several translations. How would you make sense of this and apply it in our culture?

   ✂ ————————————

2. Let's read verses 2-3 again. Why do you think Jesus sends us, instead of angels, to visit with friends and neighbors?

   ✂ ————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   From this story, what is an example to follow or a command to obey this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

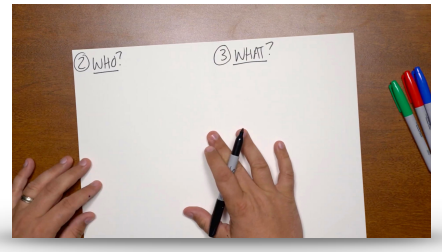
Essential Skills #2 of 6:

How to Visit People You *ALREADY KNOW*

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

Who are the people I *already* know?



- **Downland — 1) Who?** https://vimeo.com/885937069
- **Watch** this 3-minute video together.
- **Make** our own Oikos Map on the back of this piece of paper. Take 5-10 minutes to quietly think and write.
- **Read** John 17:20 together. **Make** your extended Oikos Map.

How do I visit these people I *already* know?

KNOCK ✦ COMPLEMENT ✦ ASK — In that order.

1) KNOCK on their "door" (at home or at work).



- "It has been some time since we've connected. How are you all doing?"
- We initiate conversations with people all the time.
- It is something we naturally do in life.

2) COMPLEMENT them.

- "The reason I stopped by is I really like your mailbox."
- A sincere compliment opens their hearts.

3) ASK a question.

- "Where did you get it?"

4) LISTEN — Where is God working in their life?

- People talk about God without religious language.
- Spiritual conversations include concerns for family members, personal crises, medical concerns, a challenge they are facing, etc.

5) PRAY — If appropriate, ask them if you could pray for their situation.

Practice "Knocking" on a Friend's Door.

1. Everyone stands up and forms two equal lines that face each other.
2. One line holds up their hand so the person facing them can **knock** on their hand (a door).
3. **Compliment** them on an imaginary item like their mailbox, flower bed, boat, garden, car, etc.
4. **Ask** them a question about it. Reverse the roles. The other person holds up their hand (a door).
5. Once both people have taken turns practicing, one line stays put. One line shifts to the right.
6. Practice with your new partner. Continue practicing and shifting until the line comes full circle.

How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Freely Give

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of the next page for each person.*

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a time when someone gave you something, or you gave something to someone else?

Read Bridge: Life is made up of giving to others and receiving from others. We do that on a regular basis. It is the building blocks of life. Today's story is about freely giving to others what Jesus has already given to us. Then, immediately after lunch, we are going to do a training activity to help us better give away what we already have. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***Matthew 10:7-8****? And who else would read the story in* ***Matthew 10:9-15****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ———————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Let's read verses 7-8 again. Why do you think this is not the norm today? And for us to live our lives like this, what do you think it would practically look like?

   ✂ ————————————
2. Considering the end of verse 8, What are some of the specific things God has given to us that we can freely give to others?

   ✂ ————————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   How can you give freely to others this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ————————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ————————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ————————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

Essential Skill #3 of 6:

How to Visit People You Have *NOT YET MET*

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

How do I visit these people I *already* know?

KNOCK ✦ SAY ✦ PRAY ✦ INTRODUCE YOURSELF — In that order.

1) KNOCK on their "door" (at home or at work).

- We initiate conversations with people all the time. It is something we naturally do in life.
- In a neighborhood, 2x2 is better than solo. One person talks while the other person prays.

2) SAY — something like this.

- We've never met before. But my wife and I live over on _____ road. We were recently considering all the difficulties going on in the world and how many families are facing difficult times. Even though we cannot solve the world's problems, we decided that what we could do was offer to pray for families. Would you like us to pray for you and your family?
  - If not — Not a problem. Have a good day.
  - If yes — Is there anything specific we can pray for?

- Don't start with your name because they will be scanning their mental database to see if they remember you and will not hear what you say next.
- When they open the door, talk slowly.
- Be relaxed as you would be talking with a friend.

3) PRAY — a typical prayer.

- Dear living God in Heaven (In today's world, you must be clear about which "god" you are addressing). We are asking for your help with _____. This next week, please reveal yourself so that this family knows you have heard and answered our prayer. We need your help and nowhere else to turn. In Jesus' name, Amen.

4) INTRODUCE YOURSELF

- By the way, my name is _____. What is your name?
- We'll stop by next weekend to see what God has done for you and your family.
- Now you have a reason to return next week to see what God has done and pray again.

Practice "Knocking" on a Stranger's Door.

1. Everyone stands up and forms two equal lines that face each other.
2. One line holds up their hand so the person facing them can **knock** on their hand (a door).
3. **Say, Pray,** and **Introduce Yourself.**
4. Reverse the roles. The other person holds up their hand (a door).
5. Once both people have taken turns practicing, one line stays put. One line shifts to the right.
6. Practice with your new partner. Continue practicing and shifting until the line comes full circle.

How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Ask Him for Workers

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of the next page for each person.*

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a time when you asked someone to do something for you? What was it?

Read Bridge: Today's story is a collection of promises, warnings, and specific directions for living a God-honoring life that brings joy, happiness, and satisfaction. Then, immediately after lunch, we are going to do a training activity to help us easily share what God does for us with others. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in **Matthew 9:37-38**? And who else would read the story in **Matthew 10:16-42**? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What parts of this story do you find confusing? What parts are frightful? And what parts give you reassurance?

   ✂ ——————————

2. Let's read Matthew 9:37-38 & Matthew 10:16 again. Why do you think God asks us to pray for more workers and then tell us that He is sending each of us?

   ✂ ——————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   How do you think Jesus would like to send you as one of his workers this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

Essential Skill #4 of 6:

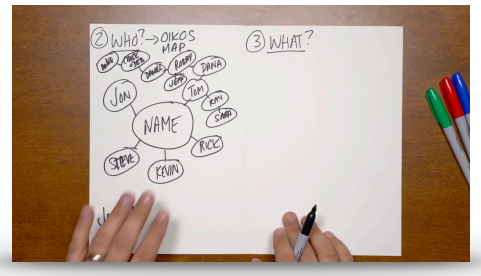
How to Share Your Story in 15-Seconds

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

Directions:

1. **Download — 2) What?** https://vimeo.com/890582322
2. **Watch** this 4-minute video clip together.
3. While the video is playing, **draw the picture** that is in the video on this piece of paper.
4. Let's take a few minutes to **quietly build our own story** pictures before we practice sharing them.



Draw the Video Picture Story Here

Build Your Picture Story Here

Note: Your story can be any time when Jesus helped you make a change in your life. It does *not* have to be the 1st time you accepted Jesus.

Practice Sharing Your Story in 15-Seconds.

1. **Everyone** stands up and forms two equal lines that face each other.
2. **Share** your story in 15 seconds or less with the person facing you.
3. **Reverse** the roles. The other person shares their story.
4. Once both people have taken turns sharing, **one line stays put**. The other line **shifts to the right**.
5. **Practice** with your new partner. **Continue practicing and shifting until the line comes full circle**.

How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Sent 2x2

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of the next page for each person.*

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a time when you tried something you had not done before, and it was out of your comfort zone?

Read Bridge: Today's story is not new. We have already read it in another part of the Bible. But this story includes two very important things we have not learned yet. So, let's figure out what they are. Then, immediately after lunch, we are going to do a training activity to help us draw a picture of 3-Circles that quickly tells God's story. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***Mark 6:7****? And who else would read the rest of the story in* ***Mark 8-13****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think are the pros and cons of going 2x2 as compared to going 3x3 or going alone?

   ✂ ——————————————

2. Let's reread Mark 6:12-13 from a couple of different translations. A) Why do you think God lists healing people *after* telling them God's story and inviting people to repent and turn to God? B) And practically, how does a person use olive oil to anoint a person?

   ✂ ——————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What are some specific ways you can obey Jesus' command to go tell others about Him this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

Essential Skill #5 of 6:

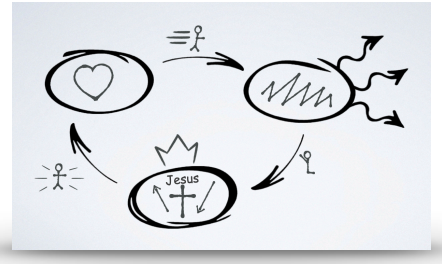
How to Share God's Story in 4-Minutes

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

Directions:

1. **Download — 4) What?** 3-Circles Part A — 3-minute clip.
2. **Watch** Part A together.
3. While the video is playing, **draw the picture** that is in the video on this piece of paper.
4. **Subdivide** into groups of 3 people.
5. Each person takes a turn **drawing** the 3-Circles.
6. **Download — 4) What?** 3-Circles Part B — 1-minute clip.
7. **Watch** Part B together.
8. **Get** back into your groups of 3 people.
9. Each person takes a turn **drawing** the 3-Circles AND **Asking the question.**
10. **Provide** extra blank pieces of paper for people to use while practicing.



Draw the Video Picture Story Here

3-Circles Video Transcript

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

Video Part A – The Story

If you turn on the television or look at your Facebook feed, it's clear that we live in a broken world. There's a lot of death, disease, and suffering.

But we also see traces of beauty…like the beauty of a sunset or the laugh of a child. And that's because the world as God made it was not broken. There was no death, disease, or suffering. But starting with the very first people, we chose to leave God's perfect design and go our own way. And that's called SIN.

Sin is what led us to this state of brokenness and sinfulness. We don't like to be in brokenness, so we try to get out. So for some… they think if I can call the ladder of success, that will get me out of brokenness. Others think if I can just be a good person or be religious and go to church, that will get me out. And others try to drown it out with drugs and alcohol, relationships, or suicide attempts. But all these efforts to get out of brokenness by yourself lead to just snapping us back in like a bungee chord and leads to more brokenness. But God loved us so much that He did not want us to stay in brokenness. So He provided the only way out by doing for us what we could not do for ourselves, and that's through His son, Jesus. You see, Jesus came down into our world and allowed Himself to be killed on a cross, taking on our sins. And on the 3rd day, He rose from the dead. And He said if we would turn from our way, and surrender to Him, and make Him the king of our lives, that we'd be forgiven…and would be restored back into God's design for our life.

Video Part B – The Invitation

Which of these two circles would you say you are in today? Are you still in brokenness or have you, are you back in God's design because you have chosen to turn and follow Jesus? Which of these two would you want to be in?

O.k. Great! Well, is there anything that keeps you from turning and believing in Jesus today? You know, when I chose to make that decision, I prayed a prayer very similar to this picture. I said, "God, I'm very sorry for my sin, that I've left Your design, and I want to turn from my way and surrender to You, believing that You came and died on the cross and rose from the grave; and I want to make you my king. And I'd like to be forgiven and back into Your design. Is that a prayer you'd like to pray?

How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Know Them By Their Fruits

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of the next page for each person.*

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When you buy fruit, how do you decide if it is good fruit or bad fruit?

Read Bridge: Can anyone guess what is the most famous verse in the Bible? [*pause and guess*] It used to be John 3:16, "For God so loved the world," but not anymore. Now, the most famous verse is Matthew 7:1, which says, "Do not judge [me]." Yet, just a few verses later, Jesus says we are to evaluate or judge the fruit of people's lives. As can be expected, this is a very sensitive but important topic we will be talking about today. Then, immediately after lunch, we are going to do a training activity and draw a red-light / yellow-light / green-light picture that helps us evaluate a person's openness to following Jesus. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***Matthew 7:20****? And who else would read the story in* ***Matthew 7:13-23****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Why do you think we put so much effort into trying to look good on the outside, even though we are struggling or falling apart on the inside?

   ✂ ——————————————

2. Read verses 20 again. If we could ask God, what are healthy and appropriate ways to evaluate the fruit of other people's lives and the fruit of our own life, what principles do you think He would give?

   ✂ ——————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   As you honestly inspect the fruit of your own life, what is one thing you would like to ask God to change this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

Essential Skill #6 of 6:

Red-Lights, Yellow-Lights, Green-Lights

After lunch training activity *— Print a copy of this page for each person.*

Index

Directions:

1. **Download — 5) Red Yellow Green Lights,** https://vimeo.com/898621616
2. **Read** Acts 17:32-34 together. What are the three different kinds of responses people give when they hear the gospel?
3. **Watch** this 6-minute video clip together.
4. While the video is playing, **draw the picture** that is in the video on this piece of paper.
5. **Each person** has an opportunity to draw and describe the picture to their group.
6. **Print and give** everyone a copy of www.EightStoresOfHope.com.
7. **Print and give** everyone the *first page* of www.TheCommandsOfJesus.com.
8. **Print and give** everyone a copy of www.SixQuestionsForAnyBibleStudy.com.



Draw the Video Picture Story Here

How to HELP OTHERS follow Jesus:
Produce Lasting Fruit

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* Think of some people you enjoy being around. What is it about them that causes you to want to be around them?

Read Bridge: Today's story is going to be a bit surprising. It begins by listing wicked habits and practices that degrade us, our families, and those around us. But this story ends by spotlighting God-honoring qualities that strengthen us, our families, and those around us. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in **John 15:16-17**? And who else would read our story in **Galatians 5:16-26**? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. John 15:16 talks about fruit that lasts long-term. What do you think helps us display good fruit in our lives that lasts long-term, even when people throw junk at us?

   ✂ ——————————————

2. Someone, please read Galatians 5:19-23 again. Since we naturally produce wicked fruit and only God can produce God-honoring fruit in our lives, how do you think God actually goes about the process of changing our bad fruit into good fruit?

   ✂ ——————————————

3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   Drawing from this story, what fruits do you want to turn away from, and what fruits do you want God to cultivate in your life this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————

4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————

6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus: **Endure to the End**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a time when you had to endure or persevere even in the face of obstacles?

Read Bridge: Endurance may not be a common character strength today. But it is an absolutely essential skill for people who follow Jesus. Even though we live in a low-commitment and a no-commitment world, God's way involves a high commitment in spite of hardship, persecution, setbacks, and opposition. That is why He says the person who endures to the end will be saved. But let's read this for ourselves. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in **Matthew 24:13**? And who else would read the story in **Matthew 24:4-13**? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think makes the difference between someone who endures until the end and someone who starts strong but fizzles out?

   ✂ ——————————————
2. Let's read verse 13 again. If Jesus had left out the phrase "enduring to the end will be saved," how do you think God's plan to save us would have been different?

   ✂ ——————————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What is an area of your life that you need to ramp up your endurance?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus:
Draw Near, Hold Fast, Meet Together

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* Who is someone in your life who has inspired, motivated, or encouraged you to do something worthwhile?

Read Bridge: We all need someone to cheer us on, especially when we waver. In today's story, we find at least four commands for staying connected with Jesus. Two of these commands involve staying connected with each other, which, believe it or not, helps us stay connected with Jesus. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in* ***Hebrews 10:22-24****? And who else would read the rest of the story in* ***Hebrews 10:19-25****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. In verses 22-24, what are the four or more commands given, and why do you think these are essential for staying connected with Jesus?

   ✂ ——————————————
2. What do you see the first part of this story telling us about God, Heaven, and how His Kingdom works?

   ✂ ——————————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   Of the commands we discussed, which one do you want to strengthen in your life this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus: **Do These Four Things**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* When was a time, now or in the past, when you felt like you were spiritually thriving?

Read Bridge: What would you be willing to do in order to thrive spiritually this next week? Today's story highlights four things Jesus' followers did in order to thrive spiritually. Notice, this is not an "if I feel like it" kind of commitment. This commitment takes perseverance and accountability. And God honored their high-level commitment and did amazing things. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers. Who would read Jesus' command in **Acts 2:42**? And who else would read the rest of the story in **Acts 2:42-47**? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think is our part in helping our spiritual life thrive? And what do you think is our part in helping other believers to thrive spiritually?

   ✂ ——————————
2. What does this story teach us about God's role in helping us to thrive spiritually?

   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What could you do to raise your level of commitment in these four areas listed in verse 42?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus:
Give to the Needy

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What are some of the obvious and not-so-obvious ways people try to get others to notice them?

Read Bridge: Have you noticed how we crave being noticed by others? There are all kinds of "look-at-me" behaviors we use to get noticed. Some are bad behaviors, and some are good - at least they seem good on the surface, but underneath the surface, they come from the same craving to be noticed by others. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers to read our story in two different translations. Who would read the story in* ***Matthew 6:1-4****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Deep down in our hearts, what do you think drives us to seek recognition from others?

   ✂ ——————————
2. Let's find the verses that include the word "reward." What do you see as some of the differences between rewards that come from others and rewards that come from God?

   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What are some very tangible ways I can help others who are in need this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus:
Pray & Fast

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What comes to your mind when you hear these two words: pray and fast?

Read Bridge: Generally, people are familiar with prayer, but fasting is uncommon. Yet Jesus teaches us that these two things are part of following Him. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers to read our story in two different translations. Who would read the story in* ***Matthew 6:5-18****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think this story teaches us about ourselves and the human race?
   ✂ ——————————
2. Someone, please read verses 14-18 again. Why do you think God emphasizes forgiveness and finishes this story with instructions about fasting?
   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]
   What parts of this story do you want to focus on this next week?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus:
Serve One God

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What do you think is the difference between saving and holding?

Read Bridge: Money and possession are sensitive topics. It is so easy to look across the fence and have strong opinions about what we see in other people. But what about some honest introspection as we consider our own money and possessions? Today's story will help us with this. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers to read our story in two different translations. Who would read the story in* ***Matthew 6:19-34****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you see this story teaches us about ourselves and our ways of living life?
   ✂ ——————————
2. What do you think this story teaches us about God and what he would like to do in our lives?
   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]
   Let's quickly summarize the "do" and "don't" commands in this story. If you were to choose one or two to focus on this next week, which ones would you choose?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus: **Don't Judge**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What do you think makes a person a hypocrite?

Read Bridge: A few years ago, the most popular verse in the Bible was, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." But times have changed, and there is a new, most popular verse. Can you guess what it might be? *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers to read our story in two different translations. Who would read the story in* ***Matthew 7:1-6****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What insights into humanity, both the good and not-so-good, do you see the story including?

   ✂ ——————————
2. What do you think God wants us to discover about Him and His Kingdom ways?

   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What is a command to obey or an example you need to follow this next week?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus: **Effective Prayer**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What do you think makes the difference between a "good gift" and a "bad gift"?

Read Bridge: It seems that "good gifts" and "bad gifts" all depend upon the perspective of the person giving the gift or the person receiving the gift. Is our perspective always right, or could it be wrong? And what about God's perspective? We are about to read a very interesting story. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers to read our story in two different translations. Who would read the story in* ***Matthew 7:7-11****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think are some examples of "good gifts" we might ask for because we think they are good, but from God's perspective, they would be "bad gifts"? And how can we trust God's perspective when it does not make sense to us?

   ✂ ——————————————
2. How do you think God filters our requests so He only gives us "good gifts" that are truly good for us?

   ✂ ——————————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   Given our discussion, how would you pray differently this next week?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus:
Do To Others

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* What do you think causes people to argue with each other, fight back, and do or say unkind things to others?

Read Bridge: If there was one verse in the Bible that would make your life better, today's verse may be what you have been looking for. Be forewarned; this is not an easy verse. But if you obey it, live it, and do what it says, people you live with and interact with will notice something is different about you. So, what is this verse? *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we'll read our story in the different translations we have in our circle. What Bible translation do you have, and would you read our story in* ***Matthew 7:12****? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ——————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. What do you think are some real-life situations that make this verse *easy* to apply, and what are some situations that make it *hard* to apply?

   ✂ ——————————————
2. Jesus could have said, treat others the way *I* would treat them. Why do you think he said to treat others how *you* would like to be treated?

   ✂ ——————————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]

   What can you practically do this next week to apply this verse in your life?

   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?

   ✂ ——————————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?

How to STAY ON TRACK with Jesus: **Template**

Index

CHECK-IN: *Welcome everyone. You answer the 3 questions first, then go around the circle.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a highlight or lowlight that happened this past week?
3. What personal goal did you write down last time, and how did it go?

Kick-off Question: *You go first, then go around the circle.* Text

Read Bridge: Bridge. *As we get started, I'll have prayer, and then we need two volunteers to read our story in two different translations. Who would read the story in**??**? After the story, I'll prompt us as we try to retell the story together from memory, with as many details as possible. But let's pray before we read.*

✂ ———————————————————————————————————————

6 Questions: *Cut on the dotted line and distribute around the circle. Ask, "Who has question one?"*

1. Our story
   ✂ ——————————
2. God's story
   ✂ ——————————
3. Everyone will need a pen and a notepad or a 3x5 index card. Let's take 3 minutes to quietly think and write down our answer to this question. [*Have extra notepads and cards for people.*]
   … this next week?
   - I'll start the timer. We have 3 minutes to think and write.
   - Time is up. I'll go first and share what I wrote today
   - Then, we'll go clockwise around the circle.

   ✂ ——————————
4. Who did you reach out to last week, or would like to reach out to this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
5. What parts of the Bible did you read last week, or would like to read this next week?
   ✂ ——————————
6. As we wrap up, what do we need to talk with God and pray about?