Sharing My Faith: "Who?"

Evangelism is not just <u>our</u> responsibility, it's <u>my</u> responsibility.

Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "He is a prophet." The Jews still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind How is it that now he can see?" "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" -John 9:17-25

3 FEARS THAT PREVENT YOU FROM SHARING YOUR STORY:

- 1. Failure
- 2. Rejection
- 3. Ignorance

7 WAYS I CAN PREPARE TO LEAD SOMEONE TO CHRIST:

1. Write out your personal testimony, asking the Holy Spirit to help you.

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. -1 Peter 3:15

2. Focus on three areas of your life:

Your Life Before Christ

How You Met Christ

The Difference Jesus has made in your life

***Aim to share it in 3 minutes or less.

3. Use <u>language</u> that an <u>unbeliever</u> will understand.

4. Use <u>Scripture</u> in your testimony.

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. -Hebrews 4:12

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. Instead of the thorn bush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed." -Isaiah 55:8-13

5. Pray for opportunities and boldness.

"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.
-Acts 4:29-31

- 6. Practice sharing this with your friends until you're comfortable.
- 7. Understand the <u>potential</u> for <u>change</u> this creates.

Discussion Questions:

- 1) Who shared Jesus with you? What was that conversation like and what can you learn from it?
- 2) Do you have a life verse? Share it with someone or discover one.
- 3) Who are you praying for to be saved?

Homework:

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Pray: Pray for God to move in our church in a huge way. Imagine the fruit that God will bring when more people in our church family are telling others about Christ.

Apply: Write out your testimony. You want to be able to share it in 3 minutes or less.

Engle Scale of Evangelism

-10		Awareness of the supernatural
-9		No effective knowledge of Christianity
-8		Initial Awareness of Christianity
-7		Interest in Christianity
-6		Awareness of basic facts of the Gospel
-5		Grasp of implications of the Gospel
-4		Positive attitude to the Gospel
-3		Awareness of personal need
-2		Challenge and decision to act
-1		Repentance and faith
	 	A Dissiple in Desert
0	!	A Disciple is Born!
+1		Evaluation of decision
+1		Evaluation of decision
+1 +2		Evaluation of decision Initiation into the church
+1 +2 +3		Evaluation of decision Initiation into the church Become part of the process of making other disciples
+1 +2 +3 +4		Evaluation of decision Initiation into the church Become part of the process of making other disciples Growth in understanding of the faith
+1 +2 +3 +4 +5		Evaluation of decision Initiation into the church Become part of the process of making other disciples Growth in understanding of the faith Growth in Christian character
+1 +2 +3 +4 +5 +6		Evaluation of decision Initiation into the church Become part of the process of making other disciples Growth in understanding of the faith Growth in Christian character Discovery and use of gifts