



Follow My Lead:  
The Art of Evangelism  
Video Series  
by Holly A. Melton

follow My lead: The Art of Evangelism.

# Syllabus

We are all commissioned to go share the gospel with others, but so often we just don't know exactly how to even begin the conversation with our friends, family and co-workers. These five lessons will show you how to relationally connect and engage in spiritual conversations and the gospel with the people around you as you walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

What you will learn through these five lessons:

- You will learn how to practically walk in the Spirit as you share the gospel with others.
- You will learn the foundation of what you need to communicate to know the gospel has been shared.
- You will learn how to break down thresholds to postmoderns who are not yet ready to accept the gospel.
- You will learn how to ask questions to get into spiritual conversations as well as how to discuss Jesus and the gospel.
- You will learn how to tell the story of the gospel in new ways.
- You will learn what it means to contextualize the gospel to your audience.
- You will learn how to enter into the pain of others' lives.
- You will learn how a surrendered life is essential for lives to be impacted around you.

Lesson 1: The Foundations of the Gospel  
*(Read Ch 1 & 10 prior to watching lesson 1)*

Lesson 2: Overcoming Barriers to the Gospel  
*(Read Ch 2 & 3 prior to watching lesson 2)*

Lesson 3: Practical Way to Sharing the Gospel  
*(Read 4-6, but especially 5 prior to watching lesson 3)*

Lesson 4: Asking Good Questions  
*(Read Ch 7 & 8 prior to watching lesson 4)*

Lesson 5: Bringing the Gospel to the Hurting  
*(Read Ch 9 & 12 prior to watching lesson 5)*

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Feel free to email me at [holly.melton@cru.org](mailto:holly.melton@cru.org) with questions or comments or even stories of how you are applying these things in your own life.

# Practical Ways to Sharing the Gospel

## Lesson 3

**Group Discussion:** Before you watch the video, take 10-15 minutes to share steps of faith that you have taken since the beginning of this class

*"...because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction."* 1 Thessalonians 1:5 ESV

### **Narrative survey/gospel presentation**

Five questions you can ask to grasp a person's world view:

1. Why do you think you are here on earth? (ie. What is your purpose?)
2. What do you think went wrong with the earth?
3. What do you think can put the world right?
4. How can we be a part of putting the world right?
5. Can I share with you how I would answer these questions from a Biblical perspective?

### **Brief Gospel Summary:**

Think through how you would share each of these points in your own words and memorize it so that it is more conversational.

### **Why are we here?** (God wants us in community)

God has community in Himself - a Trinity of three persons (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit) who each perfectly know and defer to one another, love one another, and therefore have infinite joy, glory and peace. God made a good, beautiful world with people who could share in this life of joy and peace by knowing, serving, and loving God and one another.

### **What went wrong with the world?** (Selfishness has led to disintegration)

Instead of centering our lives around this loving Creator, we chose to center our lives around ourselves and on the pursuit of things on earth rather than on God and others. This has led to the disintegration of creation and the loss of peace - within us, between others, and in nature itself. War, hunger, poverty, injustice, racism, bitterness, meaninglessness, despair, sickness, and death all are symptoms of this choice.

### **What puts the world right?** (Jesus brings restoration)

Though we lost our focus on God, He desires to win us back to Himself. He entered history in the person of Jesus in order to deal with all the effects of our broken relationship with Him. By

his sacrificial life and death, He both rescues us from the life we have lived and exemplifies the life we must live. By His resurrection, He proved who He was (God in the flesh) and showed us the promise of the future: that we would receive new bodies and a completely restored earth full of joy, justice, peace and glory.

**How can we be part of putting the world right?** (Having His power work through us)

Between his first coming, which was to win us back to Himself and His last coming, which will bring us to complete restoration, we live by faith in Him. When we believe and rely on Jesus' work and perfect record (rather than our sinful one) for our relationship with God, His healing power comes upon us and begins to work through us. Christ gives us a radically new identity, freeing us from both self righteousness and self-condemnation. This liberates us to accept people we once excluded, and to break the bondage of things (even good things) that once drove us. He puts us into a new community of people which gives a partial, but real, foretaste of the healing of the world that God will accomplish when Jesus returns.

- The goal is to share this story and then ask for their feedback.

Ask questions about objections.

- “Are there any objections that come to your mind when you hear what Jesus says about that?”
- “Are there things that make it hard to believe this message of the Bible?”

Options how to end the conversation.

- You can encourage them to trust Christ and begin to follow Him.
- You can encourage them to read the Bible on their own to discover His claims.
- Or just thank them for their time if they seemed more hostile.

**What helps us contextualize the gospel?**

Knowing what are cultural norms vs. Biblical truth.

Which of these are cultural and which are Biblical? Which are crucial to the gospel?

- moving in together before marriage
- dancing, drinking
- dating, courting, kissing
- how you spend money

- debt, is there 'healthy' debt?
- divorce
- how we resolve conflict/communicate (direct/indirect)

### **Learning the distinction between conviction, persuasion and opinion beliefs.**

- Convictions: (central to the gospel)
  - Core to the gospel and doctrine: salvation depends on it.
  - Galatians 2: Paul confronting Peter on justification by faith not works. Central!
- Persuasions: (how our faith plays out)
  - Can be interpreted in various ways in scripture but not related to salvation.
  - Romans 14: food sacrificed to the idols and weaker brother.
  - Eternal security isn't central to the gospel. (ie. predestination/free will, end times, certain spiritual gifts.)
- Opinions:
  - Personal standards to pursue holiness that aren't clearly stated in the Bible.
  - 1 Corinthians 7: Paul said it's his opinion that men and women should stay single if they are still single.

**Group Discussion:** What are some topics that you can think of that fall under these categories?

We don't debate these things so that we can live out 1 Corinthians 9:22-23 which says, "*I have become all things to all people that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel that I may share with them in its blessings.*"

### **Action steps:**

- Pray & ask God about your heart & your heart attitude towards reaching out to people at little different than yourself or in different cultures.
- Ask God to give you wisdom on what part of their culture and your culture needs the gospel.
- Be more aware of these three levels of belief: conviction, persuasion & opinion.



