

Not Everyone Is a Bible Teacher, but Everyone Can Be a Bible Sharer

How can we encourage and train everyone in the church family to share gospel truth in a way that is true to the Bible and to their personality?

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- I. 2 key convictions to begin with
 1. Listen as a river not a reservoir!

Two names:

Christian friend:

Non-Christian friend:

2. We are not all Bible-teachers
but we can all be Bible-sharers!
- II. “Bible-sharing” defined: *The telling of the gospel
by the sharing of the Bible
with an individual in our care,
so that they may be drawn to Christ.*
 1. The strategy of sharing the Bible one-to-one
 2. A Potted History: 1955 / 1995 / 2015
 3. The Christianity Explored model – the Bible at 4 levels
 - *Taught publicly by a gifted teacher*
 - *Studied in a small group*
 - *Helpfully applied one-to-one*
 - *Prayerfully read in private*

- III. Changing the culture of the local church
- IV. Guarding against stagnation and triviality
- V. Everything “works” properly when the whole church family loves, lives and tells the good news.

1. What do you most love about the gospel?

e.g. Mark 2 - what happened to Levi?

Instant: forgiveness, freedom, fitness

2. What makes telling the gospel so difficult?

2 Corinthians 4:1-7

¹Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us.

3. 5 questions which open up this passage ...

a) *What can't the unbeliever see? 4:4*

b) *Why can't the unbeliever see? 4:3-4*

c) *Is this blindness serious? 4:3*

d) *Who cures their blindness? 4:6*

e) *What is our role? 4:5;7*

We preach Christ ... God opens blind eyes!

4. What is the essence of the good news?

Identity / Mission / Call in Mark's Gospel

5. Would you like to look at the Bible with me?

Mark 1:1

¹The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

What is your view of "religion"?

What does the word 'gospel' mean?

What is the gospel about?

Who is Jesus?

Mark 2:1-12

1. What is the first thing Jesus says to the paralyzed man?
(Mark 2:5) Is that surprising? Why or why not?

2. Why were the teachers of the law so annoyed by what Jesus said?
(Mark 2:6-7)

3. Had they reached the right conclusion?

4. How do we know that Jesus has authority to forgive sin?
(Mark 2:8-12)

Psalm 103:13-17

¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; ¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. ¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field; ¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. ¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children...

What questions open up these verses?

VI. 1-2-1 bible sharing, hearing 3 voices.

The Benefits	The Building Blocks
Understanding	Character
Application	Convictions
Example	Competence
Accountability	Courage
Training	Connecting

VII. What do I need to get started?

1. A friend
2. A heart
3. A passage
4. A venue
5. An aim