

CBC's Purpose Statement: Our passion is **to know God** and to **make Him known**

through worship, fellowship, discipleship & ministry.

"OK, I have a testimony, want to witness, depend upon the Holy Spirit, and know what is involved in getting them lost and offering them hope. But HOW do I go about presenting the gospel?

Three parts of a soul-winning conversation:

1. Approaching Spiritual Conversation — have an opener

1. Common Interests

2. Transition

A transition to get you from general conversation to spiritual things is important. Christians have come up with many approaches. Your relationship with the person (a stranger? an acquaintance? a close friend?) will have a lot to do with how you introduce the subject of the salvation of their soul.

- ⇒ Spiritual Background (S.S., church as a child, etc.) "What is your church background?" ... now give your testimony...
- "May I ask you an important question? If you were to die today do you know that you would go to heaven? May I show you from the Bible how you can be absolutely positive?"
- "If you were to die today and you stepped up to the pearly gates and Saint Peter asked, `Why should I let you enter?' what would you say? May I show you from the Bible the answer Jesus gave us to use?"
- "I am in the neighborhood talking to people about Jesus Christ. The most important consideration relating to religion is where will I go when I die? What do you think one must do in order to go to heaven?"
- "Do you think about spiritual things? ...about God and your relationship to Him? Have you ever seriously considered what

Jesus said about the possibility of you escaping hell and living in heaven with Him?"

"Do you know what the first thing I'm going to do when I get to heaven? Look for you! Will you be there?"

2. Presenting the Truth — draw a map in your Bible

- Roman's Road ("GO" presentation)
- "FAITH" presentation
- All plans need to deal with sin, judgement, Jesus' death in our place, forgiveness, heaven.

Here's my favorite plan through the gospel.....

"If you were to die today and you stepped up to the pearly gates and Saint Peter asked, `Why should I let you enter?' what would you say? Let's see how Jesus answered that very question when a man asked Him one day."

Study: Matthew 19:16-19 ...or... Luke 10:25-37

"One must be good according to God's Law, that is, according to God's standards. Do not fool yourself by comparing yourself to other people and thinking that you are alright compared to them. Compare yourself to God (10 commandments)."

"Can you name the 10 commandments?" Read them from Exodus 20. "Have you kept all these commandments?"

"Let's see what God says about a person who only breaks a few commandments. After all, nobody is perfect!"

Study: Galatians 3:10 & James 2:10

Illustrate James 2:10 with a chain. "If I had a chain with ten links in it and you pulled on one end while I was pulling on the other end how many links must we break in order to break the chain? One, of course! Just like the ten commandments. When you break one commandment you have broken the whole law."

MAKE SURE THEY SEE THE IMPLICATIONS TO THEMSELVES. Ask them some questions:

- How about yourself...are you going to heaven?
- Have you kept all God's law?
- What does God say about your life since you haven't kept His law?
- What are you going to do about this problem?
- Are you concerned about your problem with God?

"May I show you God's answer to your problem?"

1. Acknowledge Your True Condition — a Sinner

Study: Romans 3:10, 12, 23

"What about Jesus' promise of life if you could keep the law?"

Study: Romans 3:19, 20

"You see, God points us to the law, His standard of holiness, so we can understand how sinful we are. Now I know that I have a need."

2. Realize the Effect of Sin — Eternal Death

Study: Romans 5:12; Romans 6:23a; Revelation 20:12-15

"You are in trouble!"

See God's Solution — Jesus!

Study: Romans 5:8; Romans 6:23b; Romans 10:13

Explain "saved" = to be rescued. Illustrate using a burning building or a drowning person.

3. Encouraging Your Friend — pray for your friend

You must sense whether the person is under conviction and ready to trust Jesus as their Savior.

1. Ask questions

"Do you realize that you are in trouble with God?" "What do you want to do about your sinful condition?"

2. Pray for the person

"Heavenly Father thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to die in our place and pay for our sin. Thank you that (name) is now willing to place his/her trust in Jesus for the salvation of his soul...."

3. Ask them if they would like to pray

"Would you like to ask God to rescue you?" Encourage the person to talk to God about what is on their heart.

CONCLUSION — How about some answers to questions.....

1. "But I don't think I'm that bad."

Answer: "If you have lived a life which merits heaven then why did Jesus die?" Galatians 2:21

2. "But I ask God to forgive my sins every night."

Answer: "Salvation is not a matter of asking God to forgive you for the sins you commit. The sins you commit simply show you that you are a sinner by nature. Salvation is a relationship with God in which He forgives you for being a sinner, He rescues you from the bondage of sin that keeps you a slave to sinful living and He rescues you from the penalty of sin – hell. After you are saved you will still need to ask God to forgive you for individual sins you commit."

3. "I've been saved many times."

Answer: "God likened salvation to a spiritual birth in John 3. In salvation you are born into God's family. How many times were you born into your family? Right, only once. Likewise, you can only be born into God's family once." John 3:3-7; 1:12, 13 "If you have thought that you could be saved many times, then you have not understood God's salvation of your soul."

Witnessing — You Can Do It!

Here are some suggestions:

- 1st Read and study the notes you have received during this series of lessons.
- 2nd Practice giving your testimony.
- 3rd Use a gospel tract with someone... read it and explain it.
- 4th Practice explaining the plan of salvation using my favorite plan (contained in this lesson)

