Gospel-Supporting Stuff

Games

News and newbs

Short message

Video

Small group time and prayer

Take home tasks

# Message notes

How has your experience been with sharing Jesus with others?

It is not usually enough to just drop the gospel message and run!

* Pray for your work as a witness
* Ministering in the love of God can strengthen our witness to Jesus
  + Prayer as ministry to known need
  + Blessing for the realisation of God’s grace
  + Healing as sign of deeper work of God to come
  + Words of knowledge as affirmation of known-ness
  + Prophecy offering hope and a God’s-eye view
  + Questions to unearth assumptions, uncertainty, dissatisfaction
  + Merciful/kind acts to meet needs and show care, embodying the gospel
* In all of these we are seeking to have the person encounter Jesus
  + We want them to see him so that the gospel is not just ideas but a person

Expect to find God at work

In each of these, we are not doing some amazing work – we are pointing people to Jesus who does the work in them.

When Jesus says “You will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8), it assumes he has people that we will be witnesses to – are we looking? Are we asking him what to do and say?

# Video topic

Prayer powerfully supports the work of sharing Jesus with people

Godtalk #5, ‘**The Power of Prayer**,’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYG7TPyCTVA>

**Take some names from the prayer net!**

# Small Group Questions

## Check in

1. **How’s your week been**? What were the highs and lows since we last met?
2. How did you go with the **take home tasks**? (picking one or two)
   1. Give a $5 note or $5 gift to someone for no reason other than to show some love. If they ask why, you can say something like “Jesus loved you with no strings attached, and I wanted to show that kind of love too.”
   2. Ask a non-Christian friend or family member, “How do you feel about the idea that God has a plan for your life?” Take note of their answer but don’t feel the need to argue or defend the idea.
   3. Post a favourite Bible verse on social media with a short mention of what it says to you or why you like it.

## Digging In

1. “No one can come to me **unless the Father who sent me draws him**, and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 6:44
   1. Have you ever tried to convince a person of the Christian faith, but could not? Tell us about your experience.
   2. What does the above scripture say about our hearts, and how they respond to God’s messages?
2. “You will seek me and find me **when you seek me** with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13
   1. What does this verse suggest about the attitude that is often needed before we will be able to find God?
3. The message tonight named a bunch of **practices that might help support the gospel** being shared and received by people. Which ones do you remember?
   1. Have you seen any of these have an impact on others before?
   2. Which would you like to try in your own interactions with others?
4. Share your **stories**!
   1. Tell us about some prayers you have prayed that God has answered?
   2. Can you think of some prayers you have prayed as a group – which God answered?
   3. Regarding outreach, have you prayed for opportunities to tell someone about God – and then an opportunity came?
   4. Have you ever had a situation where you felt like God gave you the words to say when you were trying to talk about God with someone?
   5. Have you ever had an opportunity to talk about God that opened up all by itself, without you even trying? Did you feel that God was be behind this?

## Wrapping Up

1. This week’s **take home tasks**: (choose one or two)
   1. Pray, asking God to **bring to mind someone you know**. Pray for them and make a point of talking to them, asking how they are going. You might mention that they came to your mind and you wanted to catch up.
   2. Ask a non-Christian friend or family member, “What **story or message of Jesus** stands out to you?” Take note of their answer and share your own answer if asked.
   3. With a person you have a little time to talk to, ask, “**what sort of week** are you having?” Give them your full attention as they answer.
2. Finish with **prayer**:
   1. Pray for the names you have from the **prayer net**; for opportunities to discuss things with them, for wisdom to invite them to things, and that by whatever means that they will come to faith in Jesus.
   2. Pray for strengthening in your **personal time with God**, so you will grow to hear and discern God’s heart and leading more and more.
   3. Pray for **eyes to see where God is already working** in people’s lives, so you can take the opportunities.