



DISCIPLESHIP 1

SESSION 5

*THE DISCIPLINE OF
SHARING YOUR FAITH*



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WHY SHOULD WE SHARE OUR FAITH?

1. Christ COMMANDS us to.

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts 1:8 (NIV)*

2. Christ came to SAVE us.

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10 (NIV)

3. WE LOVE those who don't know Jesus.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)

We have the answer to what the world needs most: salvation, forgiveness and purpose through Jesus Christ! What if you had the cure for all cancers but you didn't bother to share the amazing news with anyone else?

As Christ followers, we have the cure for humankind's most devastating disease: SIN! We can't just keep it to ourselves. We have to share it with our broken and sin-sick world.

The word **evangelist** comes from the Greek word EUANGELION which means THE GOOD NEWS! Every Christ follower should be someone who brings the good news to others. But we all have different God-given styles for sharing the good news.

6 BIBLICAL STYLES OF EVANGELISM

by Lee Strobel

1. DIRECT

Example: PETER in Acts chapter 2

"With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'" Acts 2:40 (NIV)

Characteristics: CONFIDENT, assertive, straightforward

2. INTELLECTUAL

Example: PAUL in Acts chapter 17

"So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there." Acts 17:17 (NIV)

Characteristics: inquisitive, analytical, LOGICAL

3. TESTIMONIAL

Example: BLIND MAN in John chapter 9

"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 9:25 (NIV)

Characteristics: clear communicator, STORYTELLER, good listener

4. RELATIONAL

Example: MATTHEW in Luke chapter 5

"Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them." Luke 5:29 (NIV)

Characteristics: warm personality, CONVERSATIONAL, friendship-oriented

5. INVITATIONAL

Example: WOMAN AT THE WELL in John chapter 4

"Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 'Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?' They came out of the town and made their way toward Him." John 4:28-30 (NIV)

Characteristics: HOSPITABLE, relational, persuasive

6. SERVING

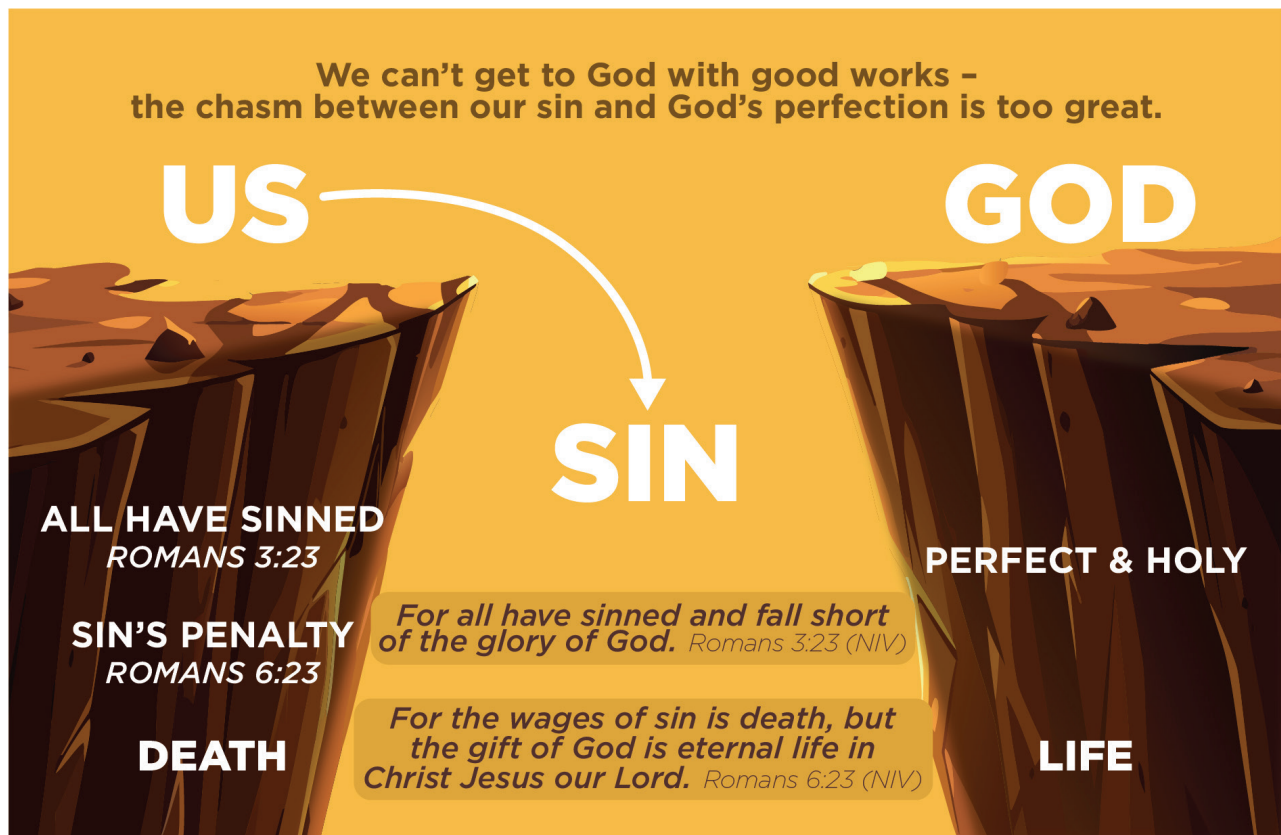
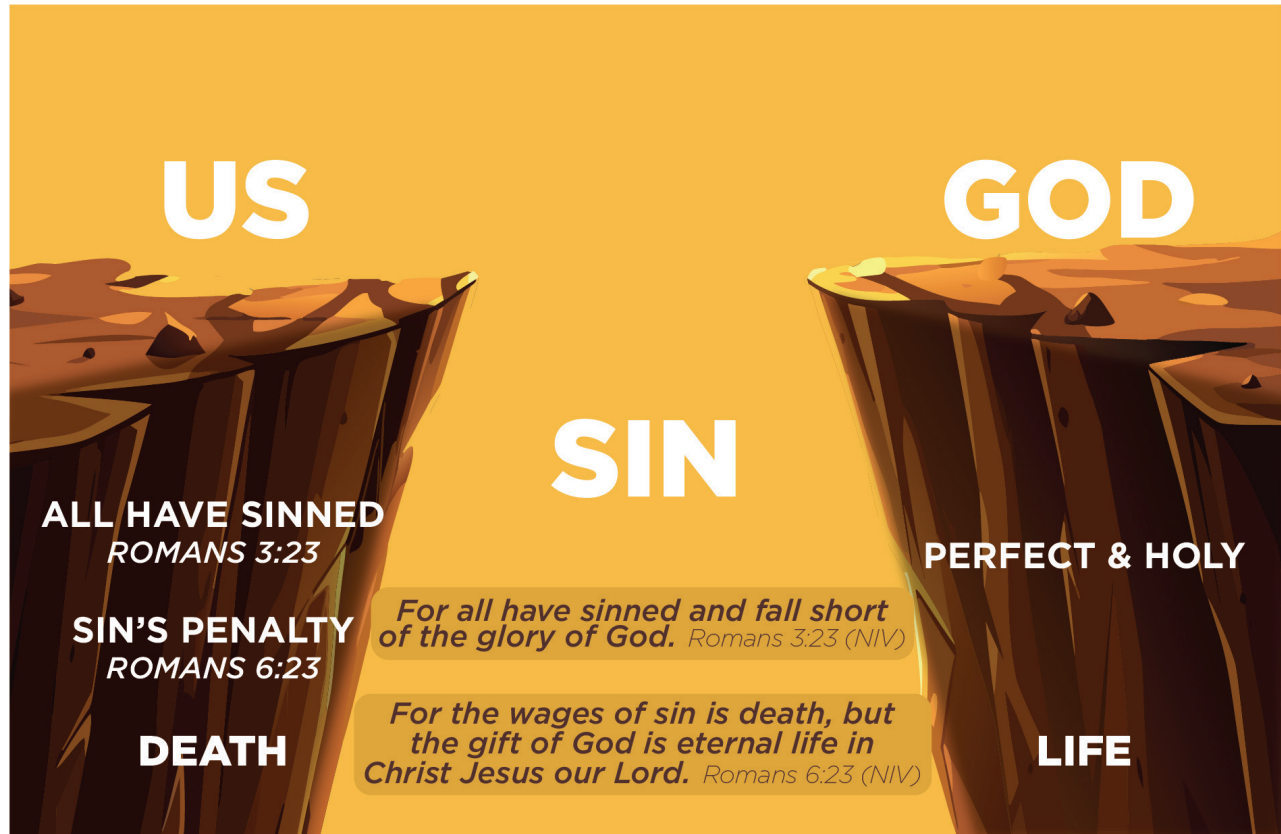
Example: TABITHA in Acts chapter 9

"In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha...she was always doing good and helping the poor." Acts 9:36 (NIV)

Characteristics: focuses on others, COMPASSIONATE, humble

THE BRIDGE ILLUSTRATION

(Sharing Christ on a napkin)



THAT'S WHY GOD CAME TO US!

Ephesians 2:8-9

US

GOD

**CHRIST PAID
THE PENALTY**
Romans 5:8

*But God demonstrates his own love
for us in this: While we were still
sinners, Christ died for us.*
Romans 5:8 (NIV)

*For it is by grace you have been
saved, through faith—and this is not
from yourselves, it is the gift of
God—not by works, so that no one
can boast.*
Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

*Yet to all who did receive him, to those
who believed in his name, he gave the
right to become children of God...*
John 1:12 (NIV)

ALL HAVE SINNED
ROMANS 3:23

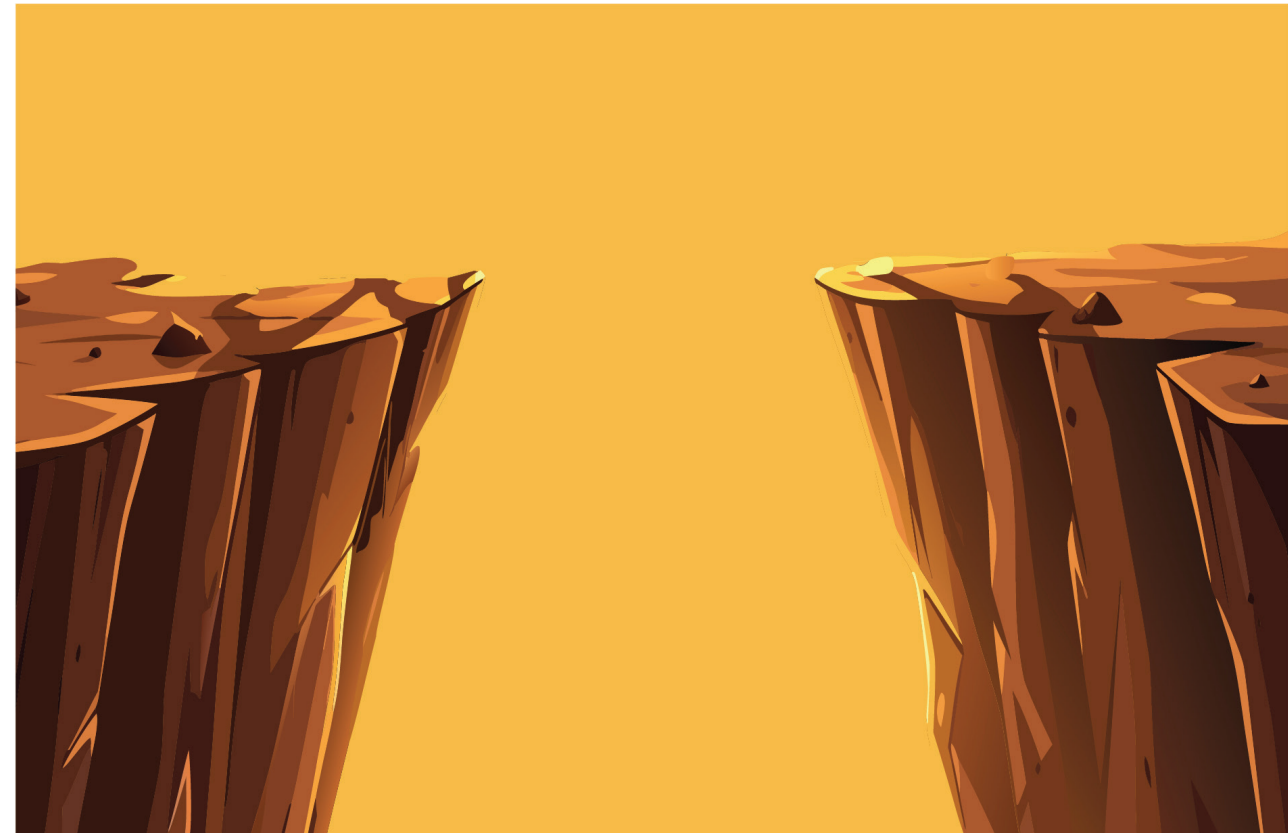
SIN'S PENALTY
ROMANS 6:23

DEATH

PERFECT & HOLY

**HEAVEN IS A FREE
GIFT! BUT WE HAVE
TO RECEIVE IT.**
JOHN 1:12

- **BELIEVE**
- **RECEIVE
LIFE**



After you share the Bridge Illustration, ask, "Would you like to receive Christ?"

If yes, then lead them in the prayer of salvation:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for making me and loving me. I realize I need You in my life and I'm sorry for my sins. I ask You to forgive me. Thank You for dying on the cross for me. As much as I know how, I want to follow You from now on. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept Your gift of salvation and heaven one day. Please help me to grow now as a Christian."

SHARE YOUR STORY

The most powerful form of evangelism is telling your story of how Christ has changed your life. People can debate and disagree with you when you present facts about Jesus' death and resurrection, but they can't argue with your personal story of how Jesus changed your life.

My Two-Minute Testimony

1. What was your life like before you received Christ?

- Maybe you felt empty or lacked purpose. You may have had success but didn't have significance. Maybe you dealt with a lot of guilt or anxiety. Maybe you felt hopeless and had a lot of anger. Like me, you may have trusted Christ when you were a child. Even though I was a child when I received Christ, I still remember feeling guilt for my sins and wanting forgiveness and the peace of knowing I was going to heaven.
- It may help you to think of three adjectives to describe how you felt before you received Christ.
- You can also start by saying, *"There was a time in my life when I felt ..."*

2. What was the moment like when you received Christ?

- What brought you to Jesus? A crisis? An answer to prayer? When someone shared their faith? A church service?

3. What is your life like now after receiving Christ?

- Examples: No more guilt, a new sense of purpose, I have fulfillment instead of emptiness, assurance of my salvation, new friends that really care about me.

Write down the names of three friends, relatives, co-workers or neighbors that need Christ.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

- Pray for them daily
- Look for opportunities to develop the relationship
- Look for an opportunity to share with them
- Go for it! What do you have to lose?

Your Notes:

[illegible]

[illegible]