

God's Word in Evangelism

Aim: to give Christians confidence in the power of the Word to bring people to new life in Christ and practical instruction on how to use the Word in evangelism.

Icebreaker (10 minutes):

- 1) Each person names one Bible verse that radically shaped their faith. Why was it so significant?

or

- 2) Verse telephone: one person picks a short verse you could share with a non-Christian (e.g. John 3:16). They whisper it to the person next to them until the verse has been passed around the room. Did the verse stay intact? Did familiarity affect it?

Video (19 minutes)

Bible Reflection and Discussion (25 minutes):

- 1) Read 1 Peter 1:22-25. How does Peter say we are born again?
- 2) What does “*living*” suggest about the nature of Scripture or the spoken gospel? How often do you think about God’s Word being alive?
- 3) Why do you think Peter uses both “*living*” and “*enduring*”? What nuance do we get from both words?
- 4) In John 3:3–8, Jesus also speaks of being “*born of the Spirit*.”
 - a. How does Peter’s emphasis on “word” complement or expand John’s teaching on regeneration?
 - b. What does this teach us about the relationship between Scripture and the Spirit in new birth?

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- 5) In Acts 8:30–35, Philip connects with the Ethiopian by asking, “*Do you understand what you are reading?*” (v30). What lessons can we learn for opening evangelistic conversations?
- 6) Which of the three rhythms Niv mentions - sowing seeds, sharing your story, reading a Gospel - feels most natural to you?
- 7) What fears or doubts arise when you think about letting Scripture speak for itself?
- 8) How could Isaiah's promise (Isaiah 55:11) about God's Word reshape your expectations?

Dig Deeper (optional):

- 1) Hebrews 4:12 describes the Word as alive and piercing. What encouragement does that give when you feel Scripture is “flat” in conversation?
- 2) If the Word “*judges the thoughts*” of the heart, how can that conviction become an opportunity rather than a barrier in evangelism?
- 3) How could you introduce Hebrews 4:12 to someone who fears God's judgment rather than welcomes it?

Prayer (10 minutes):

- Thank God that his Word does not return empty, and that it brings new life.
- Ask God to show you an opportunity this week to plant small seeds from God's Word in conversations.

- Pray for confidence in sharing God's Word with people.