

discipleship essentials

Essentials for Christian Living
Leader's Guide

EVANGELISM USING THE 4 SPIRITUAL LAWS LESSON 4: FOLLOWUP TO THE FOUR SPIRITUAL LAWS

INTRODUCTION

This series of lessons explains one method of sharing the Gospel message with others. This method uses *The Four Spiritual Laws* concept written by Bill Bright for Campus Crusade for Christ. This method can be used to structure our evangelism, and is available in booklet form for use as an evangelism tool. Printable versions in many languages are available from www.4laws.com. These lessons explain *The Four Spiritual Laws* and how to use them conversationally to explain the Gospel and invite people to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Practical discussion encourages practice of the principals involved.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The intended audience for Essentials for Christian Living are 1) new Christians who require knowledge of Christian living or 2) those who have been Christians for some time and would like a refresher course on the basic principles of our faith, based on the Word of God. These lessons will be helpful to those who find themselves teaching and discipling others and want to be reminded of foundational aspects of Christianity. These lessons assume the participant has made a decision to follow Jesus and wants to explore Christianity further.

The Leader's Guide is intended to help you as a leader in your preparation. These lesson outlines may be used in conjunction with other Discipleship Essentials materials found online at www.discipleshipessentials.org.

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EVANGELISM USING THE 4 SPIRITUAL LAWS

LESSON 4: FOLLOW UP TO THE FOUR SPIRITUAL LAWS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this lesson is to learn how to give assurance of salvation to someone who has accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour after your presentation of *The Four Spiritual Laws*.

LEADER'S NOTE

After the Gospel has been shared through *The Four Spiritual Laws*, you may not see your listener again. Depending on the situation, they may or may not be a part of your life. Hopefully, however, each of them will have access to the Bible. It is important that people we share the Gospel with have assurance of their salvation, and understand the Biblical basis of it. This is an important lesson. It may be beneficial to have participants role-play what they have learned. You may desire to take your group out to a public place, such as a market or school campus, to practice sharing *The Four Spiritual Laws* with people there. Pray together as a group, and have your participants go out in pairs. They will learn most by actually practising this method!

INTRODUCTION

Select two or three of the following questions.

- ❖ When you first heard the Gospel, what was your response? Did you understand it all right away or did you need to have certain points clarified for you?
- ❖ After you prayed to receive Christ, was there any doubt about your salvation? Did you need assurance that you were really saved? Where did this assurance come from?
- ❖ Why is it important that people we share the Gospel with are quickly introduced to the Bible and what it has to say about salvation?

STUDY

TEACH

- ❖ **Assurance of Salvation:** After you have shared the Gospel with someone who enthusiastically receives it, you must make sure they know that what God is doing in their lives is real. It is vital that a new believer understand and be assured of their salvation. Here we will examine how to guide new believers to this assurance, and what questions to ask them to determine if they have understood what salvation means. It is important to always use the Bible to reinforce what we say.



❖ **How to Know that Christ is in your Life:**

- Read Revelation 3:20 with the new believer. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."
- Ask the following questions and discuss them with the new believer to make sure they understand assurance of salvation:
 - As you prayed, did you receive Christ into your life?
 - Where is Christ now in relation to you?
 - Because of His assurances and promises, do you think that Christ would mislead you?
 - On what authority do you know that God has answered your prayer? (The trustworthiness of God Himself and His Word.)
- ❖ As a reminder: after each question, pause in order to give the new believer a chance to respond. Listen to their responses and evaluate if they understand the Biblical principles. If the new believer does not understand, do not proceed to the next question. Go on when the person can explain that they have assurance that Christ is in their life.
- ❖ **Eternal Life to All Who Receive Christ:** Read the following passages from the Bible with the new believer and then ask the following questions:
 - **Promise of eternal life to all who receive Christ.** "And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life" (1 John 5:11-13).
 - Key Questions:
 - "What has God given us?"
 - "Where is this life found?"
 - "Do you have the Son?"
 - "If you have the Son, what else do you have?"
 - "How do you know you have the Son?"
 - **God will never leave you.** Look up Hebrews 13:5 and ask the person to read the second part of the verse: "...for He has said, 'I will never leave you, nor forsake you.'"
 - Ask the following key questions:
 - "After you receive Christ personally, will He ever leave you?"
 - "Because Christ will never leave you, how many times do you need to invite Him to come into your life?"



- Remember, sometimes new believers are unsure and think they must invite Christ into their lives every day or whenever they sin. If so, review John 1:12, Revelation 3:20, and John 10:27-29.
- ❖ **Rely on God's Word:** The promise of God's Word, not our feelings, is our authority. We must put our faith in God Himself and His Word to us.
 - The relationship between the facts of the Gospel, our Faith in God and our feelings can be pictured as three railcars of a train. The engine is God and His Word, the next railcar carries the fuel, which is our faith in God and His Word. The last railcar, or caboose represents our feelings. When we put our faith in the truth of God rather than our own feelings or circumstance our life can move forward. We know that only the engine pulls the train, and the railcars cannot pull the engine. So God's Word can bring us forward as we put our faith in Him – it is not our feelings that fuel our faith!
 - Go to these verses to give a new believer assurance of salvation from the Scripture.
 - John 5:24 – *When we believe, we have passed from death to life.*
 - John 10:27-30 – *We belong to Christ, and no one can take away our eternal life.*
 - Romans 8:16 – *If we confess and believe, we will be saved.*
 - Romans 5:1 – *We have peace with God through Jesus Christ.*
 - Assure participants their sins are forgiven. They may still struggle with guilt and not feel forgiven. Present these verses to them.
 - Colossians 1:14 – *We have redemption and forgiveness of sins in Jesus.*
 - 1 John 1:9 – *He is faithful and will forgive us and make us clean.*
 - Romans 8:1 – *There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus.*
- ❖ **Now That You Have Received Christ.** Tell the person you are counseling that the moment they received Christ by faith and as an act of their will, many things happened. Read the following out loud.
 - Christ came into your life (Colossians 1:27).
 - Your sins were forgiven (Colossians 1:14; 2:14).
 - You became a child of God (John 1:12).
 - You received eternal life (John 5:24).
 - You began the great adventure for which God created you (John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:18).
- You will want to ask questions to ensure the new believer understands. These questions could be as simple as:
 - How many of your sins did God forgive?
 - What did God do with your sins?
 - What does John 1:12 say you have become? Review the verse.
 - If you and I are children of God, what does that make us?
 - According to these verses, what is the Good News?



- A person could have all the right answers to the questions above and still not have genuine faith, but you will have done your duty to show them the truth in the Word of God.
- If you are able to help connect this person with a small group, church or mentor who can disciple them, now would be the best time to do so. Christians need fellowship with others in order to grow in their faith!

DISCUSSION

- ❖ How can you be sure that your listener has truly understood and received the Gospel message? How will it change their life?
- ❖ How can you encourage your listener to adopt an attitude of thankfulness for what Christ has done for them? Why is it important to demonstrate thankfulness?
- ❖ How can you smoothly go over all the questions presented here without sounding too persuasive and pushy? What is the possible difficulty with that sort of delivery?
- ❖ Do you have any questions about presenting *The Four Spiritual Laws*?

PRAYER

Close your time in prayer. Pray that each participant would have a deep assurance of their own salvation, and that it would fuel their desire to see those around them saved. Pray they would know how high and deep and long and wide the love of God is for them, and be overjoyed with thankfulness for Christ's saving work in their lives. Pray that each participant would have an opportunity this week to share the love of God with someone, and that this effort would produce much good fruit.