

discipleship essentials

Essentials for Christian Living
Leader's Guide

INTRODUCTION TO EVANGELISM

LESSON 1: THE CALL TO REACH YOUR WORLD

INTRODUCTION

This lesson is part of a Discipleship Essentials module entitled Introduction to Evangelism. This series of lessons aims to prepare participants to effectively share the Gospel with others. Understanding how God equips us for ministry and how to prepare our Gospel message for various worldviews will help us bring the unchanging message of the hope found in Jesus Christ to a world that does not yet know Him.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The intended audience for these lessons are those preparing for or currently engaged in evangelism. This module could be particularly useful to those exploring cross-cultural ministry or ministry trips as it includes extensive information on evangelism to other worldviews. 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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INTRODUCTION TO EVANGELISM

LESSON 1: THE CALL TO REACH YOUR WORLD

PURPOSE

The purpose of this lesson is to challenge participants to reach their world for Christ and look for opportunities to share the Gospel with those who do not yet believe.

LEADER'S NOTE

Every Christian is commanded to share the Gospel with the world, but each Christian will have different opportunities and abilities which make this possible. In your group you may have those experienced in evangelism, and some to whom this is a new concept – especially if they are young in their faith. The focus of this lesson should be that man's purpose in life and ministry is to discover God's purpose, and then to participate with Him in accomplishing it.

INTRODUCTION

Select two or three of the following questions.

- ❖ Was there a person involved in helping you come to faith in Jesus? Did someone share the Gospel with you? If so, what were the circumstances?
- ❖ Have you ever had the opportunity to share the Gospel with someone?
- ❖ If someone were to ask you, "What is God's purpose in this world?", what would you tell them?
- ❖ What do you think God requires of you as a believer in Jesus?

STUDY

TEACH

- ❖ In 1 Corinthians 10:31, Paul says, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." As a believer, you can't compartmentalize your life, thinking that your secular world is independent of your Christian call. The Bible tells us to glorify God in all areas of our life. Your purpose in life is to glorify God, making Him seen in your life through your words and actions.



- Read the following verses to discover what God's primary purpose in the world is:
 - Luke 19:10
 - Romans 10:9,10
- ❖ Have participants read the following verses to discover what the Bible says about man's purpose. What are the key commands of Jesus in these Scriptures?
 - 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - Matthew 28:16-20
- ❖ God does not expect us to accomplish this on our own! Have participants read the following verses and discuss how God has equipped us for life in ministry:
 - Ephesians 4:11-16
 - John 15:5
 - Acts 1:8
- ❖ What is my purpose? If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, your purpose has been revealed to you. It is to bring God glory, and join Him in His plan. God's plan is one of redemption, and displaying His nature – His love, grace, and mercy. However, mankind has a different view of what our purpose is.
 - Read Luke 12:16-20. What does this parable tell us about the difference between the world's plan and God's plan? What is the world most concerned with? What is God most concerned with?
 - In order to do God's will, we have to align our desires and priorities with what matters most to God.

DISCUSSION

- ❖ How does God's purpose for your life match with yours? What can you do to align the two?
- ❖ What is your opinion of evangelism, of speaking to people about Jesus and the necessity of putting their faith in Him?
- ❖ How can you deal with some of the challenges you face in sharing the Gospel with others?
- ❖ What are you doing today to grow in your walk with God?



PRAYER

Read Matthew 9:35-38 out loud to the group. Close the lesson in prayer. Pray that we would be moved with compassion for the lost, just as Christ is. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send out labourers, and that we would be bold, courageous, and follow the command of God to share the Gospel. Pray individually for participants and the struggles they have shared in discussion throughout this lesson.