



# How To Tell People About Jesus

## Confronting Your Fear And Trusting God

*Ever drive a car? Did that car ever need a little help to get running smoothly again? Sometimes our lives can be like that as well. Have you ever started to think that evangelism is a side issue of life, not one of the basics? Has evangelism become like the occasional broccoli salad you know is good for you, but you would rather just call and order a pizza? Well it's time to take a look under the hood and see what's amiss with the motor!*

### **Look under the hood:**

**What is your motive?** If your car breaks down, that probably means it needs some work. An oil change, a new transmission, perhaps you need someone to rebuild your engine. It's the same with our lives. Maybe you need a heart change, a new way of thinking, a renewed mind that is built on the amazing truth of what God has done for us.

So, take a minute and brainstorm . . . Jesus has done so much for us. In addition to dying in your place and taking the punishment that you deserve, what did Jesus do for you when He died on the cross? (Hint: there's a lot!)

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Write down some verses that remind you of these truths (you can check out [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) or your concordance for a keyword search).

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What are some ways in which Jesus has transformed who you are since you came to faith in Him?

When we forget the purpose for Jesus' death in all of our places, the Christian faith can tend to become a bit monotonous and lifeless. But remembering the true purpose of His death can renew our joy and thankfulness. Why was Jesus so motivated to obey the Father and offer up His perfect, sinless life in our place?

Take a minute to talk with God about what He's done for you and for the whole world. What are some tangible ways you could show your thankfulness?

Look at 2 Corinthians 5:14-15:

*"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."*



In what ways have you begun to “no longer live” for yourself?

In what specific ways/areas is God challenging you to cease living for yourself? How are you responding to His challenge?

**Close the hood and assess the situation:**

1. What are your fears about evangelism?
2. Do you think you're prepared to begin living a purposeful lifestyle of evangelism? If not, what resources/training/tools do you need in order to feel prepared?
3. What excuses do you give yourself/God for neglecting a lifestyle of evangelism?

**Get a tune up:**

1. **Understand the world.** Keep up to date with culture, current events, and the most popular places people hang out.
2. **Learn to listen.** You can't listen if you're talking. Take time to listen and ask God to give you insightful questions to ask people.
3. **Invest in common ground.** Join a club or activity on campus to meet people who don't know Jesus and to avoid a narrow view of life. Hang out in Davidson or the rec center. Study with the classmates God has been urging you to invest in.
4. **Be a good example.** Going to class is a good idea. That way you can build relationships AND show integrity. Be dependable and honest, admit struggle and failure, ask for forgiveness when you need to, and just be yourself. People will be drawn to your authenticity.
5. **Invite them into your social circle.** And, get yourself invited into theirs. If you're only inviting people into your network, they might not feel very cared about. Try to hang out with their friends, too. You will multiply your impact for the kingdom and show your genuine desire to be their friend.
6. **Pray a lot.** A lot doesn't mean 5 hours a day. A lot just means doing whatever it takes to establish a lifestyle of throughout-the-day communication with Jesus. You can add prayer for certain things while you brush your teeth, or wash your hair, or while you walk from class to class.



7. **Fast to break the devil's hold on their life.** If you ask God, He'll probably show you what to fast from, and how long. Fasting is really powerful if you replace that time with prayer for the person you're fasting for. So, if you're fasting from lunch, spend some time during your regular lunch break to pray for them. If you're fasting from Facebook, every time you think about logging in, pray for the person instead.

### **Take it for a drive:**

1. As you develop friendship with non-Christians, ask the Lord to help you remember all the important details about how they view God and life.
2. Pray that they'll ask you questions about Jesus, and answer the questions they ask.
3. Make sure you can clearly define the "whole" gospel, so that you can explain it thoroughly when they ask. Most people don't want to just "avoid hell" or "go to heaven." They want more, and the gospel has so much more to offer. And "heaven vs. hell" isn't the point of the gospel anyway. So, what's the point?
4. Find out what they're thinking about when becoming a follower of Jesus. Ask God to give you discernment and guidance and act according to the prompting of His Spirit. Don't chicken out. Just be obedient.
5. When they're ready, offer to pray with them.
6. Help them get plugged into Chi Alpha, a Life Group, and a church. Help them figure out how to navigate through their old life. Help them invest purposefully in their non-Christian friends immediately.

### **The gospel: God invites us into His story**

1. God created us because He wants us to enter His story (it's a good one). He wants us to enjoy life with Him.
2. He's grieved about our decision to write our own story and run our own lives instead of living in His story. This is the definition of sin.
3. He's determined to conquer the effects of sin, save the day, heal the world and make a way for us to rejoin His story.
4. Jesus is God's way back into the story. He is a revolutionary righter of wrongs, and He's calling people to follow His pattern of radical, life-changing, clique-breaking love.
5. Followers of Jesus aren't church-going rule-followers. They are those who have rejoined God's story and are helping others do the same.
6. They are led by God's Spirit, they stand up for justice, and they refuse to be shaped by cultural norms.
7. God wants each of us to be a part of his community of love, acceptance, forgiveness, belonging, and compassionate action on behalf of the oppressed.

