

THE ART OF PERSONAL WITNESSING

Motivations for Witnessing
Key Men's Conference
Saturday Morning, February 21, 2004
Doug Wendel and Chuck Fry
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Introduction

Story of sharing Christ with Kenny

Motivation is so important in anything we do! Without it, we will never witness.

I. Bad Motivations for Witnessing

- A. Witnessing to Impress our Friends
- B. Witnessing to Earn Favor with God

If these are bad motivations for witnessing, what are good motivations?

II. Biblical Motivations for Witnessing

- A. Being _____
 - 1. Psalm 51:12-15
 - 2. 2 Corinthians 5:14

- B. Being Concerned for _____
 - 1. Matthew 6:9
 - 2. Revelation 7:9,10

- C. Having _____ for Your Neighbor
 - 1. 1 Thessalonians 2:7,8
 - 2. Seeing their lostness (the reality of hell)

- D. Loving _____ to God
 - 1. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
 - 2. Living in light of eternity, not wasting our life

- E. Knowing That God is Preparing _____
 - 1. Acts 8:26-40
 - 2. Testimony

- F. How Else will They _____ and _____?
 - 1. Romans 10:14,15

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Approach

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Meeting them where they're at.

Their background. Where are they coming from? Do they believe the Bible is true? Who do they think God exists? Who is Jesus to them?

Acts 17:22,23 "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you."

Their interest level. What is their spiritual interest? Be sensitive to them. Are they responding to your comments or questions?

We're not working alone.

A link in the chain. God doesn't just use one person to bring another to Christ. Think about your own salvation experience. How many were significantly used of God as a link in your chain?

1 Corinthians 3:6,7 "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow."

The witness of the body. God uses the love and fellowship of believers as a means of drawing a non-believer to Himself. We can't do this if we are isolated from other believers.

John 13:34,35 "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit dwells in us as believers.

Gives boldness. The Holy Spirit gives believers boldness to share Christ.

Acts 4:31 "After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."

Convicts. He convicts people of their sin and of their need for a Savior.

John 16:8 "When He (Holy Spirit) comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment;"

Engaging them in the Scriptures.

Hebrews 4:12 "The Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing of soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Walk through God's Word with them – portions of the Gospels, Acts, overview of Bible. They may need to know the fuller picture before they hear God's solution. **Check the oil! Be patient.**

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Witnessing In Our Weakness

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Introduction: A Word About Weakness

Our society today despises weakness. It is almost a dirty word. We do all we can to cover up our weaknesses: we hide behind success at work, financial achievement, pride, strength, etc. The problem is we carry this attitude into the Christian life. Yet it is *totally opposite* of how we should think as Christians.

The Lord of Glory Himself came in "weakness," taking the lowest position, giving up all His rights and "losing all" on the cross (Phil. 2:5-11).

Strange, that God is most glorified in weakness! You cannot be too weak for God to use you. Bring your weakness to Him and He will use you to share Christ with others.

Witnessing In Our Weakness in 1 and 2 Corinthians

- A. The Holy Spirit Works Through _____ People/ 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
- B. God Alone is Our _____ / 2 Corinthians 3:4-6
 1. Renan from Peru
 2. My trips down Lindsey street to visit Chinese
- C. Christ's Glory is in _____ and _____ People/ 2 Corinthians 4:7-10
 1. A missionary family in South America
- D. Christ's _____ is Most Evident in Our Weakness/ 2 Corinthians 12:9,10
 1. Witnessing to my Chinese friend on the way to Tulsa
 2. *Q. What about Christian superstars?*
 - a. D.L. Moody's life- uneducated, yet used among the intellectual elite of England.
 - b. You don't have to have all your beans together to be used by God!

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Content: What Do They Need to Understand?

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I am a sinner.

I sin in thought, words, and actions.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

My sin separates me from God.

What we earn for our sin is separation from God – both in this life, and in eternity.

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin death,"

God is just and must punish me for my sins.

Like a just judge sentences a convicted prisoner to his sentence, God is just and cannot just wave away the penalty for our sins. The Bible says that those who disregard God's plan of salvation will be separated from God forever in a place called hell.

2 Thes. 1:8-9 "He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of His power."

Rev. 20:14,15 "The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

God is love and so He sent His Son to pay the penalty for my sins.

Because God loves us, He didn't leave us in our helpless and hopeless situation. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the penalty on the cross for my sins.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son . . ."

1 Corinthians 15:3,4 "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,"

I must personally trust (believe) Jesus' payment for my sins to be forgiven and to receive God's gift of eternal life.

Just knowing about Jesus' sacrifice for my sin intellectually is not enough. I must make a personal heart commitment to trust Jesus payment for my sins alone as my way of salvation.

John 3:16 ". . . that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

Ephesians 1:7 "In Him (Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of God's grace"

Ephesians 2:8 "For it is by grace you have been saved by faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. "

Tools: Would You Like To Know God Personally?
Steps To Peace With God

The Art of Personal Witnessing

Questions for Discussion

1. Which of the Biblical motivations encourage and motivate you the most to share your faith? Which motive do you desire to grow in the most?
2. How does the approach to witnessing presented in this workshop differ from other approaches you have heard or seen? How does the approach you heard today make it easier to share your faith with others?
3. Why do you think God primarily works through weaknesses? How does this encourage you?
4. What has been the primary point that you sense God has taught you from our time together in this workshop?

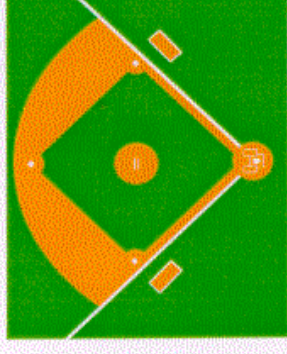
The Product

- Christ Centered
- Spirit Filled
- Obedient Christian in Action



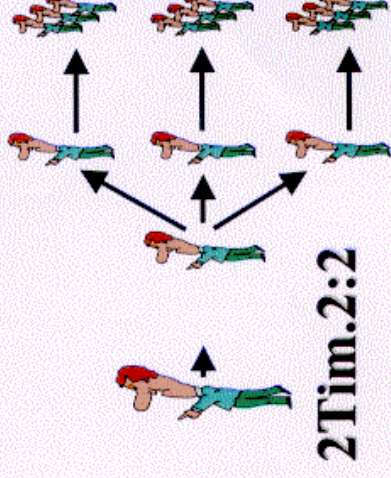
The Process (Always involves someone)

- Evangelism
- Establishing
- Equipping
- Enabling



The Potential

- Multiplication of Laborers



Training a Disciple

- Follow Up /Disciple New Believer
- Lead Bible Study / Sunday School Class
- Lead a SG Lead in Evangelism
- Organize & Lead Workshop/Seminar
- Discover their Individual Calling

Maturing Disciple

Col. 2: 6,7

Grounding in the Basics

- Assurances
- Word
- Prayer
- Witnessing
- Fellowship
- Quiet Time
- Warfare
- Giving
- Baptism
- Scripture Memory
- Lordship
- Relying on God's Resources
- Spiritual Gifts



Disciplemaker (Laborer)

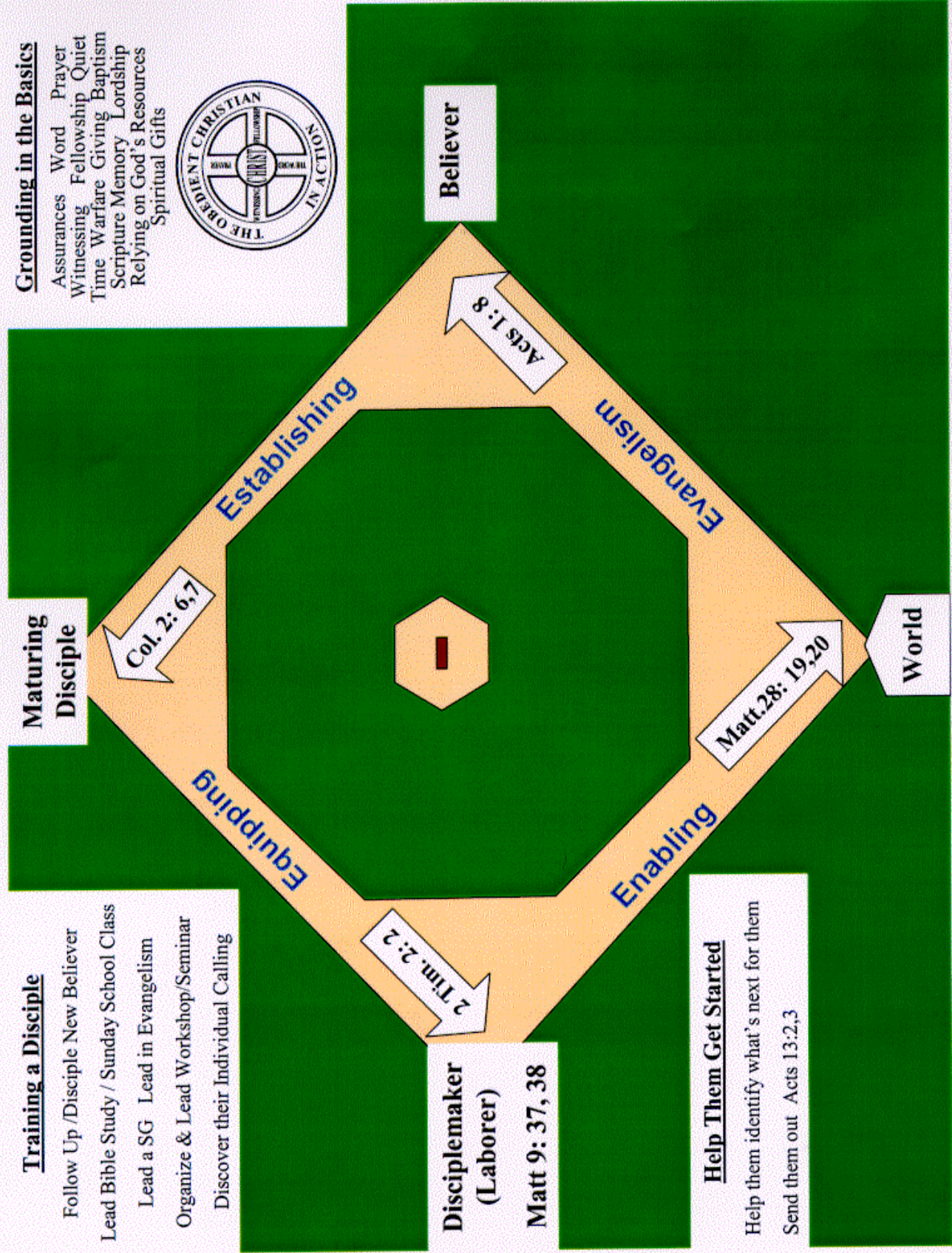
Matt 9: 37, 38

Help Them Get Started

- Help them identify what's next for them
- Send them out Acts 13:2,3

Believer

Acts 1: 8



The Multiplication Principle



End of Ministry Year	Daily Addition	Annual Multiplication
0	1	1
1	365	2
2	730	4
3	1,095	8
4	1,460	16
5	1,825	32
6	2,190	64
7	2,555	128
8	2,920	256
9	3,285	512
10	3,650	1,024
11	4,015	2,048
12	4,380	4,096
13	4,745	8,192
14	5,110	16,384
15	5,475	32,768
20	7,300	1,048,576
25	9,125	33,554,432
30	10,950	1,073,741,824
33	12,045	8,589,934,592