



Every
Believer
Can

TRAINING COURSE

Scripture quotations marked NLT are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, Copyright © 1996 – 2004. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc, Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NKJV are from the New King James Version. ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondavon Bible Publishers.

Scripture taken from The Message. Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, Copyright © 1960,1962,1963,1968,1971,1972,1973,1975,1977,1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Small Group Study Information	6
Session One.....	9
Session Two	17
Session Three	23
Session Four	31
Session Five.....	37
Session Six.....	43
Conclusion.....	49

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Every Believer Can Training Course. I am so pleased that you are doing this course because I know that you will be greatly impacted and empowered to be an effective witness for Christ. I pray that as you progress through and complete the course you will realise that you are able to make an incredible difference not only in other people's lives but also for the Kingdom of God.

The Every Believer Can Training Course is all about getting back to 'normal Christianity'. The Book of Acts is the account of how the very first Church functioned, it's our model. In Acts 1:8 (the last words of Jesus before He ascended into Heaven) Jesus tells us that His followers would be empowered by the Holy Spirit, so they could be witnesses to the outer most parts of the earth. In the early days of the Church, Jerusalem was massively impacted by the ministry of the Apostles. There were mass salvations, healings, and signs and wonders. A little later however, we see ordinary believers infiltrating the world as witnesses for Christ. In Acts Chapter 8 we are told that after a time of severe persecution (resulting in the martyrdom of Stephen) all the believers were scattered and they all preached the Word (Acts 8:1&4), in fact the only believers who remained in Jerusalem were the Apostles! All the believers embarked on an evangelistic lifestyle. I can't help feeling that this was the type of Church that Jesus envisaged when He declared that He would put together His Church, "a Church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell would be able to keep it out" (Matt 16:18 MSG).

You may be doing this course and thinking, "I'm not an evangelist", that's okay, you mightn't be an evangelist, but God has called you to be a witness for Him. In 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 Paul tells us that we have been given the 'ministry of reconciliation', and we are to see ourselves as 'Christ's ambassadors'. The goal of this course is to empower all believers, so they can fulfil this awesome call that we have in Christ.

Over the duration of the course, you will discover why it is so important for us to be witnesses. You will discover that you have a Heavenly Helper, the Holy Spirit, who wants to empower you in all areas of your witness. You will also discover how to present the gospel and how to lead someone to Christ and you will be shown how to develop a 24/7 evangelistic lifestyle.

Our prayer is that you would be trained, equipped, and empowered for a lifetime of effective witness for Christ. This is your destiny in God!

God bless you abundantly as you do this course,

Pastor Mike Smith

Director Every Believer Can Ministries

SMALL GROUP STUDY INFORMATION

After viewing the video, the group completes the corresponding study in the Every Believer Can Training Course Manual. Each session study has six components.

- 1 – Session Overview
- 2 – Activation Report
- 3 – Discussion Questions
- 4 – Group Prayer
- 5 – Activation
- 6 – My Witnessing Journal

1. Session Overview

This is a short summary of the video session. As the group participants have just seen the session it is not necessary to go over the summary, rather it is for future reference.

2. Activation Report (Studies 2-6)

After each session there is a practical activation that all attendees are asked to do before the next session. Before the group discussion questions begin, each attendee is asked to give a quick report of how their activation went. There is a place to write down any relevant information or things you may have learnt.

3. Discussion Questions

In each study there are seven discussion questions that are relevant to the session that the group has just viewed. The discussion questions are the main focus of the group meeting.

4. Group Prayer

This can be done either as a group prayer meeting or it can be done in smaller groups (i.e. groups of 2-3). The prayer points will be relevant to the video teaching and discussion questions.

5. Activation

This is the homework! It is a practical activity given to each group attendee that is relevant to the study that they have just completed. It needs to be done before the next session and a quick report of how the activation went will be required.

6. My Witnessing Journal

It's good to keep a record of your witnessing endeavours and any information that could be helpful for your future development as a witness for Christ. During the time before your next group meeting, write down any relevant information, including how your activation went. Please note that if your group is doing the 40 Days of Growth Program, there is also a 40 Days of Growth Journal which has a daily Bible reading and a daily prayer plan.

SESSION ONE



THE
WHY
FACTOR

SESSION ONE OVERVIEW

Session Summary

The first session focused on the why factor, why it's so important for all believers to be witnesses for Christ. It also highlighted the potential for Church growth if all believers started to share their faith.

Session Details

A. Potential.

A hypothetical illustration was used to show the potential that exists if all believers engage in witnessing. Based on all believers leading one person to Christ each year and then seeing the new convert trained and disciplined so they can also lead someone to Christ each year we would see an incredible escalation of conversions. After year one, you lead someone to Christ, there would then be 2 of you after year one ($1+1=2$). In the next year, you and your new convert each lead someone to Christ. At the end of year two there would be 4 of you ($2+2=4$). Based on each believer continuing to lead one person to Christ each year, after 20 years over 1 million people would have come to receive Christ as their Lord and Saviour. This is the power of every believer witnessing.

B. The Why Factor.

In the study there were three reasons discussed concerning the importance of every believer sharing their faith.

Reason One: It's important to God.

God is looking for a family (John 1:12-13) and He is making His appeal through us (2 Corinthians 5:20). God has given us the responsibility, along with the Holy Spirit, of gathering together His family. God's Family is birthed when they receive Christ and our responsibility is to proclaim Christ.

Reason Two: It's important to those who don't know Christ.

Non-Christians need us to tell them about God's amazing gift of salvation. The apostle Paul tells us, 'How can they believe unless they hear, and how can they hear unless someone tells them.' (Romans 10:14).

Reason Three: It's important for ourselves.

When we step into our call as witnesses for Christ we experience a sense of joy, purpose, and fulfillment. It's an incredible blessing knowing that we are working together as God's family.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1: Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 and answer the following questions:

What has God given us? _____

How does God see us? _____

Why is it so important to God for us to fulfil our call? _____

Question Two: Read Romans 10:14-15 and then break off into groups of two and in your own words tell the other person why it is so important for every believer to be a witness for Christ.

Question Three: In the teaching Mike shares how a friend witnessed to him resulting in Mike's salvation. Did anyone witness to you? Who was it?

A thought to consider: Why not contact that person to thank and encourage them.

Question Four: In the teaching Mike asked the question, "Do you think you would be able to lead someone to Christ in the next 12 months?"

Do you think you could YES | NO

Question Five: What do you think would have to change in your life to change the no to a yes? _____

Question Six: Have you lead someone to the Lord? If yes, then describe the emotions that you felt.

Question Seven: How would you rate your willingness and effectiveness as a witness for Christ up to this point? (The good news is, today is beginning of a new season!) _____

GROUP PRAYER

(Either pray as a group or break into smaller groups)

Prayer points

Pray that God will empower you to make the changes necessary for you to feel confident and eager to be a witness for Christ.

Pray that you will be able to lead someone to Christ in the next year.

Dedicate yourself to the Lord. Tell God that you are available to be a witness for Christ.

ACTIVATION

Before the next session make up a prayer list of people who you believe you may be able to share your faith with. Throughout this course and beyond make it a goal that you will pray for them. *(Prayer list is on the next page).*

MY PRAYER LIST

SESSION TWO



THE HOLY SPIRIT
OUR
HEAVENLY
HELPER

SESSION TWO OVERVIEW

Session Summary

In session two the main theme was the fact that the Holy Spirit has been sent to help us in every aspect of our witnessing endeavours. Three ways in which the Holy Spirit helps us are examined.

Session Details

The Holy Spirit, our Heavenly Helper, has come to help and empower us in three strategic areas that positively affect our witness for Christ.

1. The Holy Spirit wants to prepare our hearts.

We are often held back from witnessing because of heart issues. It may be fear or anxiety, it may be a sense of inferiority, it may simply be that we have become apathetic or uncaring. The Holy Spirit wants to transform our heart condition so that we can experience zeal and passion and have a desire to see lost people come to Christ. A great starting place for Holy Spirit ministry is in the 'Secret Place', the place where we meet with God (Matthew 6:6).

2. The Holy Spirit wants to lead us to our mission field.

The Bible is full of incidents where the Holy Spirit leads people to their mission field.

Examples: Philip being led to the Ethiopian official (Acts 8:26-40), Peter being lead to Cornelius (Acts 10), and Paul being led into the city of Philippi (Acts 16). The same Holy Spirit wants to lead us to our mission field.

3. The Holy Spirit supernaturally draws people to God.

In John 6:44a we are told, 'No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him.' This is what the Holy Spirit does. He supernaturally anoints the words and works of the gospel. A clear biblical example is when the Holy Spirit fell on Cornelius' house when Peter preached the gospel (Acts 10). Again, the same Holy Spirit wants to help us in like manner. The Holy Spirit is our Heavenly Helper and He is with us 24/7.

SESSION ONE

ACTIVATION REPORT

(Break off into small groups)

Describe how the last session activation went (compiling your prayer list).

Share any witnessing testimonies that may be relevant.

What did I learn?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1: In Luke 24:49, Jesus tells His disciples to wait for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit before they begin their witnessing endeavours. Why do you think He said this? _____

Question 2: Are you struggling with any negative heart issues (i.e. apathy, fear, etc.) that could be stopping you from being an effective witness for Christ? What are they? _____

Take a couple of minutes to pray for these issues with somebody from the group.

Question 3: Read Matthew 6:6. What blessings or rewards can we expect when we spend time alone with God? _____

Question 4: Have you ever felt led by the Holy Spirit to witness to someone?
YES | NO.
Share some relevant testimonies.

Question 5: Read the following Scriptures and discuss some of the ways in which the Holy Spirit can lead us to people.
Acts 8:26-29 Acts 10:1-3 Acts 10:9-10 Acts 13:2 Acts 16:9-10

Question 6: Have you ever experienced the Holy Spirit's help in a witnessing situation? Share some short testimonies.

Question 7: How do you think we can 'feel' closer to the Holy Spirit?

GROUP PRAYER

(Either pray as a group or break into smaller groups)

Prayer points

Pray that the Holy Spirit will birth a genuine passion and desire for witnessing in our hearts

Pray that before the next session the Holy Spirit will lead us to a non-Christian person who we can connect with.

ACTIVATION

Set aside a time to connect with God in the 'Secret Place'. During this time ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to someone who you can witness to this week.

MY WITNESSING JOURNAL

SESSION THREE



WORDS
OF
LIFE

SESSION THREE OVERVIEW

Session Summary

Session 3 focuses on what we need to say if the Holy Spirit gives us an opportunity to share our faith. In the session, three presentations are looked at.

Session Details

There are three messages or presentations that all believers need to be comfortable and confident in presenting.

1. The Good News of the Kingdom.

Everything about Christianity is good news. God is good, His Kingdom is good and those who are part of God's family are eternally blessed. Christianity is good news and needs to be presented in this positive light.

2. The Message of the Cross.

This is the central truth of the Gospel (the good news of the Kingdom). The message of the cross is what Christ has accomplished for us, it's the message of salvation and it's the answer to the question, 'what must I do to be saved?'

3. Our Salvation Testimony.

Our own salvation testimony is our story. It's very personal and it's uniquely ours. Sharing our testimony is something that people can relate to and it is something that we can do throughout our entire lives.

SESSION TWO

ACTIVATION REPORT

(Break off into small groups)

Describe how the last session activation went (spending time with God in the Secret Place and asking the Holy Spirit to lead us into a witnessing encounter).

Share any interesting testimonies that might be relevant.

What did I learn?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1: Read Romans 10:14-15 and write out the 4 questions that Paul presents.

14a _____

14b _____

14c _____

15 _____

How should these questions affect us? _____

Question 2: Read and discuss 1 Peter 3:15 and 2 Timothy 4:2. Have you ever had an 'out of season' experience? Discuss how it went.

Question 3: Discuss aspects of Christianity that would be good news to non-Christians. Aspects: _____

Question 4: Read and discuss the following Roman road to Salvation scriptures.

Romans 3:23 Romans 3:10 Romans 6:23 Romans 5:8 Romans 10:13

Question 5: Are you nervous about sharing your faith? If you are, why do you think this is the case? _____

Question 6: What can you do to overcome these fears? _____

Question 7: Break off into groups of two and share your salvation testimony. (Take up to 2 minutes).

Note: your testimony involves three things:

- 1) What your life was like before Christ.
- 2) How you became a Christian.
- 3) What your life is like now as a Christian.

GROUP PRAYER

(Either pray as a group or break into smaller groups)

Prayer points

Pray that the Holy Spirit will give us a boldness to speak to people when He gives us an opening.

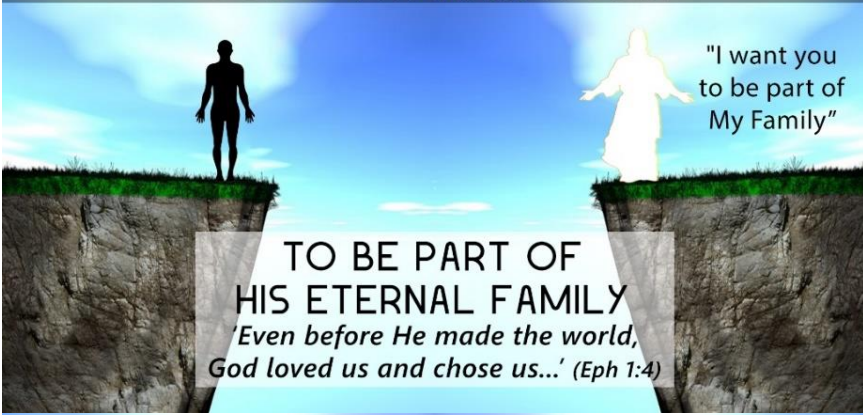
Pray that God will touch the hearts of the people who we present the Bridge illustration to. *(See this session activation).*

ACTIVATION

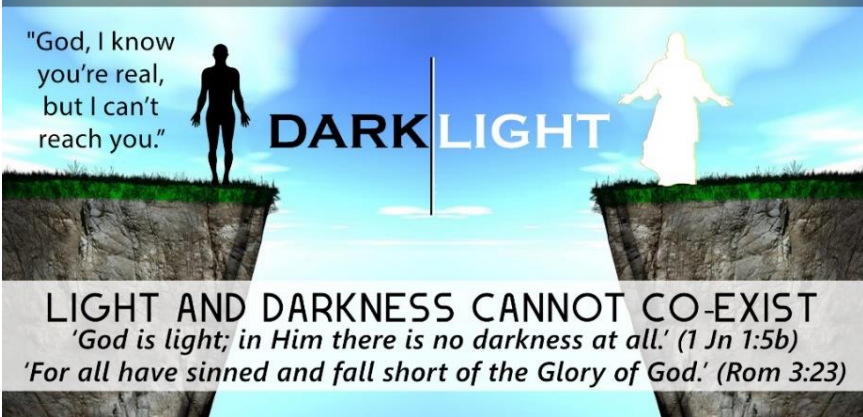
Practice the Bridge illustration (see next page) and then when you feel confident, ask a non-Christian family member or friend if you could present it to them. *(Tell them it's your course homework).* **If your friend wants to walk across (last image) you can pray with them and lead them to Christ. Or if you are uncertain as to what to do phone up one of your leaders for help.**

THE BRIDGE ILLUSTRATION

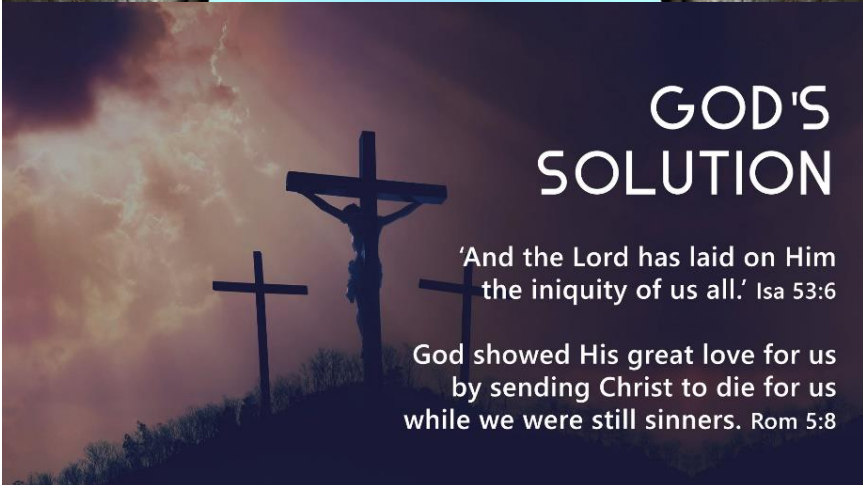
GOD'S ETERNAL PLAN



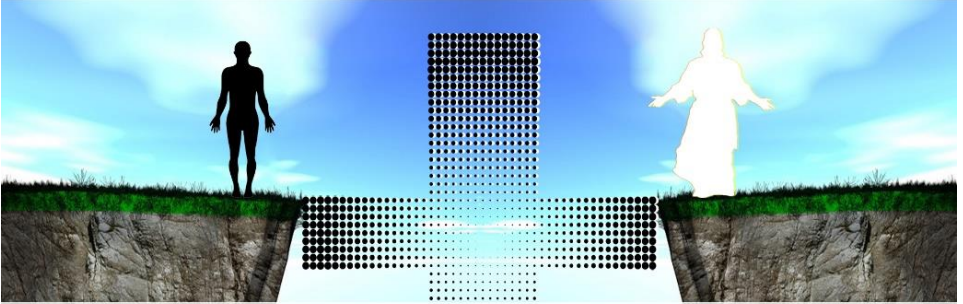
MAN'S PROBLEM - SPIRITUAL SEPARATION



GOD'S SOLUTION



THE GOOD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL



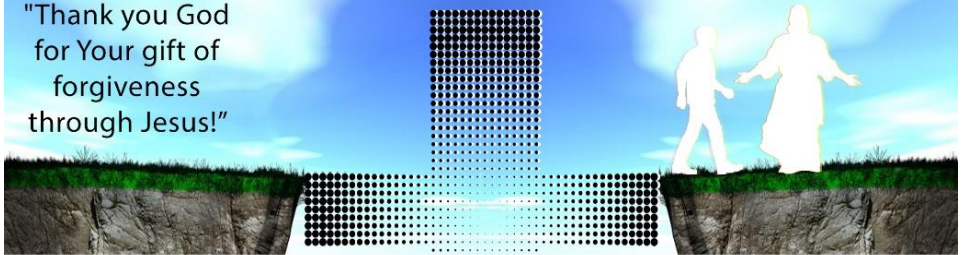
Jesus has paid the penalty for our sin, forgiveness is a free gift.

"I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me." (Jn 14:6a)

OUR RESPONSE: THE FAITH WALK

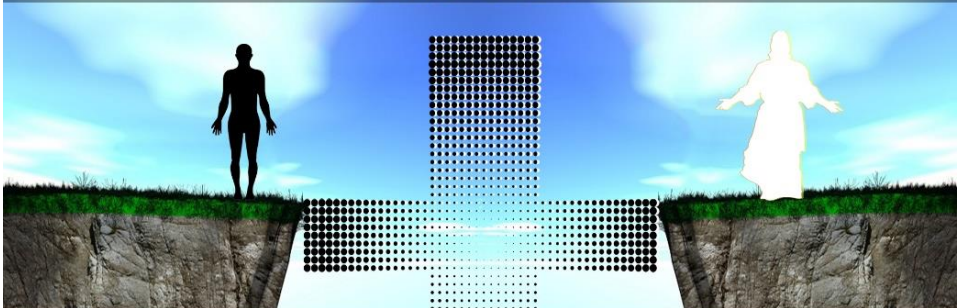
"Thank you God
for Your gift of
forgiveness
through Jesus!"



*Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name,
He gave the right to become children of God (Jn 1:12)*

**BELIEVE + RECEIVE =
ENTRY INTO GOD'S ETERNAL FAMILY**

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?



**Do you want God's free gift of forgiveness?
Do you want to be part of God's Family?**

SESSION FOUR



C.S.I. PART ONE
CONNECT

SESSION FOUR OVERVIEW

Session Summary

In session four, the main theme is an examination of the first part of C.S.I. lifestyle: Connect. The why's and how's of connect were looked at.

Session Details

C.S.I. is a 24/7 Lifestyle Model that empowers believers in Christ to be effective witnesses. It's a lifestyle that all believers can engage in. C.S.I. lifestyle involves three activities, the first of these is represented by the C. The C stands for Connect. Like Jesus we need to connect with non-Christian people, in fact Jesus was called a Friend of Sinners (Matthew 11:19). There are two major reasons why it is so important to make connections with non-Christian people. The first is the fact that it is very hard to be a witness if there is no one to witness to! The second reason is the fact that it is easier to witness to people who we have a genuine relationship with. When we connect with non-Christians our goal isn't to Bible bash them but rather it's to be a blessing to them. We do however pray that God gives us an opportunity to proclaim our faith to them. Our ultimate goal is for the Holy Spirit to enable us to be both a blessing and a witness for Christ and that through our genuine contacts we will be able to help people to discover a relationship with God.

SESSION THREE

ACTIVATION REPORT

(Break off into small groups)

Describe how the last session activation went (presenting the Bridge illustration).

Share any interesting testimonies that might be relevant.

What did I learn?

DICUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1: What do you think is the difference between going on an intentional mission (i.e. Saturday morning street witnessing) and having a 24/7 evangelistic lifestyle? _____

Question 2: Jesus was called a 'Friend of Sinners', what were some of the friendly actions that Jesus engaged in? _____

Question 3: If we don't have any non-Christian friends what actions can we take to find some? _____

Question 4: Discuss the qualities that you feel are important in a genuine friendship. _____

Question 5: What are some of the indicators to show us that the Holy Spirit may be giving us an opening to share our faith? _____

Question 6: Do you have any acquaintances (i.e. at work or neighbours etc.) who you could contact and deepen the relationship? _____

Question 7: Read and discuss the relevance of Jesus' words in John 4:35-36.

GROUP PRAYER

(Either pray as a group or break into smaller groups)

Prayer points

Pray that the Holy Spirit will lead us to some non-Christian people who we can make contact with.

Pray that God will help us connect with someone this week (*see this session activation*).

ACTIVATION

Make contact with a non-Christian acquaintance (see question 6). See if you can deepen the relationship by inviting them over or by inviting them out for coffee or a meal. Go with the intention of being a blessing to them but also listen to the Holy Spirit to see if there is an opening to share our faith.

MY WITNESSING JOURNAL

SESSION FIVE



C.S.I. PART TWO
SOWING
KINGDOM
SEED

SESSION FIVE OVERVIEW

Session Summary

In session 5 the main theme was an examination of the second part of C.S.I. lifestyle: Sowing Kingdom Seed. 6 types of Kingdom Seed were examined.

Session Details

When we stay in tune with the Holy Spirit we will find that opportunities will present themselves for us to be able to sow Kingdom Seed. Kingdom Seed is aspects of God's Kingdom that may be helpful to a non-Christian in their spiritual journey. 6 types of Kingdom Seed were examined.

- 1 – Proclaiming the Gospel.
- 2 – Praying for people's needs.
- 3 – Being open and transparent about our faith.
- 4 – Throwing out Spiritual bait.
- 5 – Christian resources.
- 6 – Reflecting the love, joy and blessings that are ours in Christ.

SESSION FOUR

ACTIVATION REPORT

(Break off into small groups)

Describe how the last session activation went (connecting with a non-Christian acquaintance).

Share any interesting testimonies that might be relevant.

What did I learn?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1: When it comes to proclaiming the gospel message why is it so important to wait for the Holy Spirit to give us an opening? _____

Question 2: When do you think it is suitable to offer to pray for somebody's needs? _____. Have you had the opportunity to pray for someone? How did it go? Share a short testimony.

Question 3: Give examples of when it is appropriate to naturally talk about our Christian life and experiences without coming across as being pushy or being a Bible basher. _____

Question 4: Share testimonies of positive results when kingdom seed has been sown.

Question 5: Identify a family member, friend or acquaintance and then consider what sort of resource would be most suitable to give them. How do you think they would respond? _____

Question 6: What can you learn from Chad Dedmon's testimony? (supermarket encounter) _____

Question 7: If you are travelling in a taxi what steps could you take to effectively engage the taxi driver in spiritual conversation? If the taxi driver appears to be interested in spiritual things what could you do knowing that you would probably never see him again? _____

GROUP PRAYER

(Either pray as a group or break into smaller groups)

Prayer points

Pray that we learn to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit and see the opportunities He wants to give us to sow Kingdom Seed.

Pray that we will have the opportunity to sow some Kingdom Seed before the next session *(see this session activation)*.

ACTIVATION

This week when you meet and mingle with non-Christians, intentionally seek to sow Kingdom Seed.

MY WITNESSING JOURNAL

SESSION SIX



C.S.I. PART
THREE
INVITE

SESSION SIX OVERVIEW

Session Summary

In session 6 the main theme was an examination of the third part of CSI lifestyle: Invite. It shows the importance of inviting both non-Christians and new converts to Church and to relevant Christian events.

Session Details

Invite has two implications.

Implication One: Inviting our non-Christian family, friends, and acquaintances to Church or to an evangelistic event.

Inviting people to Church is no substitute for us being a witness but rather it can often be the final stage of the process that sees them coming to Christ. There is a wonderful spiritual dynamic when non-Christians encounter a worshipping community of believers and the proclamation of the gospel message. Many non-Christians have made their decision for Christ after being invited to Church by a friend.

Implication Two: Inviting new converts to Church to be cared for and discipled.

In our witnessing endeavours we may experience the joy of leading someone to Christ. The next step is to bring them along to Church where they can be discipled and cared for, so they can grow in their faith.

SESSION FIVE

ACTIVATION REPORT

(Break off into small groups)

Describe how the last session activation went (sowing Kingdom seed).

Share any interesting testimonies that might be relevant.

What did I learn?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1: Why is it so important to invite non-Christians along to Church or evangelistic events? _____

Question 2: Did anyone ever invite you to church before you became a Christian? What effect did it have upon you? _____

Question 3: If you haven't invited anyone to church why do you think you haven't done so? List the reasons why and then think of a solution.

Reason: _____

Solution: _____

Reason: _____

Solution: _____

Question 4: Make up a quick list of people who you could invite along to church or to an evangelistic event.

Question 5: Discuss this statement, 'It is one thing to invite people to church but it's another to bring them'. What can we do to make the church invitation more attractive? (*i.e.* inviting them out to lunch afterwards, etc.)

Question 6: Share any testimonies about what happened when you've invited friends to church.

Question 7: Read and discuss Psalm 92:12-13. Why is it so important for new converts to be planted in church? _____

GROUP PRAYER

(Either pray as a group or break into smaller groups)

Prayer points

Pray for the people who are in your 'Question 4' list.

Pray that each group member not only steps into a C.S.I. Lifestyle, but also experiences the great joy of leading people to Christ.

ACTIVATION

Invite and bring someone (or more than one person) to church this week (or to a special event). Have a look at 'Question 4' for people to invite.

CONCLUSION

Congratulations on completing the Every Believer Can Training Course. You are now ready to go to the outer most parts of the earth as a witness for Christ!

As you prayerfully put into practice what you have learnt and embark on a lifestyle of witness, the Holy Spirit, our Heavenly Helper, is going to empower you to help many people to draw closer to God.

I believe that as time goes by not only will you sow much Kingdom seed (which others after you may harvest) but you will also have the joy of seeing people you have connected with come to discover Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

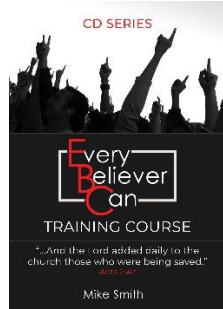
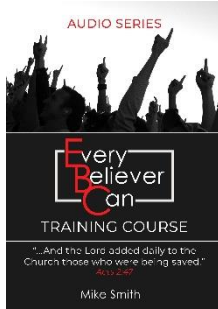
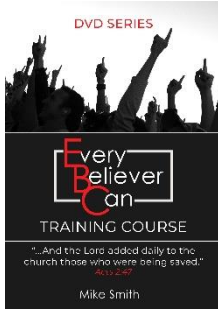
All of Heaven is cheering you on!

Mike Smith

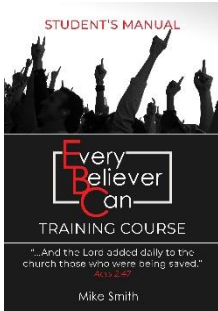
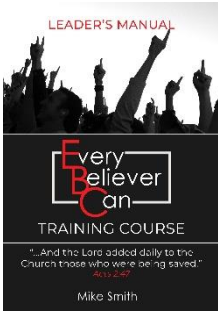
Director Every Believer Can

RESOURCES

Every Believer Can Training Course. 6 part DVD or AUDIO Teaching Series.



Every Believer Can Training Course Manuals

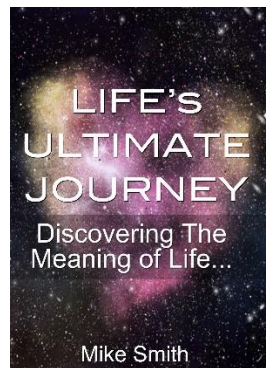


A journal where you can record your spiritual insights and prayers. The journal contains 40 Bible readings from the Book of Acts.

Life's Ultimate Journey

In this easy reading and inspiring book, Mike Smith sets the record straight by presenting Christianity as 'Life's Ultimate Journey' and the answer to mankind's most frequently asked question, 'What is the Meaning of Life?'

This book is a valuable tool containing the 'How To's' for those who are spiritually searching and equally valuable for those who wish to effectively communicate the Good News of the Gospel.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND ORDERS PLEASE VISIT:

www.everybelievercan.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pastor Mike Smith is the Director of Every Believer Can Ministries based in Melbourne, Australia. Mike has been a local church pastor for over 30 years and he has ministered both nationally and internationally as an evangelist and as a teacher. Mike is married to Julie and they have four children (the three eldest in full-time ministry). Mike's heart is to see every believer fully equipped so they can live victoriously and be effective witnesses for Christ.



CONTACTS

Website:

www.everybelievercan.com

Email:

ebc@destiny.org.au

Phone:

Destiny Church Melbourne

(03) 9558 3980

9:00AM – 5:00PM

Monday – Friday

Address:

Destiny Church Melbourne

P.O. BOX 159

Dingley Village

Victoria 3172