

# MAD Evangelism Training

## Week 4 - Where To From Here?

- 1) Over the past few weeks in bible study (and this whole term at FNL) we have looked at why we should tell people the gospel, how to explain the gospel clearly, and how to share our own personal story with someone. Share with the group any opportunities you have had to do these things recently.

*Same as previous weeks – to encourage the kids that they need to be active in putting into practice what they are learning.*

- 2) In pairs, spend a few minutes each sharing your testimony with the other person.

*A good chance to hear each other's personal story, and for the kids to practice what they began to learn last week. If kids missed last week, just get them to share their testimony as best they can anyway.*

### Thinking Time

Tonight we are going to look at some practical ways we can be putting the theory we have learnt over the past few weeks into practice.

- 3) Together as a group think of some ways in which your MAD group as a whole can evangelise to your friends.

*Some suggestions may include holding a Bring-A-Friend bible study night (encourage this idea if it comes up, as we are going to have something like that at the start of next term in MAD groups). Perhaps your group could have dinner together – inviting along the people on your group's network chart. One or two people could share their testimony, and there could be an opportunity for the new people to ask questions. Get the kids to be creative and practical in their ideas.*

- 4) What are some specific ways in which you can evangelise to your friends on an individual level or in smaller groups?

*As individuals we need to be making sure that we are living godly lives, so that our witness through our actions is true to what we believe. As smaller groups we can think back to our network chart, and find common people and work together to show Christ to them.*

- 5) What are some of things that may prevent you from actually doing (or doing as effectively as you would like) the things you have listed in Q's 3 and 4?

*Some common things that prevent might be laziness, fear of rejection etc. Ask 'What are you going to do to overcome these things?' Things that prevent our effectiveness might be not knowing what to say when tough questions come up. Again ask 'What are you going to do to overcome these things?'*

## **Discussion Time**

One thing that can often prevent us from sharing the gospel as effectively as we would like to is the difficult questions that our friends may ask.

6) There are many objections that people have to the Christian faith, and many questions that they may ask – below are four of the most common. For each of the four points spend some time as a group coming up with an effective way to answer these questions (remember to use language that a non-Christian will easily understand).

- How do I know that the bible isn't just a bunch of made up stories?

*Some guidelines for answers:*

- *The bible is a collection of stories of stuff that really happened. It was written down by real people and recorded real historical events.*
- *People much smarter than us have tested the bible against other historical documents and found that they are true. Historians used the same criteria that they use to test other historical documents on the bible and found that it is just as reliable as other texts written around the same time.*
- *There are a number of writers who were not followers of Jesus who wrote about Jesus in their books. Two of these guys are Josephus & Tacitus.*
- *Ask your questioner if they have ever read the story of Jesus for themselves or if they only made up their minds about Jesus through what they have heard from other people. Try and challenge them to read the gospel of Jesus for themselves and ask you if they have any questions about it.*

- Haven't scientists proven that God doesn't exist?

*Some guidelines for answers:*

- *No - The theory of evolution is just that...a theory. It is only one part of science. There are many other branches of science that back up what the bible says (eg Archaeology).*
- *It can be really difficult to speak to someone about this topic (especially if they are your science teacher). Try not to get too bogged down in the details of what science says and doesn't say. Instead try and see what the person thinks about Jesus. Because if they reckon that Jesus actually existed then God must exist because Jesus is God.*

- Aren't Christians just a bunch of fun-hating hypocrites?

*Some guidelines for answers:*

- *No - Christians believe that we were made to live God's way – the way that the creator of life intended it to be lived. Jesus says that he came to give life (John 10:10) and he does because Christians do not live with the burden of sin. This means that we are truly free.*
- *Unfortunately there are many people who say they are a Christian but do not live like a Christian. They give all Christians a bad name and that is why some people think that all Christians are hypocrites. True Christians do not claim to be perfect. In fact true Christians freely admit that they are not perfect and need God's help.*
- *Point your questioner to Jesus as an example of true Christianity because Jesus was perfect.*

- How do I become a Christian?

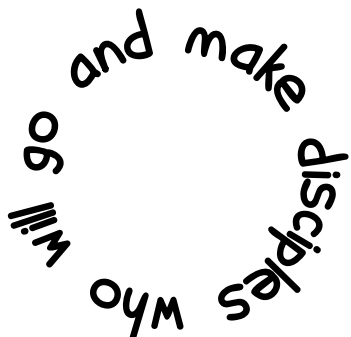
*Some guidelines for answers:*

- *Hopefully this will be the most common question you are asked.*
- *Believe that Jesus took our sin away by dying on the cross. Believe that Jesus rose from the dead. That's pretty much it.*
- *Pray. Thank God that he sent Jesus to take away our sin. Say sorry that you have turned away from Him. Ask Him to help you to grow as a Christian.*
- *Continue to live like a Christian and continue to learn more and more about God by reading the bible, going to bible study, church, Christian groups at school, youth groups etc.*

These are just a few of the common questions you may be faced with as you share what you believe with people around you. If you would like to do some further reading about common questions that you may be asked then the following books are really helpful (and very easy to read too!)

- *The Case For Christ* by Lee Strobel
- *Know What You Believe* by Paul E Little
- *Know And Tell The Gospel* by John Chapman

## **Prayer Time**



“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

*(Matthew 28:19-20)*

Spend some time now praying for all the things you have learnt over the past few weeks. Continue to pray for the people on your group's network chart, for the skills you have learnt, and for boldness and opportunities to share the gospel in a natural way.