

CHAPTER 10

EVANGELISM: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Refer to **pg 119** in the workbook

Summary

In this session, the learners will take a panoramic view of the gospel of Jesus Christ. A lifestyle of witnessing to the reality of the gospel is emphasized.

The practical portion provides the opportunity to learn and to practise the John 3:16 method of presenting the gospel.

Preparation

1. Extra Bibles, pens and pencils
2. Recent newspaper clippings (just have headlines) of 'good' and 'bad' news
3. Paper glue
4. Optional - photocopy of John 3:16 method graphic on page 17
5. Optional - photocopies of Sinner's Prayer on page 18
6. Memory verse John 3:16

Teacher's Guide

You will have to look through probably a week of recent newspaper issues and cut out obvious good news like weddings, sports victories, celebrations, etc and bad news like disasters, accidents, defeats, etc. You may photocopy the cuttings if the group is large or if you want them to have identical cuttings.

Alternatively, you may ask the learners the previous week to look out for and cut out the relevant news from their own home papers.

Make sure there is paper glue ready.

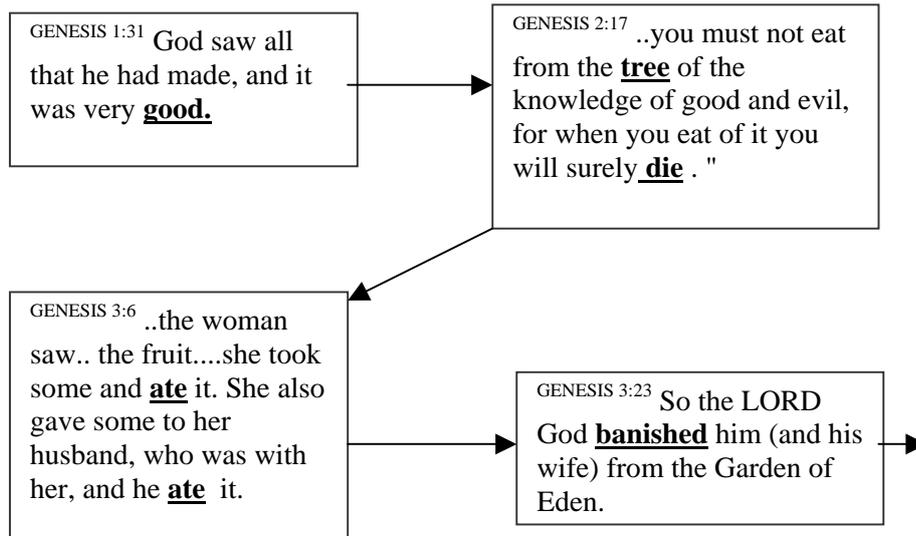
Refer to **pg 120** in the workbook

In your discussion, listen to words like 'happy', 'great', etc and sad words like 'disappointed', 'heartbroken', 'sad', etc.

Refer to **pg 121** in the workbook

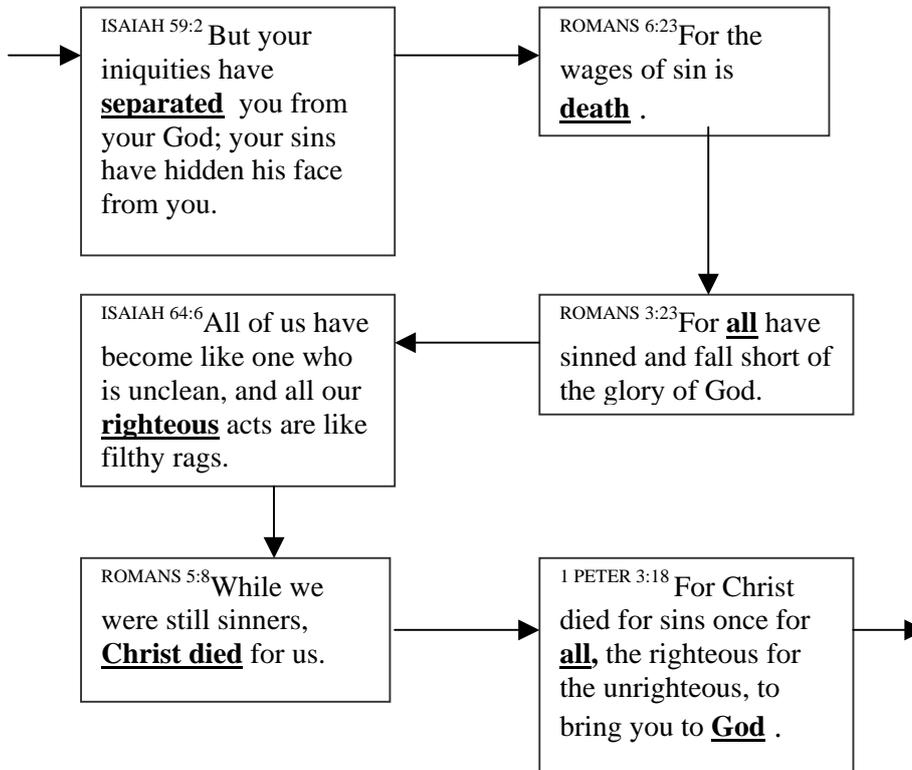
1. You may want to introduce the word 'euangelion' which is the Greek word for gospel literally meaning 'good news'. The word 'evangel' comes from this.

See the flow of the gospel message. The answers are given. Let the learners take turns to look up the references in the Bible (NIV).



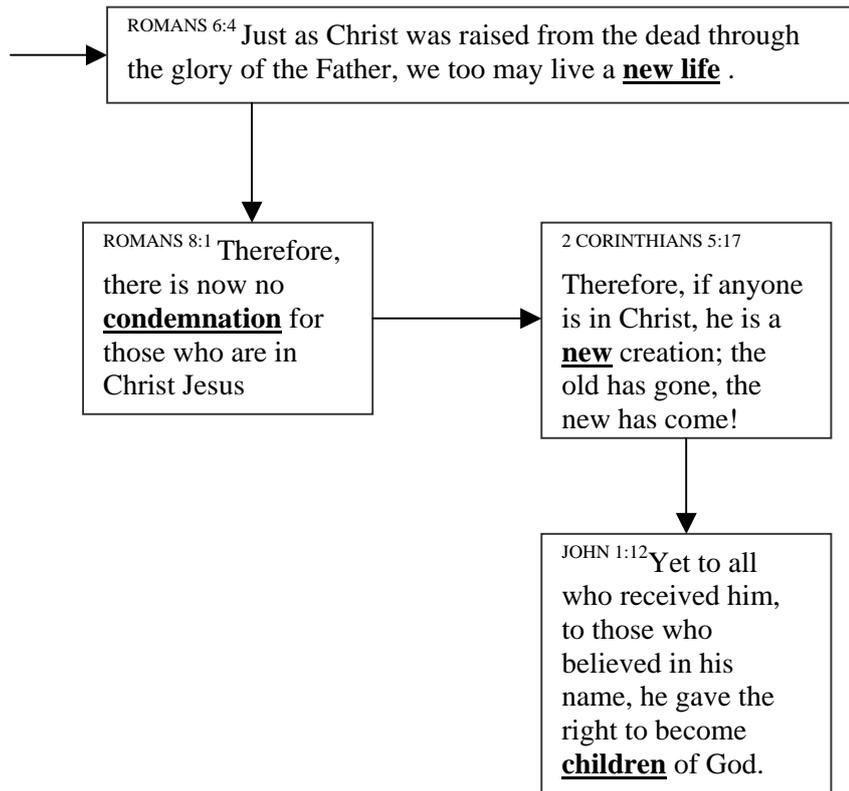
Refer to **pg 122** in the workbook

If any questions arise in the course of the lesson, discuss as much as possible immediately.



Refer to **pg 123** in the workbook

You may want to clarify each item with the learners making sure they understand the necessity of the death of Jesus Christ because all humankind cannot hope to save themselves. Point out the fact of the resurrection that is the sign of Jesus' victory in completing the work of redemption. Emphasize the need to believe what Jesus has done for us. Not everyone will be saved because some will reject this good news, but everyone can be saved.



Refer to **pg 124** in the workbook

2. Let the learners fill up the squares in the BEFORE and AFTER columns. You may want them to refer to the chapter on baptism (Chapter 6) to remind them of what happens when believers are united to Christ.

The answers are as follows.

LIFE
LIGHT
DAY
FREE
GOOD
LOVE
REJOICE

DEATH
DARKNESS
NIGHT
BONDAGE
EVIL
HATE
UNHAPPY

Refer to **pg 125** in the workbook

And the first part of John 3:16 can be deduced from the number clues. It should read

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE
AND ONLY SON

Let the learners find the verse (John 3:16) in their Bibles and write out the remainder of the verse. Explain eternal life as meaningful, exciting life with Jesus that never ends.

that whoever believes in him shall not perish

but have eternal life.

This is also the memory verse for this chapter. So you can let them memorize it right here if you wish.

You may want to discuss the different 'before' and 'after' terms, telling what each means in the life of the person before and after he or she becomes a Christian. Let the learners write down whatever notes they need to take.

Refer to **pg 132** in the workbook

3. Now let the learners express their thanks to Jesus for his work of redemption on the cross. Let each learner fill up the thank you note in his or her own way.

1. Now good news is for sharing with others. And the Holy Spirit gives us the power to be witnesses of Jesus Christ.

The Acts 1:8 verse should have the word '**witnesses**' in the blank.

Emphasize the fact that evangelism is basically lifestyle i.e. the transformed life of righteousness that as new creatures in Jesus we now live everyday. So we witness by what we do and say.

Remember that the Holy Spirit gives us the power to witness.

Refer to **pg 127** in the workbook

2. Our lives must consistently back up the gospel we proclaim with our lips.

The quiz highlights that lifestyle is important. Discuss how the transformed lifestyle noted above can affect their friends positively. And on the other hand how living the same way as the rest of the world can also negatively affect their friends regarding the gospel.

You might want to go through the situations one by one as they are discussed and answered by the learners.

The answers should be as follows.

1. N
2. W
3. W
4. N
5. N
6. N
7. W
8. N

Refer to **pg 128** in the workbook

If there are any notes from the above discussion, ask the learners to write them down in the scroll.

3. Here you introduce the learners to the John 3:16 method of presenting the gospel.

Refer to **pg 129** in the workbook

The details and final picture can be found the end of this chapter, pages 15 to 17.

If the number in your group of learners is small, you can use a piece of A4 paper. If the group is large, you may need to have a whiteboard or chalkboard available and use a marker pen or a piece of chalk to teach the lesson.

4. At the end of their practice session with one another, encourage them to pray to God for someone they can share this with. Do not rush them if no names come to mind. Let them put this to the Lord in prayer and let Him show them who the person might be.

Then write down the person's name.

Remind the learners to keep their eyes open for the Lord to open opportunities for them to share the good news of Jesus Christ to that person.

Refer to **pg 130** in the workbook

Encourage the learners to share the gospel with someone and then note down what happened in the box.

Allocate time the following lesson for some sharing.

5. The Bible verse to memorize is John 3:16. Let the learners write it down in the scroll.

Refer to **pg 131** in the workbook

6. Encourage the learners to find out what other people are doing in terms of evangelism and missions.

Refer them to

www.joshuaproject.net/

Let the learners fill up the blanks for the summary below themselves and then go through as a check with them

TODAY I LEARNED ...

- 1 that the word 'gospel' means **good news**
- 2 that all human beings have **sinned** and deserve **death** as our just punishment.
- 3 that Jesus died for all our **sins** on the **cross**
- 4 that Jesus **rose** again so that we can live new lives
- 5 that anyone who **believes** can know God's salvation in Jesus
- 6 that God sent Jesus out of His great **love** for us
- 7 that the Holy Spirit gives us **power** to be **witnesses** for Jesus
- 8 that our **lifestyles** should be constantly witnessing for Jesus

Refer to **pg 132** in the workbook

AND I LEARNED HOW

to use the **John 3:16** method to present the gospel

Outline of John 3:16 method

The suggested dialogue is in italics. Do it once with the learners and then let them practise with each other. The finished diagram will look something like the graphic below.

1. Write **GOD** at the top left hand corner

Many people believe that there is a God. God is alive forever and all powerful.

2. Write / **HUMAN** after GOD

God created human beings for a special purpose - to be with Him and to enjoy life with Him forever. Have you ever thought of that? God loves us and He intended for us to be together with Him.

3. Draw arrow to right  leading to word **LIFE** at top right hand corner

When we obey God, we can be with Him forever and this relationship mean eternal life for us.

4. Copy **HUMAN** down to bottom left hand corner.

God did not make us like robots. We have a will to choose but the sad thing is that humans chose to reject God's plan and make their own decisions. Have you heard of Adam and Eve; they chose to disobey God and thus humans were separated from God.

5. Write **SIN** in the center of the page

Sin describes this separation. It is not only the bad things like killing, stealing, etc..but the desire to do our own thing and live our own way independent of God. Sin is choosing our own will instead of God's will.

6. Write **DEATH** at the bottom right hand corner and an arrow pointing to it from **HUMAN** at the bottom 

What is the opposite of LIFE? DEATH! God intends for us to have life but instead because of sin, humans no longer have life but death.

7. Draw three arrows pointing upward from the line that leads to death and write **GOOD DEEDS, CHURCH, OTHER RELIGIONS** on the arrows as you talk 

Well, people try to get back to God by all sorts of ways - by doing good deeds, by going to church, by other religions.. but they all fall short.

Outline of John 3:16 method (continued)

8. Cancel **HUMAN** at bottom and write both your names above it (**Names**)

You and I cannot do anything to get back to God. But God loves us so much that He has provided a way through Jesus. Let me make it more personal. God loves me (name) and you (name) so much that He has provided us a way through Jesus.

9. Draw **outline of cross** across SIN with arrows going down and up. Write **JESUS** below SIN.

God sent Jesus to earth to die on our behalf for our sins so that we can get back to enjoy a relationship with God.

10. Draw two arrows on the bottom line at the foot of the cross



Now we have a choice. Are we going to accept the forgiveness God gives through the cross or are we going to continue to live on our own terms? Jesus died on the cross for us. After 3 days He rose from the dead and later went up to be with God.

11. Write **JOHN 3:16** on the right hand side

I would like to share a Bible verse with you and it goes like this...."God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life". This is John chapter 3 verse 16.

12. Cross out **SIN**.

Jesus covers our sin on the cross. He is the only way we can get back to this wonderful relationship with God again.

13. Repeat John 3:16 using the **name of the person**

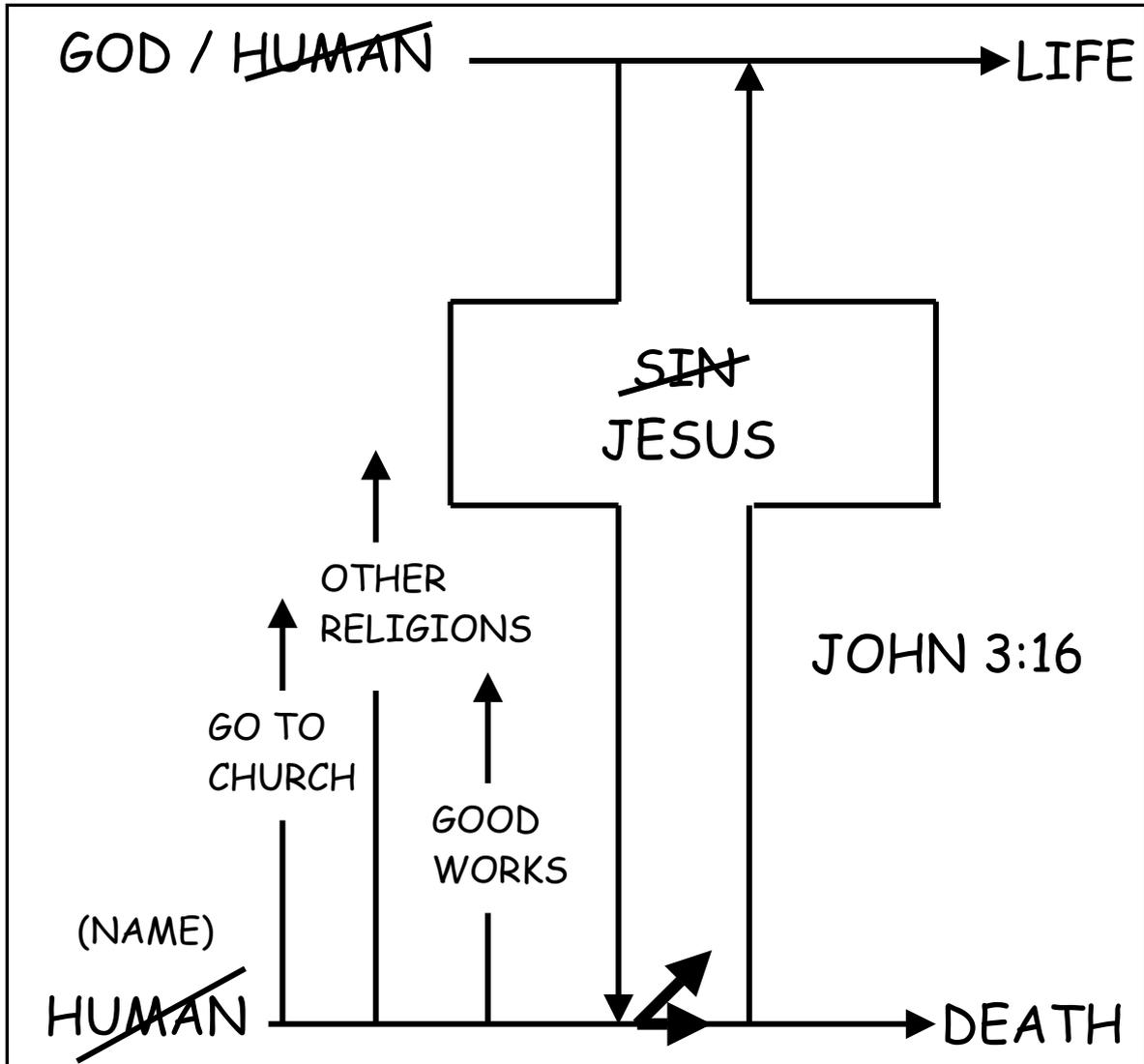
"For God so loved (name) that He" You will see that the verse says "whoever believes". If you believe and open the door of your heart He will come into your lives and live with you. And this can happen right now.

14. **Point** to arrow that shows the way back to God

You can choose the way to God now and believe that Jesus has paid for your sins. Would you like to receive Him into your heart now?

15. If the answer is yes, lead the new believer in a prayer called the Sinner's Prayer (see page 157)

Completed graphic for John 3:16 method



Sinner's Prayer (3 sets)

“Heavenly Father,

I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. (Name particular sins if there exists obvious ones he or she knows of.)

Please forgive me for I realize that I have been disobedient to you. I now turn from everything I know is wrong.

I want to thank you now for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins and to save me. I want to thank you for your forgiveness. I want Jesus to be my Savior. I will follow and obey him as my Lord. Come into my life now by your Holy Spirit.

In Jesus’ name, I pray, Amen”

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