

Tell Someone

small group
discussion guide

GLEN ELLYN BIBLE CHURCH

Introduction

1. What was most encouraging to you about Greg's personal story of coming to faith in Jesus?
2. How did you feel about the people Greg described as "Jesus Freaks," and what did you think of their influence in Greg's life? In what ways do you find their passion challenging?
3. Greg heard the gospel from the Jesus Freaks. Who did God place in your life that shared the gospel?
4. How is your story of coming to faith in Jesus similar to, or dissimilar to, Greg's story? If you have not yet come to faith in Jesus, how would you describe your journey of faith so far?
5. God gave Greg a desire to share his faith with his father. With whom has God given you a desire to share your faith?
6. What steps can you take this week to begin reaching out to those God has placed in your life?

Chapter 1

Something Christians and Non-Christians Have in Common

1. Why might it be a sin not to share our faith with others? (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15)
2. Looking back on life, when have you been most active in sharing your faith, and when have you been least active?
3. Do you currently feel that sharing your faith is a burden or blessing?
4. In what respect, is sharing our faith with others a great “adventure?”
5. What are some of the most common excuses Christians give for not sharing their faith?
6. Who, or what, most often keeps you from living the adventure of sharing your faith?

Chapter 2

Effective Sharing Starts with Caring

1. Read Luke 15 and identify the similarities between all three stories.
2. What do we know about God's care for lost people from these stories? (Luke 19:10)
3. Paul was deeply troubled for the people of Athens (Acts 17:16). For whom are you deeply troubled and eager to share the gospel?
4. Toward whom have you been showing God's care, in hopes of sharing the gospel?
5. How might you show an even greater concern for the non-Christians in your life?
6. What, if anything, is holding you back from showing greater care toward non-Christians?
7. Glen Ellyn Bible Church utilizes the acronym B.L.E.S.S. to remind us of the importance of caring for those with whom we want to share the gospel. What do the letters B.L.E.S.S. stand for?

Chapter 3

Why Share Your Faith?

1. How does it make you feel to know that we are commanded by God to share our faith? (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15)
2. How does sharing our faith benefit us, as well as other Christians/the Church as a whole? (Luke 15:7, 10, 32)
3. What might it be like to be a part of a church that is effectively sharing the gospel together? How do you think it would impact our fellowship and worship?
4. What can we expect our experience to be in a church that is not sharing the gospel together?
5. Greg's first opportunity to share his faith did not go well (p. 28-31). Describe a time when you had a difficult experience sharing your faith.
6. Describe a time when sharing your faith with others went well.

Chapter 4

Where to Preach the Gospel?

1. Jesus sent his followers into “all the world” (Matthew 28:19). List the different groups of people with which you have regular contact (e.g. coworkers, at school, neighbors).
2. Jonah did not like the people of Nineveh. When has a disinterest in, or even a dislike for, others kept you from showing and sharing the gospel?
3. Considering the groups of people with which you have regular contact, with whom is it most difficult for you to relate? Why?
4. Queen Esther was not where she wanted to be, but acted obediently. How might God have you in a unique place (e.g. neighborhood, office, class at school) in order to show and share the gospel?
5. Considering the groups of people with which you have regular contact, what is needed for you to obediently show and share the gospel?
6. Understanding that non-Christians are watching Christians to see if their lives have been truly impacted by the gospel, how might your life be a better witness of God’s presence?

Chapter 5

When Should We Share the Gospel?

1. On a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high), rate your sense of “readiness” to share the gospel message with others? (2 Timothy 4:2)
2. Share with the group why you gave yourself that particular rating.
3. What would you need to do in order to increase your readiness to share the gospel message (e.g. more training, more boldness, more sensitivity)?
4. Share a topic that you feel completely ready to discuss with anyone at any moment. What makes you feel so ready to share on this topic, and how did you become so ready to share on this topic?
5. What would you need to do in order to be as ready to share the gospel, as you are ready to share on the topic you identified in question #4?
6. What, if anything, holds you back from taking steps to be more ready to share your faith?

Chapter 6

The How-To (Jesus-Style Evangelism)

1. Read John 4 and list the questions that Jesus asked the woman he met at the well.
2. List some questions you can ask others that might lead to a spiritual conversation.
3. Considering Jesus' conversation with the woman in John 4, can you identify where he shifts the topic toward spiritual matters? What impact does this shift have upon the conversation?
4. What are some creative ways to "make a spiritual point," as Greg Laurie encourages?
5. What does Paul mean that he "planted" and Apollos "watered?" (1 Corinthians 3:6-9) List the different people who God has used in your life to help you grow spiritually.
6. Why do you suppose Christians so often avoid a true dialogue, opting for a monologue when sharing their faith?
7. What would be needed for you to live a more "winsome" life? (Colossians 4:6)
8. When it comes to the bad news of the gospel, how do you approach it when sharing your faith? (Matthew 10:28, Romans 6:23, 2 Peter 2:4-10)
9. When it comes to the good news of the gospel, how do you describe it when sharing your faith? (John 3:16, Romans 6:23)

Chapter 7

The How-To (The Big One That Got Away)

1. What do you think of Jesus' response to the Rich Young Ruler? (Luke 18:18-30)
2. How is Jesus' posture toward the Rich Young Ruler both encouraging and challenging?
3. Why does Greg Laurie say that he included the story of the Rich Young Ruler in Chapter 7?
4. When sharing your faith with others, some questions people ask are helpful and some are distracting. How can you tell the difference?
5. What does it mean to "faithfully" deliver the gospel message? (Romans 3:21-24)

Chapter 8

The Power of Your Personal Story

1. Share your personal story of placing your trust in Jesus as Savior.
2. What about your story of trusting in Jesus as Savior might serve as a bridge for someone else to trust in Jesus?
3. On page 83 there are 5 statements, listed in bullet point form, which are found in everyone's story of trusting in Jesus as Savior. Using these 5 statements, retell your story while highlighting each of these elements. Below are 5 questions, which correspond to each of the 5 statements, that will help you fill out your testimony.
 - What sin/s were you aware of as rebellion against God?
 - From whom did you hear the gospel?
 - When did you believe in Jesus, and how did you express your desire to turn from sin?
 - What Scripture tells us that God forgives us and provides us with peace and purpose, when we trust in Jesus as Savior?
 - What Scripture tells us that those who trust in Jesus as Savior are going to Heaven, rather than Hell?
4. How did answering the questions above help provide clarity to your testimony of trusting in Jesus as Savior?

Chapter 9

What is The Gospel?

1. What does the word “gospel” mean?
2. What is the bad news of the gospel? (Ephesians 2:1)
3. What is sin? (Mark 5:48, Romans 3:23-24, 1 John 3:4)
4. What is the good news of the gospel? (Ephesians 2:8-9)
5. How is it true that both highly-moral people, as well as terribly-immoral people, need to hear the gospel?
6. From what are we saved? (Ephesians 2:3-5)
7. To what are we saved? (Ephesians 2:10)
8. What does it mean to make the gospel an “additive,” and where do you see that happening?

Chapter 10

Closing the Deal

1. On a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high), how “ready” are you to answer people’s questions about the Bible? (1 Peter 3:15)
2. What steps can you take in order to become better equipped to answer people’s questions?
3. Why do you suppose people are hesitant to “pop the question?”
4. To whom could you pop the question this week, and what is holding you back from doing so?
5. When someone prays with you to trust in Jesus as Savior, what are the next steps you can take to care for them?

