

BELIEVE SERIES Lesson Nineteen

SHARING MY FAITH

VIDEO TEACHING NOTES

Key Question: How do I share my _____ with people I don't know?

Key Idea: I _____ my faith with others to fulfill God's purposes.

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to _____." (2 Peter 3:9)

Key Verse: "Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an _____ in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should." (Ephesians 6:19-20)

(Key Application) Look for divine _____.

(Key Application) Start with a question and wait for the _____.

(Key Application) Share your _____.

(Key Application) Acceptance of the Good News is not you _____.

GROUP DISCUSSION

As a group, discuss your thoughts and feelings about the following declarations. Which statements are easy to declare with certainty? Which are more challenging and why?

- I frequently share my faith with people who are not Christians.
- I try to live so that others will see Christ in my life.
- I know how to share my faith with non-Christians.
- I pray for non-Christians to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Choose 2-3 questions that will lead to best discussion about the Key Idea

1. Is it possible to share your faith without saying a word? If so, how?
2. What present opportunities do you have to share your faith with individuals outside of the faith?
3. If what Jesus did through his death and resurrection is "good news," why do many people hesitate to share it?
4. In what ways are you actively sharing your faith with unbelievers?

Read Genesis 12:1-4 and 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 and choose 1-2 questions to discuss.

1. In what ways do you see the world being blessed through God's people? In other words, how is the church positively affecting the world around it?
2. Paul says we have been given a ministry of reconciliation. In your opinion, what does that mean?
3. As ambassadors of Christ, we (the church) represent his character and desires to the world around us. In what ways are we representing him well? In what areas must we improve?

OTHER PASSAGES

Gen. 12:1-4

2 Cor. 5:14-21

2 Kings 5:1-15

Matt. 5:13-16

1 Cor. 9:19-23

Psalms 40:1-10

Acts 1:1-8; 2:42-47; 8:1-8, 26-40; 20:17-24

Eph. 6:19-20

Colossians 4:2-6

Jonah 3:1-4:11; 4:3-42

Rom. 10:1-15

CLOSING PRAYER

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PERSONAL QUESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Believe, Chapter 21: Love and/or read the following passages

1 Cor. 13:1-13	Deut. 6:4-9	Leviticus 19:17-18	Mark 12:28-34
Matt. 5:43-48	Romans 13:8-10	Galatians 5:13-25	1 John 4:7-21
Matt. 18:21-35	1 Samuel 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:1-42		

Then, answer the following questions:

1. As you read 1 Corinthians 13, make two lists. What are the characteristics of love in the positive sense (all that love is). What characteristics does love not have?
2. Do you love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength? How would you describe the amount of love you show for others? Are you satisfied with your answers?
3. Put into your own words what happened in the shift from the Great Commandment of the Old Testament to the new commandment of Jesus.
4. After Paul listed all the qualities of the fruit of the Spirit, why did he then write, "Against such things there is no law"?
5. As you read the story from 1 Samuel 19, write down the ways that Jonathan offered David unconditional and sacrificial love.

Key Verse: "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." (1 John 4:10-12)

Key Idea: I am committed to loving God and loving others.

Personal Application

1. How would this virtue express itself in your life?
2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who embodies the virtue of love?
3. What is impeding your ability to embrace this virtue? How can you overcome this obstacle?
4. What action step can you take this week to love more like Jesus