

**A Lesson You Can Share**  
Lesson IV: Good Neighbor Evangelism

**Intro:**

- → **last series, four introductory lessons: Personal Work and Personal Evangelism** — something congregation very interested in doing more actively
  - **Lesson 1: Be a good neighbor** — paradigm, view, perspective, way of thinking
    - live by the golden rule: have compassion for people, move to show mercy
    - “good neighbor” personal work
    - “good neighbor” evangelism
      - **compliment congregation**
        - “good neighbor” attitudes that exist
        - **personal work that is occurring:** encouragement, meals to sick
          - e.g., all the encouragement and help given me and my family
          - **illus.:** received two card in the mail last week, as have before, both totally made my day
  - **Lesson 2: Don’t worry, just do it!**
    - **sometimes we are afraid of rejection, afraid we’re not perfect**
      - **solution:** believe that the battle belongs to the Lord — its not about you, its about God
      - **don’t worry, just do it** — God already equipped you, know you can do it
      - e.g., **David and Goliath** — the battle belongs to the Lord
  - **Lesson 3: What works today, to bring people to Christ?**
    - **authority for this discussion:** apostolic examples, use expediencies to take the gospel to others
    - **recent history of expediencies** used by brethren:
      - gospel meeting, cottage meeting
    - **visitor’s meeting works today**
  - **Lesson 4: Good personal workers are good stewards!**
    - **careful to be good stewards** of our personal resources (time, energy, \$), spend some of them to build relationships and reach the lost
- → **this series, four lessons: Good Neighbor Evangelism** — first three lessons relate to the flow chart — **review chart** — **next series will get more into specifics**
  - **Lesson 1:** A List of Prospects — make list, pray for daily
  - **Lesson 2:** Build Bridges — four steps: Initial Contact, Become Better Acquainted, Serving Them, Friendship
  - **Lesson 3:** Let The Traffic Flow, Share The Gospel — four steps
    - relate to the Visitor’s Meeting, above
  - **Lesson 4:** A Lesson You Can Share
- **note regarding the series’ allegory: Build Bridges / Let the Traffic Flow**
  - ● **evangelism is:** reaching others with the message of Jesus Christ
  - ● **to reach them:** we **need a bridge**, to get to them - e.g., “don’t burn any bridges” (relationships)
  - ● **after we have a bridge:** we can **let the traffic flow**, communication of the gospel
  - ● **after the traffic flows:** they may **obey Jesus and be saved**

**#1 There are many people in the world seeking God, and wanting to obey Him. — God's providence, our preparation, reach them**

- **Question:** What percent of Americans do you think are interested in having religious (spiritual) conversations?
- 10%, 20, 25%, etc.

➤ → **Times have changed, many people like talking about spiritual issues**

- **Stat: Four Out of Ten Adults Discuss Religious Matters During the Week** (6-9-03, submitted by Jerry De Luca, Montreal, PreachingToday.com)
  - Of the topics of conversation raised during a typical week, the percentage of adults who discussed:
    - Movies or television programs: 66%
    - Money: 57%
    - Sports: 55%
    - Politics: 51%
    - Parenting: 50%
    - Moral issues or situations: 49%
    - **Spiritual issues and beliefs: 42%**
- **Stat: "Give 'em that Old-Time Religion,"** (Contra Costa Times, 1-30-02; source: 2001 Roper Youth Report, study based on 1,000 people)
  - According to the **2001 Roper Youth Report, more kids and teenagers head to church in any given week than surf the Web, see a movie, hang out at parties, or visit the mall.**
  - The numbers represent a **7% increase over the previous year.**
  - **Other findings** from the poll:
    - **53% of respondents ranked religion** and spirituality among their top personal interests.
    - **28% reported participating** in church groups;
      - **by comparison,** just 20% played after-school sports.
    - **58% said churches and religious** groups are an important influence on their moral values.

→ **Tonight's lesson:**

- the lesson I share with people who are not Christians
  - most obey the gospel without studying an additional lesson
- also use the lesson first, to ground new Christians, if I haven't studied it with them (e.g., Katie Douglas)

→ **What I hope to accomplish in this lesson:**

- show you how easy it is to teach the gospel to someone — many obey the Lord without doctrinal rebuttal — the lesson just lays out the truth from God's word

next: before the lesson starts

➤ #2 Before the lesson starts:

➔ Chit-chat: Get acquainted conversation.

- spend a few minutes getting to know each other
- write down names of anyone you don't know, so you don't forget their name
- ask, "Are you going to church right now?"
  - non-offensive way to gain insight into what objections may be brought up - usually none are
- ask about family, kids, how long married, etc.
  - non-offensive way to gain insight into whether marriage issues will be brought up

➔ **Summary:** In about 5 minutes of conversation, you can learn if you'll be faced with any major road blocks, so that you can anticipate them and address them with God's word during the lesson.

review: chit-chat for about 5 minutes to gain insight into possible roadblocks

next: the lesson

➤ #3 **The lesson:** (about 45 minutes, e.g., study with Katie)

➔ **Why are we going through the home Bible study lesson, at church?**

- elders felt that the congregation needed to see it in action
  - not that you have to use this lesson, but it is the one I use and have had good success with
- see how easy it is to teach someone the gospel
- see what I'll do if I come to your house for a home study, at least with the first lesson
- copies: download from my web site, BibleStudyGuide.org
  - hope to put no church site, when we get it reworked

➔ **Procedure:**

- young men read the Scriptures
  - Allan give background info, like home study
- show the question and answer of the PP

➔ **Summarize lesson:** like a home study — **have everyone look at their paper**

➔ **Ask:**

- Do you still want to be baptized?
  - for those who expressed a desire during the lesson to be baptized
- What do you think?
  - seeing if any questions, give them a chance to tell you what they think and express a desire to obey
- Do you have any questions?
  - probing for objections, if the student doesn't want to be baptized immediately
- Would you like to obey God's word and be baptized?
  - bringing up the subject of obedience, in case they are too shy

➔ **Purpose of the Home Bible lesson:**

- present God's word
- give others the opportunity to obey God, if they desire
- never to pressure

review: chit-chat for about 5 minutes to gain insight into possible roadblocks, go through the lesson

next: after the lesson

➤ **#4 After the lesson:**

➔ **if not want to be baptized:**

- chit-chat for a few minutes
- ask: Would you like to get together for another Bible study?
  - if yes: schedule next study
  - if not: thank them for having you over, let them know you're available to study if they would like to study in the future

➔ **if they want to be baptized:**

- review the lesson, as to what Jesus commands
- ask if they believe, have repented (give examples), believe Jesus is God's Son
- make arrangements to baptize them

➔ **Application: it's easy to share the gospel with others, and fun**

- most of the time there aren't any major objections
- most of the time, if someone doesn't want to obey after the first lesson, they will after another lesson or so

**Conclusion:**

➤ ➔ **Summary:** end of series

- be a good neighbor and build friendships
- let the traffic flow - share the gospel with your friends
- ask if they would like to study God's word, go to church, etc. — share a simple lesson on salvation
- ask, "What do you think?" and they may obey God

➔ **Inv.:**

- if you're not righteous before God, you heard a simple lesson on salvation tonight
- inv.

Audio sermon notes:

- ➤ denotes where to proceed to the next slide PowerPoint slide.
- All Scriptures are NASB, unless otherwise noted.
- Sermon recorded 2/12/2006, Church of Christ, South Livingston Ave. in Lutz, FL, Allan McNabb, BibleStudyGuide.org.