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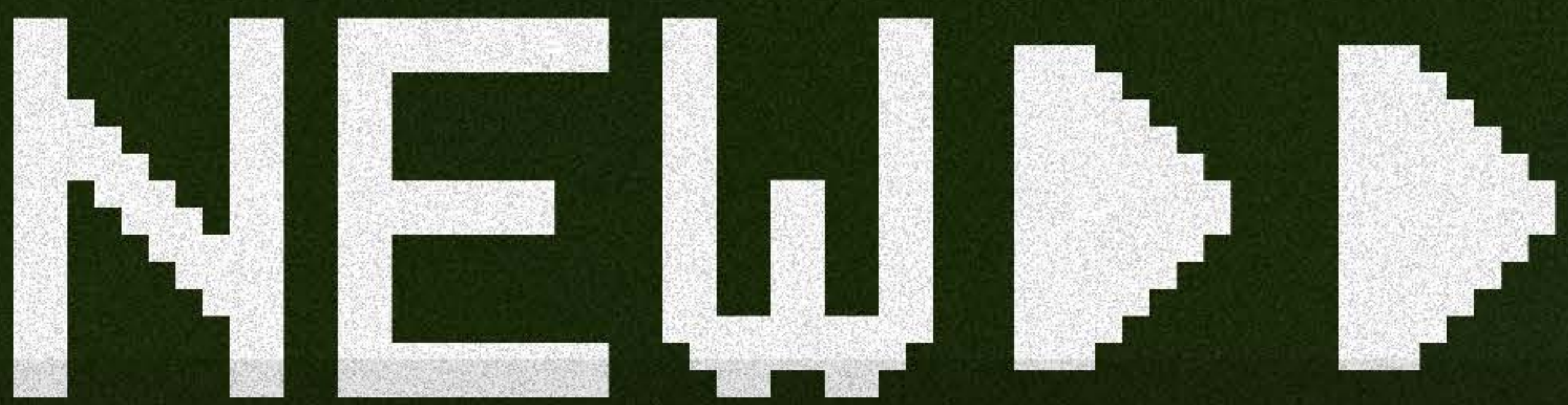
The Week of  
June 12, 2022

## New Hope for Others Conversation Guide

### This Week's Takeaways

- I engage in the missionary task wherever I am: (Matthew 28:18-20)  
Through both my words and actions, I engage in gospel conversations with those around me. I take the gospel around the world by going, give, pray and send others





## Intro Questions

- What person are you closet to?
  - Are they a follower of Jesus?
- Who is the closest person you know that isn't a follower of Jesus?
  - When was the last time you shared the gospel with them?

## 2 Corinthians 5:11–21 (NLT)

*Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others. God knows we are sincere, and I hope you know this, too. Are we commending ourselves to you again? No, we are giving you a reason to be proud of us, so you can answer those who brag about having a spectacular ministry rather than having a sincere heart. If*



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*it seems we are crazy, it is to bring glory to God. And if we are in our right minds, it is for your benefit. Either way, Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.*

*So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*



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*And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.*

*So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*



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We have a responsibility to share the good news of Jesus with those we know. We want everyone to come to a saving knowledge of Him! Today, we're going to sharpen some of the tools we have to share the Gospel with others.

## Romans Road

The Romans Road is a simple way to present the gospel using verses from the book of Romans.

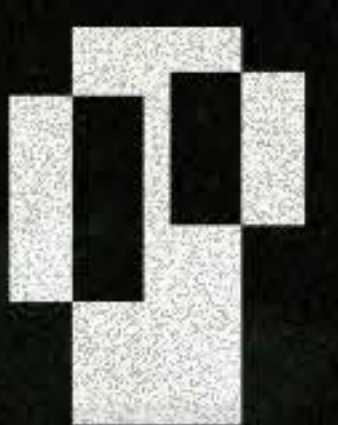
- I'm a "good person" do I really need salvation? In many years of talking to people, I think 9 out of 10 people categorize themselves as "good" people and don't understand their need for salvation.
  - For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious



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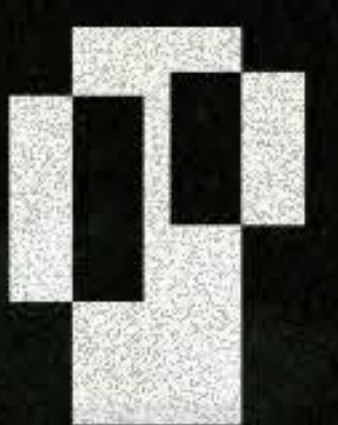
standard. (Romans 3:23)

- As the Scriptures say, “No one is righteous—not even one. (Romans 3:10)
- When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. (Romans 5:12)
- I’m not a really bad person, is my sin really that bad? Almost everyone considers themselves to be “relatively” better (less bad, less sinful, and less depraved) than others and so forgive themselves for their “relatively” minor sins.
  - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)



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- I'm too bad to be saved, how can there be any hope for me? Those, who don't consider themselves better than others, often consider themselves to have missed the mark, with so many sins stacked up on their side of the scale, that there's no hope for them.
- But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:8)
- How can I be saved? The concept of salvation by faith is alien to our human nature, we want to do something to earn our salvation, but the task is too great for us, we need divine intervention.
  - And that message is the very message about faith that we



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preach: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. (Romans 10:9-10)

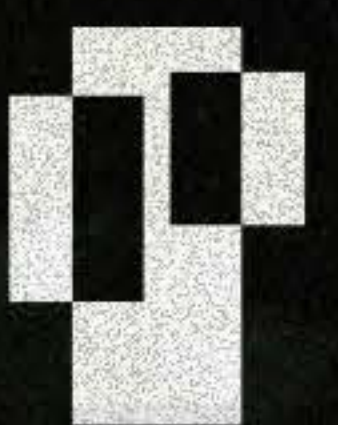
- Did God accept me? After a person has come to Jesus Christ for their personal soul salvation, it is extremely common for them to doubt their salvation, to doubt that God will keep his promise, that they are safe in Christ.
  - As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They



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have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." (Romans 10:11-13)

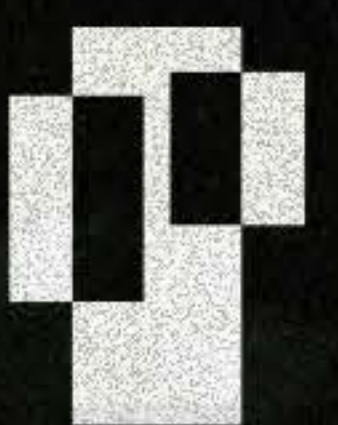
- Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. (Romans 5:1)
- So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1)
- And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can



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separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)

- What should I do now? The new child of God is embarking on the most exciting journey of their life, where should they start, and what should they do?
  - For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. (Romans 10:17)





## 3 Circles

The 3 Circles App answers common questions in a simple and memorable way to help you naturally share the gospel with others.

- Download the app at <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/life-conversation-guide/id879490935> (or search the app store for Life on Mission).
- Pair up and practice going through the 3 Circles with each other.

## BLESS strategy

BLESS is a new approach to prayer and evangelism. It's less about downloading information and more about loving our neighbors well. It helps us get "unstuck" and practice evangelism more effortlessly. Using five simple missional practices—Begin with prayer, Listen with care, Eat





together, Serve in love, and Share the story—BLESS is a suite of resources designed as an intentional pathway to equip every believer to make more disciples who follow Jesus, become like Jesus, and engage in the mission of Jesus every day.

### Begin with Prayer

Pray for people in your life who are far from God. Ask God, "How do you want to use me to bless the people in my life?" Write a short list of people whom you long to see commit to faith in Christ. Place the list inside your Bible, on your dashboard, or on a note in your cell phone. Commit to start every day with prayer asking God to use you to bless someone in your world who does not know him. Not sure what to pray? Here



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are some ideas:

- Pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will become thirsty for God (John 7:37-39).
- Pray that the Father will draw \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus (John 6:44-45)
- Pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will become open to God's truth (2 Corinthians 4:4-6).
- Pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will become receptive to God's grace (Romans 3:23-24; Titus 3:4-7).
- Prayer for \_\_\_\_\_'s heartfelt conviction of sin and their need for God (John 16:8-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5)
- Pray for \_\_\_\_\_ to take genuine steps of repentance (2 Corinthians 7:10).
- Pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will clearly experience God's love (1 John 4:7-10, 19-21).
- Pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will develop



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a heartfelt and willful belief and acceptance of Jesus as King and Lord (John 10: 27-30)

- Pray for \_\_\_\_\_ to develop deep spiritual rootedness in Christ (John 15:5; Colossians 2:6-7).
- Pray for \_\_\_\_\_ to reproduce God's mission to others who are far from God (Matthew 28:18-20).

## Listen with Care

Pay attention to people's dreams and pain. Listen for evidence of God's work in their lives.

- If you want to be a good listener, think of yourself as someone who comes alongside another person – not to give advice, but to learn the other person's real story.



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## Eat Together

Share meals and life with people in your life who do not know God.

- Have dinner together in your home or at a restaurant.
- Share a pizza.
- Enjoy a cup of coffee together.
- Host a holiday party.
- Organize a block party or backyard neighborhood BBQ.
- Include others in your family celebrations.
- Try new restaurants together.
- Add one person to one meal per week.
- Throw a small dinner party.
- Join with another couple to connect friends to friends.
- Create an affinity group



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- Teach someone how to cook.
- Share a holiday meal.
- Attend their party or event.

## Serve in Love

Be attentive to opportunities God provides you to care for people and attend to their needs.

- Serve through small acts of kindness.
- Volunteer to take care of a tangible need (cook a meal, babysit, shovel snow, etc.)
- Make their birthday special.
- Send a greeting card.
- Join a community service project with someone who is journeying toward God.
- Offer to pray.
- Keep them company.



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- Give or lend something.
- Don't miss the big needs – Births, deaths, trials, sickness, and more.
- When you Listen to people and Eat with them, they will tell you how to love them.

## Share the Story

Once you build a relationship and earn trust, look for ways you can share the story of how Jesus is transforming your life and the world.

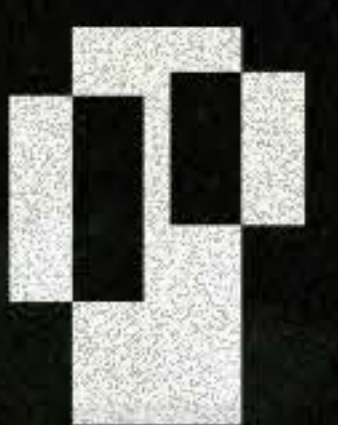
- Ask for permission and don't be pushy.  
"Would you mind if I tell you a little about a way God has changed my life?"
- Be clear and use common language. Try to avoid "church" language. Words like, "born again," "Savior," "redemption," "grace," "accepting



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Jesus,” etc., are beautiful and meaningful to Christians but have little or no meaning to people outside the church.

- Keep it short. Share more as it becomes appropriate. Keep it to two minutes or less. If you want to write it out, 100 words is a good length.
- Be humble and focus on what God did. “Look at what God did in my life!”
- Use a before-and-after pattern. How did God change you?
- Focus on Jesus as the source of change.
- Tell your story with joy and passion.
- Tell a story from your life that connects with their life.



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## Next Steps

- Open the Notes App on your phone or flip this page over. List 100 people you know- who's a believer? Who isn't? Put a star next to the names of those that are not believers and start praying for them and for opportunities to share the Gospel.
- Struggling to think of 100 names or have too many names? Use the Concentric Circles of Concern below and write in the names of people you know in each circle. Start with those closet to you and boldly share the Good News!



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