

WINTER 2018-19

MASTERWORK[®]

ESSENTIAL MESSAGES FROM GOD'S SERVANTS



Lessons from

UNSCRIPTED by Jeff Iorg

THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY by A.W. Tozer

LifeWay | Adults

A STEP OF FAITH

In your opinion, what does it take for a person to get to heaven and have eternal life? The Bible answers this question in one word—**FAITH**.

F Is for Forgiveness

- Everyone has sinned and needs God's forgiveness: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23).
- God's forgiveness is in Jesus only: *"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace"* (Ephesians 1:7).

A Is for Available

- God's forgiveness is available for all: *"God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).
- God's forgiveness is available but not automatic: *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven"* (Matthew 7:21).

I Is for Impossible

- It is impossible to get to heaven on our own: *"You are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—not from works, so that no one can boast"* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

T Is for Turn

- Turn means repent. Turn away from sin and self and turn to Jesus alone as your Savior and Lord: *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* (John 14:6); *"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation"* (Romans 10:9-10).

H Is for Heaven

- Here . . . Eternal life begins now with Jesus: *"I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance"* (John 10:10).
- Hereafter . . . Heaven is a place where we will live with God forever: *"If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also"* (John 14:3).
- How . . . How can a person have God's forgiveness, eternal life, and heaven? By trusting Jesus as your Savior and Lord. You can do this right now by praying and asking Jesus to forgive you of your sins and inviting Jesus into your heart.

Accepting Christ is just the beginning of a wonderful adventure with God! Follow Christ's command in baptism. Join a church where you can worship God and grow in your faith. Get involved in Sunday School and Bible study. Begin a daily personal worship time in which you study the Bible and pray.

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W I N T E R 2 0 1 8 - 1 9

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Biblical Solutions for Life

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its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter
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GETTING THE MOST OUT OF MASTERWORK

Here are a few suggestions to help you get the most out of this resource:

Group Members

1. Read the daily assignments prior to attending the group time. Complete the personal learning activities in bold type. Record your notes and questions.
2. Review your notes and questions a few moments prior to the group time as a means of preparing to be an active part of the group.
3. In the margins of this book, record insights gained during the group time.

Group Leader

1. Complete step 1 above.
2. Identify the one main idea and goal for the lesson. The main point of the lesson and the goal are printed on the teaching plan pages at the end of each lesson. (See p. 17.) Focus on the session goal as you lead the session.
3. Read and study the key Bible passages listed in the margin of the teaching plan. Supplemental Bible commentary and Bible background articles are available in the MasterWork Leader Supplement. (See below.)
4. Develop a group time plan. Two options are offered in this book. One option is to follow the teaching plan at the end of each lesson. A second option is to use the discussion questions in the margins of the lessons. Some group leaders use a combination of both group time plans.
5. Customize the electronic versions of the suggested teaching plans, available on the Internet at <https://masterworkbylifeway.wordpress.com>, to fit your group.
6. Review and refine your teaching notes as you move toward the group time.
7. Arrive early, praying for the group time.

MASTERWORK LEADER SUPPLEMENT

Bible commentary on key passages used in *MasterWork* lessons and related *Biblical Illustrator* articles are available for download at lifeway.com/masterwork. Look for “MasterWork Leader Supplement - Winter 2018-19.”



Unscripted

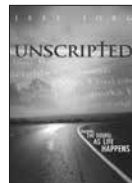
Sharing the Gospel as Life Happens

Jesus was quite clear. When He met with the Eleven on a mountain-side in Galilee following His crucifixion and resurrection, He charged His followers with making disciples of all nations and teaching those new believers everything He had taught them (Matt. 28:16-20).

When He had wrapped up His post-resurrection appearances and was preparing to depart from His followers for the final time, He did it again. On the Mount of Olives, just across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem, Jesus once more stressed to His disciples their new role. They were about to receive power from the Holy Spirit. There can be no mistaking their mission when that happened—they were to be Jesus’ “witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

As modern-day disciples, many of us recognize the mission of evangelizing and discipling people near and far. Yet many of us also struggle with carrying out what we know we are to do in this regard. We just don’t do a very good job of following through with what we know we are to do.

With *Unscripted*, Dr. Jeff Iorg helps us to see that it is not the quality of our memorized gospel presentations but the quality of our intentional gospel relationships that give us the best opportunities to fulfill Jesus’ commands. We have no script for life—we never know what we will experience or whom we will encounter. But in every situation we have the chance to live the gospel with the intention of finding a chance to speak the gospel. Life is unscripted, but that doesn’t mean our witness must be unspoken.



ABOUT THE WRITERS

JEFF IORG wrote *Unscripted*. Dr. Iorg is president of Gateway Seminary (previously known as Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary). A former church planter and pastor, his academic training includes degrees in Bible and Missions. He is the author of several other books, including *The Case for Antioch*, *Live Like a Missionary*, *The Painful Side of Leadership*, *The Character of Leadership*, and *Is God Calling Me?*

KAREN DOCKREY wrote the personal learning activities, discussion questions, and suggested teaching plans for this study. She is an author, freelance writer and editor, and former LifeWay editor. She and her husband, Bill, are the parents of two grown daughters.

Conversations About the Gospel



DAY ONE

Speaking the Gospel

Ann sat down on the bus beside a young woman dressed in black, all tatted up, with a pentagram necklace on a choker chain. Since Ann is one of those people others find easy to talk with, it wasn't long before she learned her new friend was a lesbian, gothic, witch. Sidestepping the lesbian and gothic issues, Ann asked her to describe what it meant to be a witch. After hearing her explanation of Wiccan religion, Ann responded by telling her story of following Jesus. How did she know what to say? There aren't any specialized seminars on sharing the gospel with lesbian, gothic, witches. Ann engaged her seatmate in a conversation, tailoring the gospel to meet the needs of someone obviously searching for personal identity and meaning in life. She talked about Jesus with a lesbian, gothic, witch.

There's no script for conversations like that.

1. None of us goes it alone. Read Ephesians 3:7-8. Jot down ways God's grace has enabled you to have conversations with people:

Janet had an acquaintance, Cheryl, who lived across the street. Like many neighbors today, they waved or spoke briefly if they were both working in their yards. Cheryl gave birth to twins, so Janet took her a small gift and wished her well. Their relationship developed a little more through that act of kindness, but not that much, since the twins kept Cheryl busy. Then, tragically, Cheryl's husband was killed in a work-related accident. She was left a twenty-something widow with twin toddlers. Janet later told me, "I didn't know what to say or do. But I knew I had to do something. So, I baked a casserole and took it over. When Cheryl answered the door, I said, 'I am so sorry for what's happened. I don't know what to say. But I care about you and I'll do anything I can to help you.'"

Even though she didn't know what to say—who would?—she risked speaking up, saying something, initiating a conversation to communicate compassion. A casserole started a conversation which led to talking about Jesus.

Unscripted, yet so simple.

And ultimately effective, as the conversation continued over the next six months culminating in Cheryl's confession of Jesus as Lord and Savior—followed by her baptism at our church.

Larry had read more than two hundred books on New Age religion. His company had a corporate chaplain, but Larry usually ignored him since his beliefs were askance from the chaplain's orthodox Christianity. Then Larry starting reading the Bible. After a few months, he asked the chaplain if they could get together—in Larry's words—"so I can ask some questions about religion." The chaplain expected some esoteric questions based on the voluminous religious reading he knew Larry had done. When they met, Larry's first question was, "What does it mean to be born again and is that anything like having your sins forgiven?" Hello! That wasn't what he expected to hear. Forty minutes later, after the chaplain answered a string of insightful questions about the gospel, Larry committed himself to Jesus.

Unscripted, answering unexpected questions about Jesus.

Todd was sitting in his cubicle reading an obscure book about metaphysics and religious faith. When asked by a friend why he was reading that particular book, he replied, "I'm looking for truth. Truth, man, that's all I want to find." His friend told him about another book that was about truth, and asked if he would read it if he gave it to him as a gift. When Todd agreed, the friend gave him a popular book on why it's reasonable to believe in God. That conversation is ongoing.

Discussion Questions

What questions might you ask in your mind to help you match the needs of someone seeking Jesus? What are some questions that help start conversations about Jesus or keep them going?

Definitely, unscripted. But, hopefully soon, they will be talking about Jesus.

2. Choose one of the conversations in Day One. Imagine a conversation you might have with:

- Ann's seatmate
- Cheryl
- Larry
- Todd

What starter questions would you use? What would you do if things got weird?



DAY TWO

Conversations, Not Lectures

These are stories of personal evangelism—conversations about Jesus as life happens, in the ebb and flow of birth, death, work, and trips on the bus. At least that's what personal evangelism is supposed to look like. Unfortunately, evangelism has a troubled image these days. It's become a dirty word for Christians and non-Christians alike. Unbelievers disdain evangelism—often equating it with dogmatic legalists winning heavy-handed, judgmental, presumptuous, religious arguments.

While most Christians don't think of evangelism that negatively, they still perceive personal evangelism as an onerous, uncomfortable task to be avoided at all costs. They tolerate guilt-inducing sermons on the subject, and may even feel some wistful longing to be more effective in telling others about Jesus, but rarely do anything about it. When they do muster the courage to try to witness to someone, they feel inadequate—spiritually and intellectually—often stammering through what they think they are supposed to say, rather than sharing honestly from the heart. They wrongly think sharing Jesus is delivering a canned spiel or sales pitch.

How sad!

The word *evangel* means “herald of good news.” An evangelist, therefore, is supposed to be a “good news teller.” Personal evangelism should be about “telling someone good news.” Simply put—it's talking about Jesus!

How did such a positive concept—the privilege of reporting the best news of all (the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus with a personal invitation to follow Him)—turn into such a distasteful experience? More importantly, if you have succumbed to such negative thinking, what can be done to change your image of personal evangelism? How can you rediscover conversing about Jesus—as a normal part of life—as the essence of sharing the gospel?

1. According to the previous paragraphs, what is evangelism?

What do people mistakenly identify as evangelism instead?

Effective personal evangelism isn't about memorizing answers to complicated religious questions, winning arguments with religious intellectuals, or convincing people to do something they really don't want to do. Evangelism is about connecting people to Jesus and connecting Jesus with your community—spontaneously, joyfully, and honestly. It's not drudgery, some bitter religious medicine you have to stomach occasionally to absolve false guilt for not being more open about your faith. The joy of personal evangelism needs to be recaptured by believers as characteristic of our highest privilege—sharing the good news of Jesus with people we care about. We've got to rediscover what it means to talk with people about Jesus—conversationally, rationally, and sometimes incrementally over long periods of time—until we have successfully communicated the gospel. Personal evangelism is supposed to be like that—unscripted—engaging people where they are, as they come, authentically connecting them with the gospel. That's what this study is about!

2. To create evangelism that connects people to Jesus and Jesus with my community that is spontaneous, joyful, and honest I will ...

Discussion Questions

How do you suppose a positive privilege that can happen in conversation has become so feared? Read Ephesians 3:8. What are some incalculable riches and how do they change everyday life? How do these change the image of evangelism for you? For those you seek to reach?

Effective personal evangelism isn't about memorizing answers to complicated religious questions, winning arguments with religious intellectuals, or convincing people to do something they really don't want to do. Evangelism is about connecting people to Jesus and connecting Jesus with your community—spontaneously, joyfully, and honestly.



DAY THREE

Whose Responsibility Is This?

If you have read this far, you have some interest in or sense of responsibility for sharing the gospel. Otherwise, why would this study interest you? A legitimate question is, Are you really responsible to share the gospel with other people? If so, when did you become responsible for doing so? When did you become responsible for telling people about Jesus?

The answer may surprise you. It happened at the moment of your conversion—and it happened to every believer (not just people like pastors or missionaries or verbal extroverts who really like to talk). Paul wrote, “I was made servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace that was given to me by the working of His power” (Eph. 3:7). He traced his responsibility to serve the gospel to his conversion. Serving the gospel is an interesting concept. How can you serve the gospel? What’s the one thing the gospel, which is inherently powerful, can’t do for itself? The answer—share itself. The gospel has been committed to people like you and me. Believers are responsible to serve the gospel by doing the only thing the gospel can’t do for itself—sharing it with unbelievers.

Paul was a well-known missionary in the first century. His call to be a missionary (to go to new places with the gospel) was a subsequent experience (Acts 13:1-3) separate from his conversion (9:1-19). These were two distinct events. While you may not have had the second experience (being called to be a missionary), if you are a Christian, the first one (becoming a servant of the gospel) definitely happened to you. When you received Jesus as your Lord and Savior—when you received “the gift of God’s grace that was given to [you] by the working of His power”—you became responsible to “proclaim ... the incalculable riches of the Messiah” (Eph. 3:7-8).

1. Write several thoughts and feelings about your responsibility to proclaim the incalculable riches of Jesus:

You may not have realized you were given this responsibility at your conversion, but that doesn't mean it didn't happen. You may have committed your life to Jesus as a young person, praying at Vacation Bible School for Jesus to save you. Perhaps you came to Jesus later in life—after years of rebellion against God. You may have trusted Jesus as your Savior and Lord without much biblical background or after years of study. No matter how or when you became a Christian, in the moment of your conversion you were given the responsibility to share the gospel with other people.

In the moment of your conversion, you were saved. Your sins were forgiven and you received the gift of eternal life (John 3:16). Those results were desired and anticipated. But so much more happened! You were 1. baptized by the Holy Spirit and experienced your initial filling by the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13). 2. You were given spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12; Rom. 12:3-8; Eph. 4:11-12). 3. You were sealed by the Spirit (1:13) and 4. made a member of the global church (3:10-12). 5. You became part of the body of Christ, with certain functions assigned pertinent to your gifting, background, and experiences (1 Cor. 12:12-27). If you were a teenager converted at youth camp, all you thought happened when you prayed at the bonfire service was you were saved from your sins. But that was only one aspect of the myriad, mystical changes God accomplished in you that night. So much else happened, including your assignment to share the gospel with family, friends, and other people God brings into your life.

2. Review the preceding paragraph. Which of the five results of your salvation currently moves you most powerfully? Explain.

Discussion Questions

Do you find it easy to believe you have these five gifts given at conversion? Why or why not?



DAY FOUR

It's About People, Not Places

One of the most commonly misunderstood insights from Paul's testimony relates to the objective of his evangelistic activities. Believers often equate

sharing the gospel with going somewhere to connect with strangers. Whether it's door-to-door cold-calling or a missions trip to another country, we often think the "out there" people are those we should prioritize reaching with the gospel. Strangers you haven't met and people in distant lands do need the gospel. But for most believers, their best personal evangelism is with people they already know and they are uniquely suited to reach. Your conversations about Jesus are most likely to happen as life happens right around you.

For most believers, their best personal evangelism is with people they already know and they are uniquely suited to reach. Your conversations about Jesus are most likely to happen as life happens right around you.

Paul wrote, "This grace was given to me ... to proclaim to the Gentiles" (Eph. 3:8). He further underscored Gentiles as his evangelistic objective when he wrote, "I have written to you more boldly on some points because of the grace given me by God to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, serving as a priest of God's good news" (Rom. 15:15-16). Paul identified the Gentiles as the people he was uniquely suited for and responsible to reach.

When you share the gospel, you choose a group of people as the object of your outreach and strategically invest yourself in communicating the gospel to them. Paul was committed to reaching Gentiles. Admittedly, that's a large people group. Yours will most likely be much smaller—like the teenagers at your high school, the mothers in your child's play group, the men who work the night shift with you, or the guys you play basketball with twice a week.

**1. Identify several places you go during a typical day or week.
Whom do you already know in those places?**

**Identify one person and strategize a way to invest in
communicating the gospel to that person.**

Your evangelism assignment, and you have one if you are a follower of Jesus, is to reach people with the gospel. So, the question becomes, Which people? To put it in Pauline terms, Who are your Gentiles? Who are the people God has uniquely equipped you to reach? What people group is your responsibility? You are called to reach people in your community—people you live and work among on a regular basis. And, if you sense a call to go outside your community (like going on a missions trip or becoming a missionary), before you travel around the world to work with Sudanese refugees, for example, why not work with those already relocated in your

area? Test your call to a people outside your cultural (and perhaps linguistic or geographic boundaries) by first finding similar people in your area and investing yourself in them. Remember, if you won't drive across town to witness to Russians, why should a church or mission board fund your deployment to Moscow?

No matter the people group you desire to serve—orphans, immigrants, prisoners, or outcasts—you can find them in your community. No matter the nationality you long to connect with, you can find people from almost every country in every major city. If God is leading you to reach a specific people outside your immediate experience, get busy! Don't assume prior cultural adaptation, linguistic preparation, or geographic relocation must precede obedience. It usually works in the reverse order. Obey God now, doing what you can where you are, and trust Him to call you across the nation or around the world as a result of your passionate outreach, not to validate it.

In the meantime, focus on sharing the gospel where you are, with the people you know, or with those in your community you are intentionally trying to reach. While some are called to go out of their way to share the gospel with new people in new places, the focus of this book is sharing the gospel with the people you already know—the missions field all around you.

Discussion Question

Obeying God where you are is not small, not a precursor, but is thoroughly significant and important. Why?

2. Sharing the gospel in your community can be as significant as going around the world. Select one of the following examples and identify how it can factor into your gospel witness.

- **Doing the right thing even when the boss isn't watching.**
- **Treating a difficult person with respect.**
- **Seeing how Jesus helps you behave honorably.**
- **Ministering and receiving ministry.**



DAY FIVE

Changing Your Image of Evangelism

Even once you understand your responsibility to share the gospel, it may still be difficult to envision yourself as a personal evangelist. Your perspective

may be skewed, making it hard to picture yourself in that role. You need help reimagining personal evangelism so you will feel comfortable doing it.

1. Imagine yourself as a person who brings people to Jesus—a connector. What do you look like? What is your attitude? What do people say when you come along?

The Bible uses several images to describe evangelists, and none of them involves slicked-back hair or ugly plaid sports coats! They don't include used car sales techniques or pushy telemarketer-type memorized scripts. Biblical images communicate aspects of what it means to connect people to Jesus. The emphasis is authentic relationships—people connecting with people, consistently reinforcing the theme that personal evangelism is about relationships. Evangelizing is about building relationships, creating networks, and constructing conversational bridges by which the gospel can pass from person to person. Evangelism is connecting people to Jesus; connecting the gospel to your community. If *evangelist* is still too pejorative in your mind, think of yourself as a connector—a conversationalist who brings people together with Jesus through meaningful dialogue about the gospel.

To further reshape your image of personal evangelism, consider some of the following biblical images for evangelism. In all these images, there's an adventurous unpredictability because life is unscripted.

Evangelists are like fishermen. Jesus met with a group of disciples working as commercial fishermen. He challenged the men to become evangelists. He told them, "From now on you will be catching people!" (Luke 5:10). Commercial fishing, in those days as today, involved casting a large net over a potential catch and gathering the fish for processing. Evangelists are like fishermen, they cast the gospel widely trusting Jesus will draw those to Himself who are part of His catch.

Evangelists are like farmers. Jesus described a sower who went through his field casting seed on various types of soil (Mark 4:1-20). Some seeds, in the best soil, thrived and produced a multifold increase. The other soils, not much, if any results. Like the fisherman, the farmer-evangelist broadcasts the gospel to many expecting a significant response. But the farmer image has another important point—not everyone you try to

connect to the gospel is ready to connect. Responses vary, but that's not your concern. Cast gospel seed far and wide, know it will receive a mixed response—but also trust at least some people will respond positively.

Evangelists are like witnesses. Jesus told His followers, “You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Witnesses tell the truth about what they have heard, seen, or experienced. With their recent failure during Jesus’ judicial process still fresh in their minds, Jesus used the analogy of being a trial witness to describe responsibility to Him. As an evangelist, you don’t have to invent the message you are to deliver. The gospel—the good news about Jesus—is your message. Your role is reporting your gospel experience to other people—telling what has happened to you and how others can be similarly impacted by connecting to Jesus.

Evangelists are like searchers. Some of the most selfless and gallant people work in search and rescue operations, helping distressed people find safety. Jesus used searching, and described various types of searchers, as models of evangelism. Jesus told parables about a shepherd searching for a lost sheep (Luke 15:1-7) and a woman searching for a lost coin (vv. 8-10). Connecting people to Jesus and connecting the gospel to your community requires focused effort. Diligence, initiative, and old-fashioned hard work are part of evangelizing others. Implicit in these parables is the value of what has been lost. People you know and love are lost without a relationship to God through Jesus. They must be found! Personal evangelists are driven to get this done, finding creative ways to build bridges to people who are far from God.

Evangelists are like parents. While no parents are perfect, most do the best they can loving and nurturing their children. They want the best for them and make countless sacrifices—large and small. Paul reminded his followers he was their “father in . . . the gospel” (1 Cor. 4:15). Fathers (and mothers) have a continuing responsibility to shape their children toward the most positive life possible. Parents put up with all kinds of challenges while guiding children toward maturity. Evangelists are often like parents in relating to their closest family and friends about the gospel, sharing Jesus in the context of a continuing relationship. You, in a sense, parent people in the gospel and toward Jesus. You steadily speak and model the gospel—not just share it once and hope for the best. Evangelists realize gospel-connections can take years and patiently, like good parents, hang in there until the job is finished.

Evangelists are like ambassadors. It may be tough to imagine yourself as an ambassador. Yet, the Bible says we are “ambassadors for Christ”

(2 Cor. 5:20) bearing the “message of reconciliation” (v. 19) God has committed to us. An ambassador represents a head of state to the senior leaders of another nation. An ambassador represents the government and all it stands for embodied in a personal presence in a foreign, sometimes hostile, environment. An ambassador has to know his ruler well and understand the core assignment he has been given. An ambassador is a significant leader—a person with authority to represent senior leaders and make world-changing decisions. You represent God. You are in foreign, perhaps hostile territory. You have His authority to act and His message (the gospel) to deliver, representing the God of the universe to people. What could be more lofty and noble than that?

Discussion Question

What surprises you about each of the six biblical images of evangelism?

2. Review your response to Activity 1 (p. 14). Tell how these biblical images could also describe you, and how the associated actions help you connect people to Jesus:

• **I’m an evangelist who is like a fisherman because ...**

• **I’m an evangelist who is like a farmer in that ...**

• **I’m an evangelist who is like a witness because I ...**

• **I like being an evangelist who searches and rescues because I like people. I show that by ...**

• **The parenting aspect of being an evangelist reminds me to ...**

• **Whoa! I can’t get over that I’m an ambassador because ...**

Two Convictions—Then Let’s Get Started

This study is based on two convictions. First, every believer is responsible to share the gospel. We have nailed that down in this session. Second, every believer can learn to share the gospel more effectively. That’s the focus of the rest of the study. No Christian is exempt from these two convictions.

LEADER GUIDE



Before the Session

1. Bring extra Bibles, pens, copies of this new *MasterWork*, markers for posters, and a whiteboard or a blank poster sheet.
2. Prepare three posters with the statements described in Step 1.

During the Session

1. Make and display three posters, each with a statement relating to this session. **Poster 1:** *Evangelism has a troubled image among both Christians and non-Christians. What are some of these incorrect, but still pervasive, images?* (Samples: dogmatic, heavy handed, judgmental, presumptuous, arguing, onerous, uncomfortable) **Poster 2:** *Evangelism done well is a conversation that engages people in the big questions of life. What words describe how this conversation should be?* (Samples: engaging, tailored, answers questions) **Poster 3:** *Evangelism is about people, not places. Do you find it easier or harder to evangelize with the people you see every day? Explain.* As adults enter, give each a marker and ask them to write a response to each of the three posters you've displayed. Distribute people at different starting points so each poster has about the same number of people at any one time. Debrief the three posters calling for the group to take turns choosing one poster and naming a response they like on that poster. This could be a response they wrote or someone else wrote. (Teaching Tip: Walking around the room helps to equalize talking. If you simply asked for responses to these statements one or two participants could dominate the discussion.) As needed, use the sample answers to encourage response. Explain: *It's time to debunk the rumors about evangelism and embrace the connections. Our study of **Unscripted** will help show us how.*
2. Say: *Evangelism should be conversational but this is easier said than done. Let's begin with a promise from the Bible.* Call on a volunteer to read Ephesians 3:7-8 while the group listens for what we are given and why it might be repeated twice. Put this grace into effect by practicing

The main point of this lesson is:

Evangelism is to be part of normal, albeit intentional, conversation in the regular routines of life.

Focus on this goal: To help adults re-envision what evangelism is and what it means to be an evangelist

Key Bible Passage:
Ephesians 3:7-8

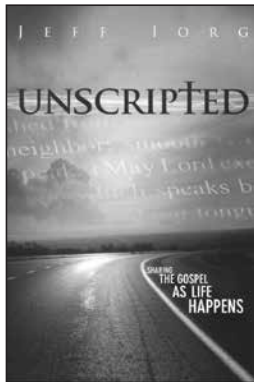
To the Leader

To review during the fifth and final week, keep a log of comments you appreciate from group members during each session. Let them know what you are doing if they ask. Then during the last week choose one comment from each group member. Thank that person for helping the group know what it means to live unscripted so we can reach people for Jesus Christ.

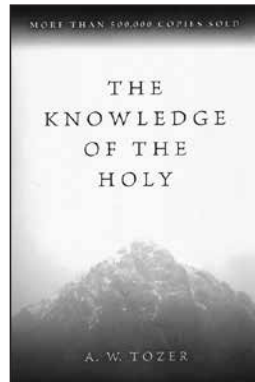
conversations that lead to Jesus Christ, using Day One activity 2 (p. 8). Ask: *Why does conversation need to be back-and-forth? Why is listening as important as talking during the evangelism process?* Thank the group for modeling conversation. Repeat: *God's grace, not conversational prowess is what equips us to evangelize. But, like all skills, we need practice.*

3. Invite the group to reread Ephesians 3:8 and list on the board several of the incalculable riches of Christ. Using this list and the opening Day Two paragraphs (pp. 8-9), discuss together activity 1 (p. 9). Ask: *How does the reality of what evangelism is match up with your understanding of it? What freedom do you find in discovering what evangelism actually is?*
4. Say: *It's one thing to recognize how to converse about Jesus. But DOING it? Being responsible for it? What do you feel about that?* Search Day Three (pp. 10-11) for insights. Review activity 2 (p. 11), inviting volunteers to name the different blessings and to read aloud the Bible verses associated with them. Pause to pray, thanking God for these gifts.
5. Invite the group to each show two or three pictures from their phones or wallets and tell one sentence about why each person matters to them. Read the Day Four (p. 11) title: "It's About People, Not Places." Stress that the warmth with which we talked about the people in our photographs approximates the warmth God feels for those who are familiar to us, as well as those not yet familiar to us. We can reach these people with God's warmth. Use Day Four activity 1 (p. 12) to help each adult identify a place, person, and specific strategy to communicate the gospel. (Teaching Tip: Start with places so discussion will not stall at the pressure of who to reach and how.) Read Romans 15:15-16. Using the verses and the Day Four pull quote (p. 12), stress that each person can uniquely reach people that no other person in the room can reach.
6. Ask: *How is your image of evangelism changing as a result of what we're studying today?* Review together Day Five activity 2 (p. 16), inviting the group to doodle physical images of a person who brings people to Jesus. Let these images show what evangelism looks like according to the six images from the Bible. Stress: *Envision yourself as a personal evangelist in one or more of these six biblical images.* If you have artistic persons in the group, invite them to use poster sheets or the whiteboard for this.
7. Direct the group to pull their phones back out and to text to themselves this critical message: *You can learn to share the gospel more effectively. The rest of our study will show you how.* Thank God for providing the gifts we need. Ask Him to help adults hone those skills with practice.

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