

HOW TO WIN SOULS?

DISCIPLESHIP LEVEL 4

LUZ A LAS NACIONES CHRISTIAN CHURCH



VISION

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PRACTICAL IDEAS FOR WINNING SOULS

OBJECTIVE: TO GIVE THE STUDENT PRACTICAL IDEAS TO SEEK OUT AND SAVE THOSE WHO STILL DO NOT KNOW JESUS CHRIST AS LORD AND IN THIS WAY BEAR MUCH FRUIT.

Pray passionately for those whom you wish to win.

Daniel was a man of prayer and an intermediary for his people before God. **DANIEL 9:3:** "So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes."

Intervene on behalf of those you wish to win.

Pray fervently believing that God will answer.

Fast with purpose for those whom you wish to win.

ISAIAH 58:6-7: "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

Fasting breaks chains.

Fasting destroys the works of the devil.

Fasting is for winning souls.

Make contact with those whom you wish to win.

ACTS 8:26-27: "Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road — the desert road — that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian

eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship...."

Personally (seek out people).

By telephone (call them to testify).

Visit them and testify to what the Lord Jesus has done in your life.

Take them to your Expansion Group.

ACTS 2:46-47: "Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

If you are a married couple, take them to your Couples Group.

If you are a young person, take them to your Expansion Group for youths.

If you are a lady, take them to your Coffee with God group for ladies.



Share with them the joy of experiencing family. PSALM 133

Share the joy of attending church.

Share the importance of having a spiritual family.

Share the importance of having brothers in Christ.

Conclusion: If you have the joy of saving souls, you shall intervene passionately, invite passionately and surely bring them to Christ. The joy of Christian life consists of ministering the great things that the Lord has done for us.



RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS AND EXCUSES ABOUT SALVATION

OBJECTIVE: FOR THE STUDENT TO UNDERSTAND QUESTIONS AND EXCUSES REGARDING THE SUBJECT OF SALVATION, WHICH EVERY PERSON HAS WHEN WE PRESENT TO THEM GOD'S PLAN FOR THEM TO BE SAVED.

KEY TEXT: LUKE 24:45-47: "Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, 'This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.'"

Introduction: We cannot avoid being asked about sin, morality and salvation. People can give excuses for not turning themselves over and receiving Jesus Christ. We must prepare ourselves to give clear answers in accordance with the word of God.

Question:

How can I know that there is a God?

Responses:

His Word exists – it is the Bible.

JOHN 5:39: "You study the Scriptures diligently, because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me...."

God has revealed himself since Creation

ROMANS 1:19-20: "...since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

Only fools do not believe in God

PSALM 14:1: "The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'"

God is infinite

PSALM 92:5-6: "How great are your works, Lord, how profound your thoughts! Senseless people do not know, fools do not understand...."



Question:

Doesn't the Bible have inconsistencies and contradictions? How can I trust it?

Responses:

The Bible is revelation:

ISAIAH 55:8-9: "'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the Lord. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.'"

The Bible is a closed book for a closed heart.

DANIEL 12:10: "Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand."

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14: "The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit."

2 PETER 1:21: "For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

Question

What is sin?

Response

Sin is not doing what is good.

1 JOHN 3:10: "This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister."

We have all sinned.

ROMANS 3:23: "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...."

Excuse: MY SINS ARE SMALL, SO WHY WORRY?

Responses

Any sin separates us from God.

ISAIAH 59:2: "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."

Any sin enslaves us.

JOHN 8:34: "Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.'"



Any sin is exclusion from heaven.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9: "Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men."

Excuse: I AM NOT A SINNER; I AM AS GOOD AS YOU ARE.

Some people excuse themselves by saying that they are morally "good" and do not recognize that they are as much sinners as all men are.

Responses:

We are sinners in the least of matters.

JAMES 2:10: "For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it."

We are all sinners.

ROMANS 3:10: "As it is written: 'There is no one righteous, not even one....'"

Excuse: I CANNOT STOP SINNING.

Responses:

Failing to repent brings us to death.

LUKE 13:3: "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Jesus frees us of sin

JOHN 8:36: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Excuse: JESUS CHRIST IS ONLY A GREAT MAN OF HISTORY.

Response.

Jesus Christ is God!

PHILIPPIANS 2:6-7: "Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very

nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.” Other passages: **JOHN 11:25, 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-9.**

Excuse: THERE ARE MANY HYPOCRITES IN THE CHURCH

Practical response:

The hypocrites are lost. If you allow hypocrites to prevent you from being saved, you shall surely spend eternity in hell along with them.



Biblical response:

HEBREWS 12:1-2: “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Excuse: I DON'T HAVE TIME RIGHT NOW.

Responses:

ISAIAH 55:6: “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.”

MATTHEW 6:33: “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

SIGNS THAT FOLLOW THE GOSPEL

OBJECTIVE: FOR THE STUDENT TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOSPEL IS NOT JUST WORDS; IT IS THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH SIGNS, MIRACLES AND WONDERS

KEY TEXT: MARK 16:17-18: "And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

Introduction: At some opportunity, all of us have introduced someone to the Gospel. God wants us to learn to glide through the power of his Gospel, so that the signs may be shown and we may see health, liberation and confirmation of the Word of God.

SIGNS AND MARVELS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO CONFIRM THE WORD

MARK 16:20: "Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it."

IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

The ministry of the prophet Elijah was confirmed through miracles.

1 KINGS 17:21-24: "Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried out to the Lord, 'Lord my God, let this boy's life return to him!' The Lord heard Elijah's cry, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived. Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, 'Look, your son is alive!' Then the woman said to Elijah, 'Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the Lord from your mouth is the truth.'"

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The ministry of the Lord Jesus was confirmed through miracles.

Jesus initiated his ministry through Signs

JOHN 2:11: "What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him."

Many, seeing the miracles of Jesus, believed in him

JOHN 2:23: "Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name."

Many were healed and freed through Jesus

MATTHEW 8:16: "When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick."

THE WORD OF GOD IS POWER

ROMANS 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...."

1 CORINTHIANS 2:4-5: "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power."

FROM ONE STEP OF FAITH, GOD SHALL USE YOUR LIFE

We disciples have the authority to make signs

MARK 16:17-18: "And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

Act in faith, pray for the sick and the needy, cast the demons out

ACTS 5:12: "The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade."

ACTS 2:43: "Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles."

Conclusion:

The time for God in your life is Today! Do not worry or fear; the Lord shall use you, and the signs shall guide you!

DISCIPLING IN THE NATIONS

OBJECTIVE: FOR THE STUDENT TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A VISION, IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH GOD'S DREAM FOR OUR CHURCH, "DISCIPLING IN THE NATIONS"

SCRIPTURAL BASIS: HABAKKUK 2:2-3: "Then the Lord replied: 'Write down the vision, and make it plain on tablets, so that a herald may run with it. For the vision awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.'"

WHAT DO WE UNDERSTAND BY REVELATION?

PROVERBS 29:18 tells us: "Where there is no vision, people shall cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction." The Living Bible version tells us: "Where there is ignorance of God, crime runs wild; but what a wonderful thing it is for a nation to know and keep his laws."

A vision, then, is to see what God sees. It is seeing the complete picture, and projecting oneself upon it. It is seeing the things that God places within our hearts in order to make them real. To achieve this, goals and strategies (that is to say, the mission) is important.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE A VISION IN LIFE?

Because the vision imparts purpose and direction. A vision brings you to determine your future and make it yours, to turn it into reality. Today you see it, conceive it (the vision) and work for it.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE HAVE NO VISION?

The problem is that when there is no vision, the people live carelessly, and as result of this, they have no purpose in their lives (they perish). Without a Vision, peoples have no purpose, they have no destination, they have no direction. The majority of financial, family and social problems happens from not knowing where one is going; there is no purpose, much less destiny, to be seen. Activities are performed without any objective whatsoever, just in order to fulfill programs, but in reality there is no clear vision of where one is going.

A clear example of this:

People who study and work to fulfill an educational program, but without knowing what it is that they want from life.

This is why it is important to have a vision: to be able to see further ahead what God has in store for us, to see the picture we are being presented and to give it a name and execution date, to convert it into clear and measurable goals.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE VISION:

1. The Vision is initiated by God: **HABAKKUK 2:2**: "Then the Lord replied: 'Write down the vision, and make it plain on tablets, so that a herald may run with it.'"
2. The Vision needs men to receive it. Visionary men of the Lord who have convictions and are determined to fulfill it.
3. The Vision shall be tested. Every Vision is tested by different conflicts and adversities. We have to allow the vision to be tested and for it to endure the test of time. If the vision is from God, nothing shall stop us.
4. The Vision takes time. It does not arrive overnight; it is a process and as such needs time to grow, mature and take root.
5. The Vision needs you to care for it, to work until you see it achieved.
6. The Vision must be communicated in such a way that everyone becomes involved with it. **HABAKKUK 2:2** says: "Write down the vision." This means sharing it with others. They shall listen and want to work on our side. When we communicate the Vision, the people and the money required shall come.

HABAKKUK 2:2-3: "Then the Lord replied: 'Write down the vision, and make it plain on tablets, so that a herald may run with it. For the vision awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.'"

UNDERSTANDING OUR VISION

We are a church that has a clear vision: We want to project ourselves to the souls needing salvation, restoration and discipleship, in order to develop the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the ministry that the Lord Jesus has for every disciple who wants to be the light, in Guatemala and in all Nations.

Our vision:

- To be a family living through the love of God. **ROMANS 12:9**
- To be a Church shining the Light of the Gospel upon people in need. **PSALM 119:105**
- To be a House where we may receive guidance, grow and mature. **PSALM 27:4**
- To be excellent because it pleases God for us to serve him in excellence. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:58**

To be the flock because the Word of God says: "Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession" **PSALM 2:8**

What is a disciple?

It is one who follows a master's lessons. It is one who says and does what a discipler has been seen doing and heard saying. It is more than an apprentice; it is one who takes a side and takes up the cause of a master. To be a disciple of Christ means saying and doing what he did, recreating the character of Christ in our own lives, so that others may be saved.

What does it mean to form disciples?

It is building up lives in relation to each other in order to learn to grow and mature in Christ, through training and education in the Word, in prayer and in the vision that God has given us so that they may in turn recreate the life in Christ in other people. We shall now study the process of forming disciples.

1. **Joining**
2. **Maturing**
3. **Training**
4. **Recreating**

1. **Joining: EPHESIANS 4:16:** "...and the whole body depends on him. All the parts of the body are joined and held together, with each part doing its own work. This causes the whole body to grow and to be stronger in love." (Easy-to-Read version)

To be intertwined together is not an occurrence that comes about all of a sudden; it is a process. This depends on what each joint (relationship) provides. The body shall be as strong as the union between its members. This is why the cohesion of different lives together in Christ is supremely important for the functioning of the body. This process of building relationship cannot be set aside from growing in the character of Christ. (**COLOSSIANS 3:12-16**)

2. **Maturing: EPHESIANS 4:15:** "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ."

On the contrary, love must always make us tell the truth, so that in everything we do we may bear more and more of a resemblance to Christ, who governs over the church. It is not possible to develop excellence of ministries, spiritual gifts or to build each other up independently of growing likewise in the character of Christ. We must become more and more like Jesus in the things we do and say. We are not called to give salt and light, but rather to be salt and light. **Purpose groups** provide the optimal environment for building a saintly character.

3. **Training: EPHESIANS 4:12:** "...for the purpose of training the saints for the work of serving, in order to build up the body of Christ." (EHV) "...to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." (NIV)

4. The training for each believer to become a disciple is given through our **purpose groups**, where they receive discipleship, doctrine, edification and vision to grow and mature in Christ.
5. **Recreating:** The human body grows as its healthy cells multiply and divide. In the same way, the body of Christ grows as his healthy disciples recreate the life of Christ in others. We are not called solely to bless each other, but to make disciples. "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...." (MATTHEW 28:19)

SERVING IN ACCORDANCE WITH GIFTS AND MINISTRIES: The appropriate work for each member is essential for the growth and ministry of the church. All disciples must be equipped for the work that God has called upon them to do. **The expansion groups** are the environment in which to show new members how they must put their gifts and ministries to work.

Each one of us has spiritual gifts and a ministerial calling. We are ALL useful within the kingdom of God for its growth and expansion.

THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY

1 CORINTHIANS 14:1: "Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy." The Holy Spirit has bestowed spiritual gifts upon us, and the Lord has spoken to us about the prophetic ministry that must flow within each disciple who has prepared for this work in our church.

FROM GUATEMALA TO ALL THE NATIONS

The vision is to make disciples through our **purpose groups**, preparing to send them off and establish them as agents of change within Guatemala and establishing new missions of our church in the nations.

CONCLUSION: The vision of God is ours. Yes, we can make it real! We are following in the steps of the vision that our Lord Jesus has shown us, and let us watch take shape God's dream of being **LIGHT TO THE NATIONS**.