

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ICEBREAKER: What does it mean to take a “leap of faith”? Have you ever taken one?

OVERVIEW: When you were lost, God was on a rescue mission to save your soul. He raised up and called His people to reach out to you so that you could have life in Christ. Now that you are saved, God calls you to join the mission — to reach out to your friends to try to persuade them to accept Christ. Every Christian is called to the task of evangelism, to be a witness for Jesus Christ. Evangelism gives our life a sense of meaning, significance, and adventure. In this discussion we will talk about how to become better witnesses.

1. Read 1 Peter 3:15-16. What insight, principle, or observation from this week-end’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. Who can you invite to church on Easter Sunday? How are you going to invite them?
3. The first essential for effective evangelism is to **be real**. What does it mean when it says “in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy”?
4. Non-Christians are not going to be interested in your message unless Jesus has radically changed your life, and unless Jesus has radically changed your life for the better. Would you say that Jesus has radically changed your life for the better? Explain.

5. The second essential for effective evangelism is to **be ready**. Apologetics is the skill of giving a reasoned defense of the Bible and the Christian faith. You’ve heard the questions: *How do you know God exists? How can a loving God allow suffering? Why do you trust the Bible? Why do you believe that Jesus rose from the grave? Why do you believe that Jesus is the only way to God?* Do you think that you are sufficiently equipped in apologetics? Explain.
6. How you can better prepare yourself to defend the faith?
7. The third essential for effective evangelism is to **be respectful**. Why is this important?
8. What does it mean to be gentle and respectful when you are witnessing to someone?
9. The sermon discussion six ways that our church can get ready for company – six ways that we can become more friendly and inviting to our guests. 1) Allow unbelievers to act like unbelievers. 2) Practice the 10-foot rule. 3) Don’t break the 5-minute rule. 4) Connect with the disconnected. 5) Leave the best parking for guests. 6) Leave the best seats for guests. A) Which one do you think would make the biggest different if everyone in the church did it? B) Which one can you improve on personally?

The Last Word: “The only argument you will ever win is the one you don’t engage in.” —Dale Carnegie