**The Replicate Series Week 5**

Welcome to the Replicate Series. Let’s first watch another Star Wars Rebels video clip.

**Video:** Star Wars Rebels Art Attack Short.Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dSJRKB8x9E

**Recap:** We have been introduced to the Replicate Circle - a tool to help us lead our friends to Jesus.

The first step in the Replicate Circle is to Pray with Passion for our lost friends.

The second step in the Replicate Circle is to Pursue our lost friends with Love.

The third step is to Persuade our lost friends with Truth.

This week we are going to learn how to START a Conversation with a lost friend.

Sharing: What is it that makes us not tell people especially our friends about Christ? Just think about it for a moment. (anyone care to share?)

Barriers to Gospelising (Gospelising is a phrase we heard on the recent Lead The Cause weekend - a verb for sharing the gospel. Another word is Witnessing but Gospelising is a fresh word)

Here are some of the things I came up with.

1. Fear of Being Rejected. How are my friends going to look at me now? They know the bad things that I’ve done

2. Uncertainty of My Walk with Christ.

3. Unsure How to Start. Maybe we just don’t know how to start a spiritual conversation

Steps Towards Gospelising. (1) The first step is to Believe in God’s protective power. (2) Be aware of God’s presence and never doubt that. (Deuteronomy 31:6). (3) Begin a Conversation.

Today we are going to learn how to begin a spiritual conversation. There are 3 steps to follow: Ask great questions. Admire something about them. Admit you needed to be rescued. These three steps will help us bring the gospel up more naturally.

1. Ask Great Questions. This does 3 things: (a) It breaks down barriers and opens up hearts (John 4:7). (b) It helps you understand and emphasize with others (2 Timothy 2:23-26). (c) It gives you time to pray and ask God for help (Matthew 10:19-20). Learn to ask questions that engage, not enrage.

Jesus asked engaging question (over 300) – in Mark 16 there are 16 questions alone. Move from secular subjects to spiritual subjects.

Why do we need to ask great question? Because we need to seek first to understand and then to be understood.

**Activity:** At your tables write down questions that you think will great in starting a conversation. Share with the wider group.

Here are some of the questions you can use as discussion starters.

\* Do you believe in God?

\* Do you have a spiritual background?

\* Do you go to church anywhere?

\* Have you ever wondered about the meaning of life?

\* Have you ever experienced a sense of God’s presence in your life?

2. Admire Something About Them. Focus on areas of commonality, not areas of difference (Acts 17:22-23). Admiring something about them will build bridges, not walls (Proverbs 15:1). Maybe admire them for being willing to talk with you about spiritual matters, or if they ask good questions, say how that is a real gift.

Listen well. (This sounds easy enough, but the reality is that very few of us listen *well*. We get hung up on what they say rather than finding out what they deeply believe. If you don't listen well, what you say will not resonate. Engaging conversations are never one-sided. Show you value them by hearing their story. Allow the interaction to be a conversation, not a sermon.)

3. Admit that the reason you’re a Christian is that you are so messed up you needed someone else to rescue you (Jesus). (1 Timothy 1:13-15). This humble strategy shatters stereotypes. It shows that we are one beggar showing another beggar where to find bread. It prepares the way for a real gospel-focused conversation as opposed to just an evangelistic presentation.

(1) Share your story. Why is Jesus so special to you.

(2) Find one person and just talk about who is God to you.

People like engaging in conversations, so the question is, what do you tell them about God?

1. God’s Mercy – God’s power to forgive. I don’t always do the right thing, but Jesus forgives me every time when I confess my sins to him. (how do you know that?) the Bible tells me He does.

2. God’s Love. God loves you because He is the reason you exist. Share your experience of God’s love.

**Guidelines for Sharing the Gospel Effectively**

1. Ask God to open the door for you to share the Gospel today (Colossians 4:3.)

2. Start the conversation by asking questions and listening well (James 1:19.)

3. Turn the conversation toward spiritual things in a natural way (John 4:9,10.)

4. Resist the urge to argue (2 Timothy 2:23-26.)

5. Share with them the areas you admire about their belief system (Acts 17:22-23.)

6. Admit that you are a sinner who desperately needs a Savior (1 Timothy 1:15.)

7. Share the story of your journey to Jesus (Acts 26:4-18.)

**The Salt Movies.** Dare to Share has short Salt Movies on YouTube that you can show to your lost friends – these will help you to start a conversation with them. You can post one of the SALT movies on your Facebook page and chat about the Gospel conversations that will result or you can send a link to one of the movies to your friends.

Check out the playlist of 5 videos here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4pWC9C4r14&list=PLn3K2gZDZ7h-ieKP9PMKDFlVh\_l8l5PGk

Here is an easy to remember link: bitly.com/saltmovies

Video: Then What? Get it on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6CyJYLFUjzU. This video raises the question: What do you think happens after we die?

Challenge: (1) Pray before you share the gospel with someone. (2) Ask for God’s wisdom, strength and guidance. (3) Don’t forget to believe in God.

Closing Prayer

Week 6: KNOW the Gospel (Life in 6 Words)