

TOTAL REVOLUTION of IDENTITY

Session #6 – The Impact of An Ambassador

Session Objective: Sharing the love and truth of Christ isn't just an action – it's part of who we are as Christians. From the perspective of an ambassador of Christ, this session:

- Focuses on Jesus' strategy in his relationship with the woman at the well (John 4)
- Introduces the concept of being an ambassador
- Provides practical actions steps for living out this aspect of our identity in word and deed.

Extended Prep:

- Develop a "Question of the Night", "Question Box" or "Quiz the Whiz Night" where students can ask questions they have or their friends have about the Christian faith. Discussing and sharing answers will help equip your group to be ambassadors. (If you don't know the answer, there is integrity in saying "that's a great question, let me look that up or ask about that this week").
- Share a clear Gospel Presentation that your students can hear, memorize and/or practice with others in the group.
- Follow-Up with a "Sharing Your Faith Story" exercise that teaches each of your students how to share their personal faith story in three minutes. The goal of the story is to share how Christ has changed their lives and can change the lives of others. Options can include: verbal testimony, art, poetry, music, drama, etc.
- Challenge students to interview a 'not-yet' Christian person using the **Ambassador Interview Challenge** attached interview questions. Share experiences.
- Consider using the Quest Video Series as a youth ministry outreach tool.
- Be an ambassador in practical ways by being the presence of Christ at a foodbank, soup kitchen, etc.

Session Outline

Leader Preamble:

Over the last few weeks, we've been looking at "Christ formed in us" – having the identity of Christ formed in us. Tonight we are going to look at another aspect of Doing – being an ambassador – sharing our faith, the love and truth of Christ. To set the stage, we are going to bring the Bible to life.

Read in parts or act out John 4:1-26 and 4:39-42 (Parts needed: Narrator, Jesus, Samaritan woman, the rest of the group is the Samaritan townspeople).

(Just as an introduction, one of the characters is a Samaritan woman – the Samaritans were really looked down upon by the Jews, a Samaritan woman was a step worse, and a Samaritan woman with this history was another step down.)

Small Group Questions:

1. The Samaritan woman and many from her town had their lives eternally changed by their encounter with Jesus. What were the different parts of Jesus' 'strategy' for sharing the good news?

Options include:

- *Despite verse 4, Jesus chose to go through Samaria (most Jews walked around this territory because it was seen as 'unclean'). In other words, Jesus took initiative and was available to meet those who didn't know him.*
- *He asked for the woman's help and entered into a conversation with her – he listened – relationship was started.*
- *He broke down barriers – religious (Samaritan vs. Jew), cultural (woman vs. man), sin (sinful woman vs. God) – which got the woman's attention.*
- *He offered the woman 'living water' – something she could understand and something she needed/wanted.*
- *He didn't avoid the truth – he asked about the woman's husband knowing the answer. His question brought up both the woman's need for forgiveness and healing.*
- *He didn't let the woman get him sidetracked (v. 21-24)*
- *He revealed who he was – the Messiah (v. 26) – which meant much to the woman.*

2. In the same story, Jesus instructs his disciples. Read John 4:34-38. How would you put the heart of this passage in your own words?

Look at the opportunities you have – people want to know me and follow me.

Leader Say: *One important aspect of 'Christ in us' is our identity as his ambassadors. Read 2Corinthians 5:20. The role of an ambassador is simply to strategically share the message they have been trusted with AND to represent the message giver wherever you go and whatever you do. Can you believe God has given us this role? What a responsibility and privilege! When someone asks you, "what do you do?" You can answer, "I am an ambassador for the King of Kings...and what is it you do?"*

3. How do you feel knowing that part of your Christian identity is being an ambassador? Why has God given you this role?

Some answers may include: fear, overwhelmed, unworthy, excited, privileged, etc. The point of the follow-up question “Why has God given you this role?” is to help students understand that God has uniquely placed them to represent him in word and deed – wherever they live and whatever they do. Being an ambassador isn’t as much about an activity as an identity.

4. Based on Jesus’ ‘strategy with the woman at the well, what are some principles we can apply to our own role as ambassadors in this day? How would Jesus be an ambassador in your world today?

Translate question 2 responses for your context – i.e. school, work, teams, etc.

5. What are some practical steps we can take to grow as ambassadors – both in sharing the message and representing the message giver wherever we go and whatever we do?

See list of action steps below.

6. What is one step you want to take this week to be an ambassador?

Prayer Options: Praying for specific friends, praying for opportunities, praying for courage and boldness (Ephesians 6:19-20)

Action Steps

- Start your day praying for opportunities to share Christ’s love and truth in actions and words
- Take initiative and spend time with some ‘not yet’ Christians. Take the **Ambassador Interview Challenge** – see attached questions for interviewing a ‘not-yet’ Christian.
- Develop your personal testimony/faith story and share it somewhere (i.e. small group, with a friend, youth group, etc.)
- Make a list of frequently asked tough questions and look for some answers.
- Learn the core elements of the Gospel – what is the Good News we have to share
- Plan an outreach event – with your small group or on your own – i.e. invite some neighbours to a BBQ or special event – just spend time with them
- Read **Reasons To Believe**, Dr. Dave Overholt – You’ll be amazed that many of your questions and your friends’ questions are directly answered in this short question/answer-style real world practical book
- Read **Contagious Christian**, Mark Mittelberg – Encouragement and teaching to overcome your fears and discover your evangelism style as

- Be an ambassador in practical ways by being the presence of Christ at a foodbank, soup kitchen, etc