

## Help Spread the Gospel: *Sharing is Caring*

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

#### Facilitator Notes:

- Sermon clips are available in the [NAC USA mobile app](#) and in the app web player (link in the list to the right)
- I wonder...**
- How can I share the gospel?
  - When do I share the gospel?
  - How can I be a credible witness of the gospel?
- I believe...**
- I share the gospel through my conduct and interactions with others. (Catechism Q&A question 358)
  - I am a representative of Christ at all times. (Catechism Q&A questions 286, 582)
  - It is important to be loving and focus on the similarities that our Church shares with other beliefs. (Catechism Q&A question 749)
- Materials:**
- IGNITE Bible
  - Catechism Q&A
  - 4 index cards
  - District Apostle sermon clip 44, Rejoice when one finds their way home: <http://subspla.sh/84fd1f2>
- References:**
- Catechism Q&A questions 286, 358, 582, 749
  - Bible verses: Matthew 6:19, Mark 12:30-31, John 8:7, Romans 1:15-16, Romans 12:21, Hebrews 11:1

### PRE DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND STUDENT (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

If you told your friends that you spent Friday night at a youth gathering, Saturday serving your community, and Sunday at church, would they be shocked, not surprised, or interested to hear more? Let's talk about this in small group.

### POST DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

#### Facilitator Notes:

- Please feel free to add local information and customize as necessary
- Dear Parents,
- This week the "I Wonder...." questions are about sharing the gospel with others. Share with your student an interaction you had this week with a co-worker, friend, neighbor, or stranger where you demonstrated the nature of Christ. Then discuss how easy or hard this was to do. As always, if you have questions about the topic, feel free to contact us.
- Your Youth Leaders

### SUNDAY SERMON REFLECTIONS (up to 10 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.

- What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?
- What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?
- So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?
- Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

### HOOK (up to 15 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.
- Make sure the students understand that they should not compare themselves to or think of themselves as Jesus, but rather, can represent and reflect Him in their lives.

- How are you and how are you feeling today?
- Who would like to share their point to ponder or call to action from last week?

Write the following statement on 4 index cards prior to the student's arrival:

***You may be the only Jesus somebody knows.***

Divide the group into 4 groups/pairs, and give each group a card. Give them 5 minutes to talk about what they think this statement means. Then let them share with the group. The purpose of this statement is to start a conversation about how our conduct and interactions with others might be a chance for others to experience Christ through us.

### SET THE STAGE (up to 1 minute)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Preview the "I wonder" questions with the students.

**I wonder...**

- How can I share the gospel?
- When do I share the gospel?
- How can I be a credible witness of the gospel?

### LESSON (up to 25 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- If needed, refer to points from H1 and H2 to refresh the students' understanding of what the gospel is.

**Read the following story: (Based on a true story)**

*A young Christian boy was in the hospital recovering from an illness. His roommate was a boy suffering from a terminal illness. The terminally ill boy told the Christian boy how afraid he was of dying. The Christian boy told him he didn't need to be afraid because Jesus loved him and wants to spend eternity with him. The Christian boy explained that God loves him so much He sent*

*Jesus to die on the cross so his sins could be forgiven, and that God will send Jesus again to take those who love Him and believe in Him, dead and alive, to heaven to be with Him. The terminally ill boy said he didn't know Jesus and was concerned Jesus wouldn't be able to find him after he died. The Christian boy looked at his roommate and noticed how small he was and then told him, "Jesus knows you, but just in case, raise your hand so He sees you." The next morning the Christian boy woke up to find the bed next to him empty. He asked the nurse where his roommate was, and she replied he had passed away during the night, and that when she found him, strangely, he had one arm raised above his head.*

### **Student Question #1**

#### **How did the boy share the gospel?**

Ask the students to find three examples in the story that showed the boy was confident when sharing the gospel.

- The Christian boy knew the details of God's plan of salvation.
- The Christian boy must have spoken with conviction for his roommate to have believed immediately.
- The Christian boy recognized the fear in his roommate and showed love for him by sharing the gospel message.

### **Student Question #2**

#### **Why is confidence important in our profession of the gospel?**

- Confidence demonstrates that we firmly believe what we are professing.

### **Student Question #3**

#### **Rather than meeting in a hospital room, imagine the boys bumped into each other at school, knocking each other's books to the ground. Should the Christian boy share the same message?**

- YES
- As a Christian, the boy is a representative of Christ at all times.
- It is the boy's responsibility to share the gospel message because he may be the "only Jesus" the other boy may come across. (Reference Hook activity.)
- The knowledge of the gospel should create so much joy in the boy that he can't help but share it with others.
- NO
- For this encounter, sharing why Jesus was sent to earth to die for our sins might be too intense. The Christian boy's conduct (apologizing, helping the other boy pick up his books) might be the best way for him to start sharing the message of the gospel with the other boy.
- The message might not be received well, especially if the other boy does not believe in Christ (Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish, atheist, etc.).
- Go over Q&A question 749 with the students to dive further into this topic.

- The students may answer yes or no. Go over the possible reasons for both answers with the students. This exercise will help the students to learn about discerning when it is appropriate to share the gospel and how.

- **Romans 1:15-16:** So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes...
- **Hebrews 11:1 (NIV):** Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
- **Romans 12:21:** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- **John 8:7:** So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."
- **Matthew 6:19:** "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;
- **Mark 12:30-31:** And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

#### Student Question #4

#### How can I be a credible witness of the gospel?

- When telling others about the gospel of Christ, we can talk about our own experiences. In doing this, we will be credible when we are:
  - Confident in our faith. (Romans 1:15-16, Hebrews 11:1)
  - Determined to overcome evil. (Romans 12:21)
  - Humble in serving Jesus. (John 8:7)
  - Unbound by material things or our own honor so we are able to forgive. (Matthew 6:19)
  - Filled with love for God and our neighbor. (Mark 12:30-31)

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? (up to 10 minutes)

### Facilitator Notes:

- Sermon clips are available in the NAC USA mobile app and in the app web player (link in the list to the right)

### Wrap up the lesson with watching:

- District Apostle sermon clip 44, Rejoice when one finds their way home: <http://subspla.sh/84fd1f2>

### Close with the "I Wonder...." questions

- Ask a student to read an "I Wonder...." question, and invite another student to answer with an "I Believe...." statement or an "I Believe....." statement in their own words.
- As you review each question and answer, stop and check in with the group to be sure there are no misunderstandings or misconceptions.
- Remind the students that on their Confirmation day, they will or have already promised and committed to surrendering themselves to God, and desire to share His gospel with others.

### I wonder...

- How can I share the gospel?
- When do I share the gospel?
- How can I be a credible witness of the gospel?

### I believe...

- I share the gospel through my conduct and interactions with others. (Catechism Q&A question 358)
- I am a representative of Christ at all times. (Catechism Q&A questions 286, 582)
- It is important to be loving and focus on the similarities that our Church shares with other beliefs. (Catechism Q&A question 749)

### Point to Ponder....

- Think about why you believe the gospel is important to share with others.

### A Call to Action....

- This week, share the gospel in some way each day, either in your conduct towards others or by telling them about it. Even sharing a Bible verse on social media can have an impact.

### Weekly Reflections

What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?

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What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?

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So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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**Point to Ponder...**

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**Call to Action...**

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## Help Spread the Gospel: *Sharing is Caring*

<b>I wonder...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How can I share the gospel?</li> <li>➤ When do I share the gospel?</li> <li>➤ How can I be a credible witness of the gospel?</li> </ul>	<b>I believe...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ I share the gospel through my conduct and interactions with others. (Q&amp;A question 358)</li> <li>➤ I am a representative of Christ at all times. (Q&amp;A questions 286, 582)</li> <li>➤ It is important to be loving and focus on the similarities that our Church shares with other beliefs. (Q&amp;A question 749)</li> </ul>
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### Read the following story: (Based on a true story)

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1. How did the boy share the gospel?

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2. Why is confidence important in our profession of the gospel?

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3. Rather than meeting in a hospital room, imagine the boys bumped into each other at school, knocking each other's books to the ground. Should the Christian boy share the same message?

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4. How can I be a credible witness of the gospel?

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**Point to Ponder:** Think about why you believe the gospel is important to share with others.

**A Call to Action:** This week, share the gospel in some way each day, either in your conduct towards others or by telling them about it. Even sharing a Bible verse on social media can have an impact.