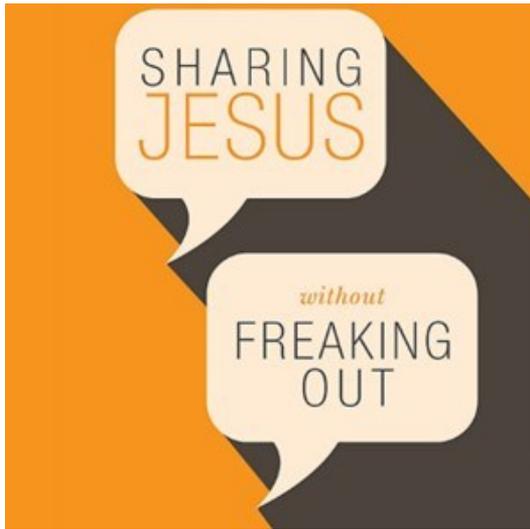


THE EIGHT-WEEK CHALLENGE



Week 6

Principle #6: People are already interested in what is best for them; the gospel is best for all people.

Scriptures for Meditation

“Jesus said, ‘Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him for eternal life.’” (John 4:13-14)

“For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” (John 3:16-17)

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. Ask a friend, coworker, neighbor, or family member to tell you the story of their life. You can ask about how they grew up, how they met their spouse, or how they got “here.” If you already know most of these stories about the person, see if there is an area of their life where you can catch up. What parts of the story can you empathize

with? Are there parts of their story that you identify with? How might you retell their story in a way that includes Jesus and his ability to change lives?

2. Think about a sphere of life that you care about (sports, politics, art, economics, education, etc.). As you talk with others about this interest, pay attention to the ways you might relate the gospel to this topic.
3. Do you really expect others to believe that the gospel is good news? Take some time to think about why you perhaps struggle to believe this biblical truth.
4. How has your understanding of evangelism changed as a result of this study? How much of your evangelism is about loving and serving, and how much is about performance and presentation? Explain your answer.
5. What great things are you expecting God to do within your relational circles? How are you praying for your neighborhood, school, place of work?
6. In what ways can you empathize with the pain and pleasure, the fears and hopes, of others? How has Christ rewritten the story of your life? In what ways can you relate this to others?
7. Think about the last conversation you had with an unbeliever. To what extent did you show love, kindness, and gentleness, and to what extent did you find yourself judging him or her because of their lifestyle, appearance, language, or habits?
8. *Who's Your One?* What do you know about the life story of *your one*? Have you shared with him or her how Jesus transformed your life?

Topics for Prayer

1. For an expectation that those around you will be open to hearing the gospel and will receive it as good news.
2. For God to do something amazing in your social sphere.
3. For God to help you identify with someone this week and engage with that person in their exact moment of need.
4. For God to give you a growing discernment to help you confidently identify others' areas of pain, pleasure, hope, and fear.

God, I know you love people. Give me an opportunity today to help someone see your love for them and hear how they can enjoy your work in Jesus Christ. Give me the boldness to talk with them about Jesus.