

8/24/83

THE KJ CELL GROUP PLAN

1. Evangelism

Study doctrine of salvation
Write personal testimony
Evangelism techniques
Decision Continuum
List bridges/contacts - pray with goals
Update the above each week
Apologetics
Scripture memory
Read Out of the Salt Shaker, or Know Why You Believe, or How to Give Away Your Faith
World vision

Test

2. Spiritual Growth

*Sanctification imperative/indicative - God's Part
Man's Part — Law's Part*
Read Principles of Spiritual Growth
Word - see file
Inductive study
Usage of Young's, Vine's cross reference
Note taking
Hermaneutics
Application
Inerrancy

Prayer - see file
Pray corporately and share answered prayers
Teach how to organize prayer journal
Observe what they pray for
Pray spontaneously
Biblical promises
Fellowship - see file

Spiritual gifts

Suffering - see file

Release of the Spirit, to read
Position/condition, Man's Part and God's Part in Sanctification
Indicative and Imperative, read Sit, Walk, Stand
Test

3. Ministry

Follow-up - Bricks
Master Plan of Evangelism

(Ministry-Cont.)

How to choose disciple

Ministry goals

Home Church chart

Spiritual Medicine

How to Grow a Church

* Motivation Techniques

Test

4. Counseling

Temperaments (the book)

Relationship Levels (compromise or commitment), to read

Love defects

Healing a life

Forgiveness

Goals/Time Study

Test

5. The Law - see file

Law vs. grace chart

6. Will of God7. Giving/Finances8. Satan

Test

9. Spiritual Authority10. Leadership

Spiritual Leadership

CELL GROUP

WEEK ONE

Spend some time the first week going over a history of the Fish House. Many times new people will be asked about the fellowship and are unaware of any background of our group. Also include in this summary a vision of where we are going in the future; i.e. the numbers we projected to meet and the numbers we have met. This is a good time to bring in the discipleship method of reproduction through the cell group. Move right into the purpose of the cell group, including both the knowledge and the relationships. Lay out your expectations, if any, and get them excited about some of the topics you will be covering. It is also good to lay out some examples of cell groups which have multiplied to show that it is possible to pass on what we will be learning here.

I. History of Fish House

- 1970 Campus Ministry/Fish Newspaper
- Thursday Bible Study at the Fish House
- Elders study in California
- Some work done within churches; restricted, so proceeded on own
- Thurs. FishHouse/Sunday and Wed Central Meetings/Small Groups
- Home Churches/Sunday and Tues Centrals/ Personal Discipleship
- Home Church Splits/Tuesday and Sun Splits/Cell Group Mult.

II. Biblical Imperatives for Church Structure

The following is a list of what scripture lays out as the normative provision that the church should have available to all members:

1. Quality Bible teaching
2. Opportunity to develop good personal relationships in a small setting
3. Opportunity to be personally shepherded by competent leaders
4. Opportunity to develop and express spiritual gifts with the help and direction of spiritual leaders
5. Opportunity to practice corporate worship
6. Meetings where non-Christian friends can be brought knowing that effective evangelism will be practiced

I Cor 12 and 14, Rom 12, I Pet 5:1-5, Eph 4:11-16, Col 2:19

In addition, examples of the structure of the NT church were adopted to meet these needs. Different kinds of meetings were started to accommodate the increase in the number of converts, i.e. from small groups to home churches.

Example: Acts 2:46 mass meetings at Solomon's Portico to hear the apostles teaching and small meetings house to house (break bread worship and express gifts)

Acts 20:20 at Ephesus-same

Rom 16:5 house churches

The Fish House has been able to provide a level of ministry care which is rare for a church this size. Will continue to work as long as leadership and money remain adequate.

III. Teach on leadership. See sheet on plurality of leaders and method of raising leaders up on the home church level for splits. The need to see this position by becoming equipped and developing gifts.

Lay out our vision for growth; see sheet explaining 4% per month and that every home church of 30 people would need to split every 1 1/2 years. In 10 years, 1 home church would multiply to 64, and at this rate we would see 74,595 people and need 6,177 leaders. Explain how unrealistic this seemed yet we have surpassed these numbers already. We projected that it would take 3 years to multiply from 8 original home churches to 32 and in 3 years, we have gone from 8 to 36.

IV. Move into the importance of cell groups at the base of this multiplication and leader development. Lay out the duplication of disciples process that Christ followed and how we follow the same method through cell group multiplication. Explain cell group:

- meet regularly at same time each week
- study, share, pray, fun
- combination support and training group
- requirements=committed to home church and willing to learn
- crucial function of 1st century church was the building up and caring for one another Heb 10:23-25, Rom 12:8-18
- I Tim Paul says present yourself to the lord as workmen handling accurately the word of truth. We must learn how to apply the word in our lives along with others
- Home church, learn how to bring people and care for them. Central to the success of the home church is our ability to assume the responsibility of being God's instruments in serving other people
- Have 3 ring notebook to keep notes, handouts, tests etc in so that you have a manual from start to finish in teaching this information to others

2nd week { V. The first week, it is good to spend the sharing time by going around to each girl and letting her share a little about her background and conversion. It is good for the leader to go first because if the leader is open about her past, it will be easier for everyone else to be also. This sharing can give the cell leader a better understanding of the people in the group as things about the past are brought to light. It is also good to realize that there are some experiences that we have in common with each other. Openness on this first week will dictate how open you will be with each other in the weeks to come and gives a good basis to begin to build relationships.

ASSIGNMENT WEEK ONE

Using at least five scripture for each section, write out the answers to the following questions:

1. What is the state of man before he receives Christ?
2. How do you receive Christ?
3. What all happens to a person after he receives Christ?

Since most of your people are not pros at reading the Bible and finding the appropriate verses, encourage them to spend some time after the meetings or during the week talking to an older believer who may be able to take them to the word and show them the answers. You may also want to suggest a few books that may have some of the answers also.

Purpose: This assignment should make sure that everyone in your cell group understands the doctrine of salvation and is indeed saved. It will also get them into the word right away which many of them never open outside of a meeting. This assignment also encourages them to initiate with other people, to ask questions and a reason to strike up a conversation with someone they may have been hesitant to approach before. With this preparation, they should be able to participate in your next cell group meeting.

You can also assign a good evangelism book that they can start to read, even though it won't be due for a few weeks. Out of the Salt Shaker, by Pippert, is good and easy.

CELL GROUP

WEEK TWO

Spend this week teaching the doctrine of salvation using the assignment from last week as your teaching outline. Allow the cell group to offer up what they found and then add to that.

1. WHAT IS THE STATE OF MAN BEFORE HE RECEIVES CHRIST?

- Fall Gen 2:17
- Sinners Rom 3:23 James 2:10
- Separated from God Rom 6:20
- Deserve God's Wrath Rom 1:18
- Striving to be justified by the law Acts 13:39 Rom 3:20

Gal 4:8 Gal 5:19 I Cor 6:9-11 Rom 3:10-18 Jas 1:14-15

2. HOW DOES SOMEONE ACCEPT CHRIST?

- by grace Eph 2:8-10
- by faith Gal 2:16
- believe and ask Rom 10:9 Rev 3:20
- Substitution Mt 20:28 Mk 10:45
- Not justified by law Col 2:14 Rom 5:20

Col 2:6 Jn 3:16 Jn 14:21 Jn 5:24

3. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER ONE RECEIVES CHRIST?

- eternal life Jn 3:15 Rom 8:1 1 Jn 5:11-12 Jn 10:28
- holy spirit Jn 7:39 1 Thes 1:1 Eph 4:6 I Cor 6:19
- freedom from sin Rom 6:14/7:6 Gal 3:25
- assurance of salvation Jn 6:37/10:29 Rom 8:38-39
- position in Christ 2 Cor 5:21b Heb 10:10-17
- victory over Satan 1 Jn 4:4
- complete forgiveness Eph 1:7 Eph 4:32 Col 2:13
- passed out of judgement Jn 5:24 1 Jn 2:2
- sanctification Phil 1:6
- spiritual gift 1 Cor 12:11,27-31 1 Cor 13:1-2
- abundant life Jn 10:10
- in body of Christ I Cor 12:13

There are many more and probably better scripture than these, but this should give you a start anyway.

ASSIGNMENT WEEK TWO

Assign a few good salvation verses to memorize, such as

Rev. 3:20

Eph. ~~2:8~~ 2:8 - 9

Rom. 10:9

ORALLY QUIZ THEM EACH WEEK ON THESE!

You may want to assign one verse for each section instead, such as Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9, and John 3:15

Ask each to write up their personal testimony, explaining that often we share our own story in a witnessing situation and it is quite effective. Many people do not know how to give their testimony in 3 minutes or less. Explain that they should take the same three questions from last week and answer them from their own life. Also explain that next week we will look at some evangelism techniques.

Remind them to start reading the book which is due in two weeks.

handout

A Jn. 3:16 - The Logic of Salvation

- 1.) "God...loved the world" (What is God's attitude toward people?)
 - a. God loves all people and desires a relationship with them
- 2.) "...perish" (What is man's destiny? Why?)
 - a. because God is absolutely righteous and demands absolute righteousness
 - Jas. 2:10 - Law is like a chain; God does not grade on the curve
 - b. because the payment for sin is death - separation from God (Rom. 6:20)
 - Gen. 2:17 - refers to this rather than mere physical death
 - God cannot merely forgive or forget sin - it must be paid for
 - c. the purpose of the Law is not to provide a "ladder" of good works to God, but rather:
 - to show man clearly that he cannot be saved by his works (like an X-Ray, it only shows the problem - does not give power to heal it)
 - to show the way God would provide a solution - the sacrificial system teaches that God will provide an imminent substitute to pay for our sins
- 3.) "...that He gave His...Son..." (How did God accomplish this?)
 - a. Jn. 1:29 - Jesus was the fulfillment of the sacrificial system
 - b. Mk. 15:34 - Jesus experienced separation from God because He was identified with our sins and punished for them (2 Cor. 5:21a)
 - c. Jn. 19:30 - He paid for all man's sins in full
 - Q: How could He pay for all our sins in a short period of time?
 - A: Man, being finite, can endure the infinite wrath of God only by experiencing it for an infinite amount of time. Jesus, being infinite by virtue of His deity, could endure God's infinite wrath in a finite amount of time (Huge vat pouring contents into tiny cup for long time, or into other huge vat quickly)
- 4.) "...that whoever believes should...have eternal life" (What do we do?)
 - a. Jesus' death was sufficient to pay for everyone's sins, but it becomes effective only when we choose to receive it for ourselves.
 - man in debt to IRS \$1 million. It's April 15th and they permit no extension of deadline and are sending an agent at midnite to receive payment or take him into custody. The man could raise only \$43 - hopelessly short. A knock on the door and a man comes in offering a check for \$10 million made out to the debtor. The check is sufficient to pay the man's debt, but effective only if he receives it, endorses it and deposits it.
 - see 2 Cor. 5:19, 20 - cross did all that is necessary to pay for the world's sins, but Paul goes on to entreat people to "be reconciled to God" (vs 20) - they must receive the work of the cross to make it apply to them
 - b. the word "believe" needs some definition:
 - the Greek word (PISTEUEIN) means "to trust in" - to personally trust Christ's work to pay the penalty for your sins
 - Jn. 1:12 links this word to receiving Christ (see also Rev. 3:20)
 - c. to sum up:
 - Eph. 2:8, 9 - salvation is "by grace...through faith" vs 8b, 9 explain this in greater detail. Salvation is "not of ourselves" - that is, it does not come from us or by our merit, but from God's power and goodness. "Grace" means "it is the gift of God" - not a wage, but a free, undeserved gift. "Faith" means "not as a result of works" - not labor, but simply receiving the gift.
 - Gal. 2:16 - also shows clearly that salvation is by faith, not good works. vs 21 goes on to point out that if men could get back to God by good works, God committed the greatest crime in history - He sent His Son to die needlessly.
 - Illustrate this by talking about the fact that Pope could go to hell while Charles Manson could go to heaven. What kind of people are offended by this?

Why? What kind of people are glad to hear this? Why? The Pharisee and Publican (Lk. 18:9-14) illustrates this well.

B. How God Views Us Now

- 1.) Complete forgiveness of sins
 - a. Eph. 4:32 - "has forgiven"; Col. 2:13 - "all our transgressions"
 - b. Rom. 8:1 - "no condemnation" - period
 - c. Jn. 5:24 - "does not come into judgement" - we do not even appear at this judgement
- 2.) Complete acceptance and affirmation
 - a. 2 Cor. 5:21b - "that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" - God is free to view us as legal recipients of Christ's righteousness.
 - b. Heb. 10:10-17 - vs 14 "has perfected for all time those who are sanctified" We have been "brought to completion" (meaning of "perfected") in regard to our acceptance before God. Therefore, God does not remember our sins as far as our acceptance with Him is concerned.
- 3.) Security
 - a. Eph. 1:13, 14; 4:30 - God has "sealed" us in Christ with the Holy Spirit for heaven. Paul is using a term familiar to all in the Roman Empire. When a Roman official sent a document, he put the seal of Rome on it. That seal was the tangible proof that all the power of Rome guaranteed safe passage of the document to its destination. In the same way, God has put His seal on us (The Holy Spirit) to give us tangible proof that all the power of God guarantees safe passage of His property (us) to its destination (heaven).
 - b. Rom. 8:29; Eph. 1:4, 5 - The term "predestined" means to set or fix someone's ultimate destiny. God has set the believers ultimate destiny - He will be conformed to Christ, or made holy and blameless.
 - * note that it does not teach that God predestines us to believe. God fixes our ultimate destiny as believer, having foreknown that we would choose to believe.
 - * ILLUSTRATION: A man walks up to the edge of a cliff. He can choose to back off from the edge, or he can choose to jump. If he jumps, certain other laws take over which fix his ultimate destiny - namely, that he will hit the bottom of the cliff. Now if I could know beforehand that he would jump, I could safely predict beforehand his ultimate destiny - even though he made a free will decision. In the same way, God does not make us choose Him. But if we do, He tells us that our ultimate destiny is fixed - we will be conformed to Christ in heaven. Since God knew how I would choose even before the foundation of the world, He could safely predict my ultimate destiny, even though He did not make me choose Him.

C. Assignment.

- 1.) Memorize: Eph. 2:8, 9; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:13
- 2.) Read the marked scriptures on page 3 of "Man's Part of Sanctification"; be familiar with them for next week.

EVANGELISM TECHNIQUES

I. WHY EVANGELIZE?

A. Fundamental mission of the church.

Many churches misled in that they believe our main purpose is to glorify and worship God. The truth is that the most glory is given to God when a sinner repents. ICor 5:19- our ministry is to reconcile the world to Christ. In Christ's absence, this mission is carried on by the body. Realizing the Bible tells us that our days are numbered, we are commanded not to wait until a person asks, but to go out and share with the world.

B. Out of love

It is important that you realize that being a Christian is the greatest thing in the world. If you do not believe that yourself, you will find little success in your efforts to share it with other people. Not only is the Lord something to believe, but something to receive (John 1:12) We witness out of love for others and out of love for Christ.

C. The Spirit Saves

Realizing that it is God's Spirit convicts and saves, not us. Our adequacy is from Him. Also if they reject the message, they have rejected Christ, not you.

II, THE MESSAGE OF GRACE

A. The gospel message is salvation by faith and this personal aspect must be understood. Let the sharing always center on grace, Christ's free gift and how they can receive it.

B. Difference between religion and personal relationship. It is important to witness with contemporary language, not theological terms (like redeemed and propitiation). ICor 2:1-5)

C. Meet people where they are. Don't lay spiritual expectations on the unbeliever. First concern is their salvation. However, in learning the context of their life, you can share spiritual truths where relevant (love-truth concept is good for followup).

III. AVOID

A. Refutation and argument- let them express their views, don't put them down. Bring the back to the Bible or to them .

B. Avoid shame/defensiveness on your part (Rom 1:16, ICor 1:18).

C. Never condemn or be self-righteous. Communicate Love. Avoid the fear of hell approach. Do not approach from judgement but from love and grace.

TRUE CONVICTION OF SIN- LEADING TO SALVATION

1. Awareness of a wrong relationship with God-not just with self or others, or a general sense of need, but a specific need of reconciliation with God.
2. Conviction of sins- a true moral sense of wrongness for particular thoughts or actions.
3. Conviction of sinfulness-a sense of helplessness to do right and consequent need for an alternative in Christ.

God works as He wills to bring someone to Himself. The amount of truth God will use to regenerate a person is something we cannot dictate. Yet, it is truth God always uses, it is never our tool in evangelism that works. All success is God's alone.

APPROACHES TO EVANGELISM

I. PREACHING

Obviously, this is one of the God-ordained means of evangelism (Rom 10:14-15). There must always be a focus on the message- the Word. There are many advantages in preaching, the teacher can go right to the heart and be very personal, yet minimize personal offense. A key is getting the hearer to think, react and apply truth. A teacher need not always say "we", but should speak directly to his hearers bringing the Word of God to the individual.

II. LITERATURE

We often meet people who will read but not talk. By giving them a book we reinforce what we have said in person. If they are willing to read, they are probably interested in the truth. There may be many reasons for carrying on a conversation with you or going to a meeting with you-but studying in private indicates real interest. Choose a book wisely-one that is appropriate to the interests and needs of the person. More christians will use books in evangelism if they read more themselves. The most effective way to use books is to say "Here's a book that really helped me; I'd like to know what you think of it." Your excitement about the book will create an interest in them. Tapes are also effective in this way.

III. CORPORATE (BODY) WITNESS

When Christians as a group get together, there is power. The Scriptures say that others shall know we are Christ's disciples by the love we display for each other. We should welcome unbelievers to fellowship, retreats and social events, where we speak not just in words, but live concipts. Our relationships are equivalent for the truth we wish to convey. Nonbelievers can shrug off one Christian "kook", but to write off a whole group of sincere Christians would take some thought.

IV. INVOLVEMENT IN THE WORLD

We need to enter the world just as Jesus did when he helped people in spite of cultural or social barriers. Our witness a salt and light (Mt 5:13-16) cannot be done if we expect those in need to come to us to hear the truth. We need to be going to their ground and become involved not just to witness but also to become involved where people hurt because of the need for Jesus Christ. Involvement in doing the truth is part of the truth and our finite compassion opens the door for an explanation of the infinite compassion of Christ.

V. PERSONAL

Your own experience. Sharing personal experience is called relational evangelism and is proven to be the most fruitful. (Jn 1:36-37, Jn 1:41, Jn 1:45, Mt 11:19, Mt 9:10) Identification with the non-christian is good I Cor 9:19-23. Having freedom and unlimited opportunities with good friends. Be careful though not to compromise and be caught back up in the world. However, don't let your relationship be totally conditional upon their conversion.

Put together a list of unbelievers which the cell group can be praying for each week and also set goals to reach out to.