

STEP 2 - SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY

CHAPTER 9 - ABCs OF SHARING

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PREPARATION IN THE ABCs FOR SHARING

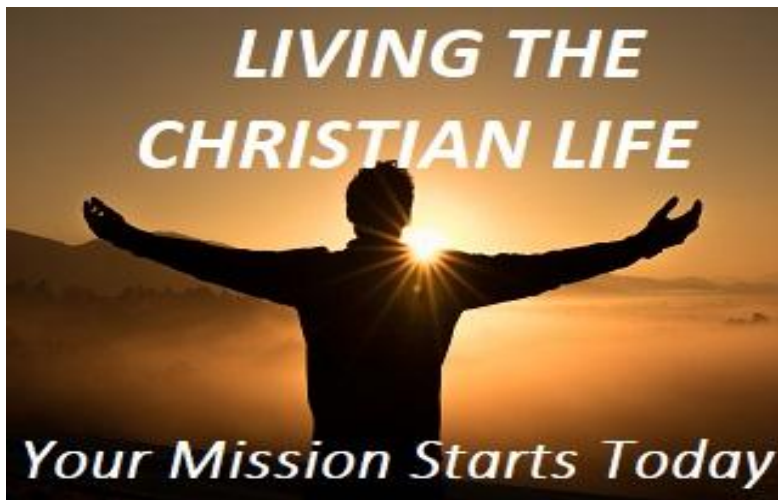
1. A CHANGED LIFE

If an individual is to be effective in soul winning, they have to know Christ. A life that the power of God has changed can win souls. People will find that if their life has not been changed by God when they venture out to try to win souls for Christ, they realize they are actually still lost. Personal knowledge of Jesus as your own Savior is a must. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

2. A CLEAN LIFE

In time, any sin in your life will deteriorate your soul-winning zeal. Our secret sins, especially in the area of our thought life, will need to be dealt with by the cross and the Holy Spirit working in our lives. God knows we are not perfect. *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23).

God wants us to grow and develop in our relationship with Him. He wants us to give our hearts to Him. He knows our real intentions, and that is what matters the most. God knows we aren't perfect; however, the Bible calls on us to imitate and follow Jesus. We all fall short of His glory; that's why we need His Grace daily.



3. A SURRENDERED LIFE ([Romans 12:1](#))

It is one thing to be clean; it is another thing to be surrendered to the Lord. The Apostle Paul said, *"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain"* (Philippians 1:21). Being submissive to the call and will of God; is a vital issue in the matter of soul-winning. The young lad brought his five loaves and two fishes to Jesus. Have you brought your "all" to Him?

4. A BURDENED LIFE ([Romans 9:2](#))

Paul had a heavy heart over his generation. However, you should not wait until your heart is broken before starting into soul-winning. God will bless the Gospel regardless of our unconcern. We are to go because it is our responsibility to go. As we go, God will burden us for the souls of others. *"He is the one we proclaim, admonishing, and teaching everyone with all wisdom so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end, I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me."* (Colossians 1:28-29).

5. A PERSEVERING LIFE ([1 Corinthians 2:2](#))

The Apostle Paul was determined to be a soul-winner. His mind was made up about the matter. R. A. Torrey said, *"Anyone who wishes to win souls at the rate of one every fifteen minutes had better go into some other business."* Soul winners need patience. Sometimes it takes weeks, months, or even years of sowing, watering, and fertilizing before we see that soul accept Christ as Savior. A group of soul-winners who wanted to reach 100 lost souls over a certain period averaged 13 visits per lost soul.

6. A COMPASSIONATE AND A GRACIOUS LIFE

Genuine love flows from within. How do we get this love? From the [Fruit of the Spirit](#) (study guide from two days ago) and the [Baptism of the Holy Spirit](#) (yesterday's study guide.) We need the fruit of the Spirit's love and to be filled with the Holy Spirit. *"To the weak, I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some"* (1 Corinthians 9:22). When we look out and see those that are lost, it should take hold of our hearts and stir us to rescue the perishing. We should have a strong desire to see the lost saved and brought to maturity.

7. A PRAYER-FILLED LIFE

I covered prayer in the chapter 5 study guide: [Prayer is the Catalyst in Soul-Winning](#). God answers prayers. *"Call to me, and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."* (Jeremiah 33:3).



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8. AN ENLIGHTENED LIFE

It is essential to know the Scriptures so that you can adequately direct a person on how to be saved. Psalm 119:130 says, *"The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple."* Without God's Word, they cannot be saved. Romans 10:17 explains, *"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."* Luke 8:11 states, *"The seed is the Word of God."* We covered the Word of God in chapter 6: [The Holy Spirit and Our Responsibility](#).

Study your Bible to have a thorough working knowledge and understanding of scripture, as it is a necessary tool for you to use when reaching the lost. We must know the right scriptures to use at the right time. Establish a particular time in the day for Bible study when you will be less likely to get side-tracked. You will never "get" time to study, pray, or witness; you have to "make" time. We usually manage to make time for those things that are truly important to us.

God's instruction for us: *"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth"* (2 Timothy 2:15). Yes, we can win souls by knowing very little of the scriptures. But as a baby does not stay a child; over time, it grows up to be an adult. God expects us to grow and mature in the same way by learning God's Word and knowing how to present the Gospel message. I recommend this booklet for around \$1.00 (plus shipping) on [How To Study The Bible](#) (by Robert West) [here](#).

PERSONALITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN SHARING



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PERSONALITY ABCs OF SHARING

We want to display a pleasant personality in reaching people for Christ. A grumpy, negative disposition can close the door to winning them.

1. BE FRIENDLY AND CHEERFUL

Have a warm and friendly attitude when presenting the Gospel message. When you are easy-going, polite, and cheerful, people will most likely respond positively to your testimony. A friendly attitude will warm a cold heart.

2. SMILE

A smile will open a closed door and demand attention and respect from strangers.

3. BE "ALIVE"

Perk up, and come alive! Be lively, stimulating, and enthusiastic. No one appreciates an unexpressive person visiting them.

4. BE TACTFUL (DIPLOMACY)

Being diplomatic means having the wisdom or skill to say or do the right thing at the right time. It is to be *"spiritually aware."* The opposite of tactfulness is crudeness, defined as lacking Grace or not being refined. If you want to gather honey, don't kick over the beehive. Pray to be more tactful.

5. BE COURAGEOUS

In Joshua 1:7, we are told, *"Be strong and very courageous."* the Apostle Paul reminds us in Romans 8:31, *"If God is for us, who can be against us?"* Proverbs 29:25 tells us, *"Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe."*

6. BE SYMPATHETIC (SUPPORTIVE)

Being sympathetic means to weep with those who are sad and rejoice with someone when they are glad. It is responding to the feelings of others—being understanding and compassionate, showing interest in others, and being kindhearted. It does not mean sitting for hours listening to someone's life history. However, if there is a problem they wish to share, we do well to listen attentively, be supportive, and offer help. In so doing, we win their confidence and draw them to Christ.

PHYSICAL ABCs FOR SHARING



HOW TO MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION

It takes seven seconds to make a first impression. Because first impressions are so important, we must be mindful of how we come across when meeting someone for the first time. People judge your physical appearance, clothing, emotional state, and outward behavior more than your words. We should be aware of our weaknesses and strengths to ensure folks have a

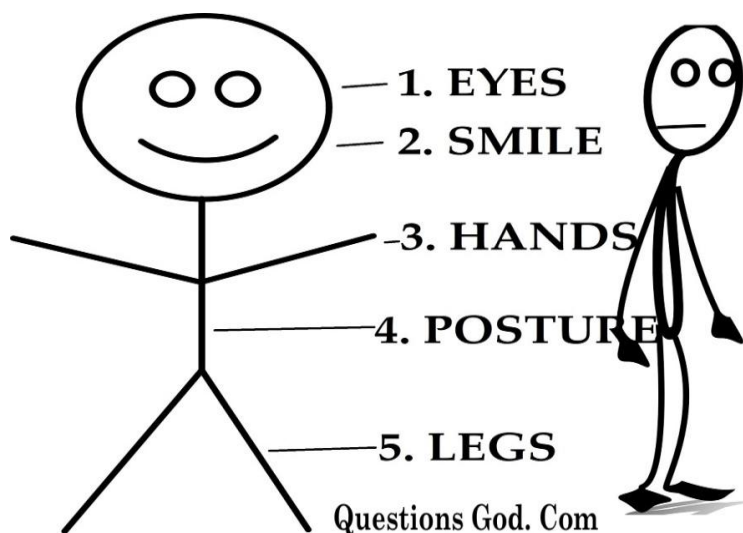
favorable opinion of us. Be mindful and aware of your hygiene, clothing style, posture, etc. In doing so, you will more than likely leave a good first impression.

1. BE CLEAN

Avoid having bad breath by carrying mints with you. Be aware of your body odor and use deodorants that are cheap to purchase.

2. BE NEAT

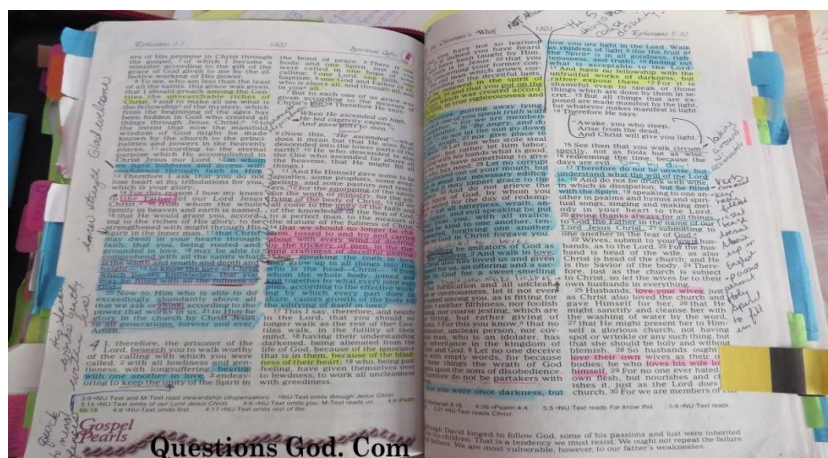
Comb your hair, clean your nails, make sure your clothes are neat and clean, don't wear scuffed shoes, etc. Be well-groomed.



3. Body Language ABCs

Positive body language and expression are essential in engaging and connecting more intimately in any relationship in your life.

Display respect and show sincere interest in the person you are speaking with by maintaining a welcoming posture, making eye contact, do not become distracted by anything else, for example, looking at your cell phone.



MATERIALS USED IN THE ABCs OF SHARING

1. A BIBLE OR A NEW TESTAMENT TO USE

The Bible is the most powerful Book in the world. It can motivate and inspire the soul-winner to share their faith in Christ to save the lost. Every Christian should have Bible verses readily available and marked in their

personal Bible in order to be adequately prepared to lead someone to Christ.

A HEART-TO-HEART TALK

Some folks solely depend on their electronic devices to read the Bible, view devotionals, and read Bible help study materials. While it is easier and cheaper, we miss out on having a Bible to read, mark up, underline, and write precious thoughts from the Holy Spirit. Every Christian should have a Bible to write notes in. Reviewing these notes from time to time is beneficial as Christians mature in their faith. We recommend ordering one of these [15 Bibles](#) for under \$15.00 or online at [Christian Book.Com](#).

Charles H. Spurgeon, a famous preacher, said, "*A Bible that is falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't.*" A rule of thumb is if you read your Bible daily at a specific time each day, your Bible should be worn out, marked up, falling apart, and replaced at least every ten to fifteen years.

Please remember not to read the Bible to check a box, "*I am a good Christian by reading the Bible.*" Come not to gain head knowledge but to seek a genuine relationship with Christ. Instead, come as you are **falling apart/broken and desperately** needing God's saving Grace, praying for a **spiritual heart change**.



IS THERE DUST ON YOUR BIBLE?

Sadly, more and more Bibles are collecting dust in people's homes these days. I even admit when I get too busy, one of the first things I overlook is my morning or evening Bible reading. Many people do the exact thing, opting to do something else with their time. When that freedom and privilege becomes just another duty, when

cares of life replace the love of God's Word, or when we think we'll be just fine while knowing we won't, the Bible remains on the shelf and gathers dust.

Like the home, so the church, and so our nation. Our country has stopped believing in the Bible. Why is this so? Other things are more important to us now over simply spending time with God through reading His Word. However, we all know how much better our lives will be when we blow off the dust, open our Bibles, and read. Imagine then how much better our nations would be if each of us would take the time to read the Scriptures at home.

There might be a little dust on your Bible, but what's inside is a treasure beyond price. Dust it off, open it up, unlock its treasures and begin. Please take and read God's Word today.

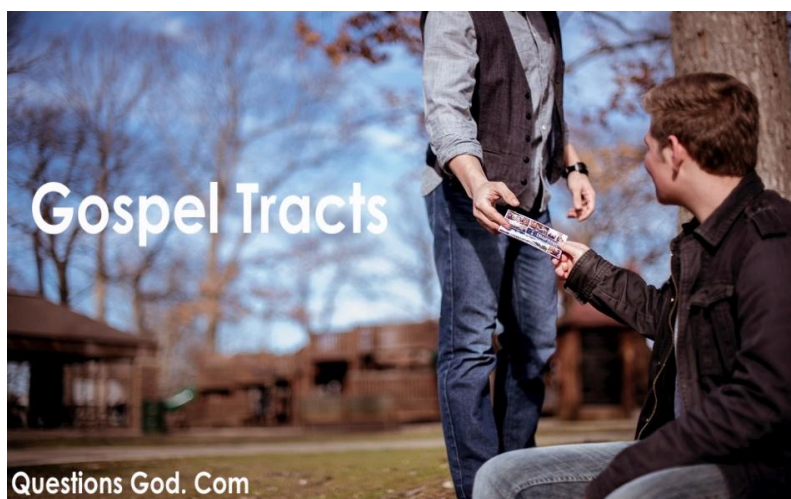
2. ALWAYS HAVE A BIBLE HANDY TO GIVE AWAY TO SOMEONE.

A [Bible](#) or a [New Testament Bible](#) gives you an easy practical, non-threatening, and simple way to put the Gospel into people's hands. My testimony was many years ago, a man that I had just met invited me out for coffee. That a stranger shared the Gospel and gave me a Bible over 50 years ago meant a lot. He has no idea of the thousands of souls through this ministry that he has touched by taking the time to give a free Bible.

I recommend a [New International Devotional Bible](#) for new believers [here](#). There are many [types of devotional Bibles](#) for women, men, teens, kids, singles, couples, moms, college, family, addiction, recovery, grief, daily reading plans, and one-year plans [here](#).

Buy an [NIV Pocket New Testament with Psalms & Proverbs](#) for under \$3.00 plus shipping [here](#). These are great to give out by having one on you in your pocket, purse, or in your vehicle, etc. I always keep a good [devotional Bible](#) in my car to give to anyone who shows interest. As mentioned above, someone was a part of Jesus changing my life by giving me a stranger, a free Bible. Just in case you are saying that would never happen to me. My response would be to try it and see what can happen.

You can check out this page if you want to [buy a Bible](#) under \$10.00 to give out. Or buy online at [Christian Book. Com here](#).



3. HAVE PLENTY OF GOSPEL TRACTS AND CHURCH BULLETINS

Generally, church bulletins keep everyone informed of what's going on in the church and consist of information detailing current and upcoming events, contact information, and some notes about the sermon. Bulletins might also provide information for visitors, the church's name and website, what to expect, times, and classes. These are great for

handing out to individuals looking for a church. Some churches have apps to download the above information also.

Gospel Tracts:

Tracts come in a pocket-sized booklet that you can easily hand out. This can be a beneficial tool for sharing the Gospel with others and an excellent way for them to learn the Word of God.

- Tracts can be sent anywhere and can work 24 hours a day,
- They are not expensive and can be read many times over.
- Tracts can be used without fear.

100 Reasons to use [Gospel Tracts here](#).

You can buy Gospel Tracts at [Moments With The Book](#) or [Christian Book. Com](#). Or a New International Version Pocket New Testament (NIV) [here](#).

Recommend these Christian tracts:

[Four Spiritual Laws](#) - 25 booklets for under \$10.00.(Excellent One.)

[God So Loved The World](#)

[Salvation Tracts](#)

Note: Some of the above links are from third-party Christian sites. We do not make any profit from you buying their products. On our site, www.questionsgod.com, everything is absolutely free.

SHARE CHRIST BY USING INDIRECT TEACHING METHODS

You are not directly teaching yet (just utilizing "*indirect*" teaching methods, techniques, and approaches), but you are starting to face people.

An excellent example of how to share a Gospel tract: Give a tract to a friend or acquaintance and say, *"This is a brief explanation of the Gospel of Christ. We've known each other for a time now, and I would like for you to read this and inform me what you think."*

Also, in talking to someone interested or who has seen a change in your life, you can follow along with them by reading a salvation Gospel tract. A later chapter will look at using Salvation tracts in more detail. **Congratulations** on having a new focus on sharing the Gospel. Start each day by asking the Lord in prayer to guide and lead you in new and exciting ways for Him.

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, "Here am I. **Send me!**" (Isaiah 6:8).*

Next Study Guide - Chapter 10 – PRESENTING YOUR PERSONAL STORY

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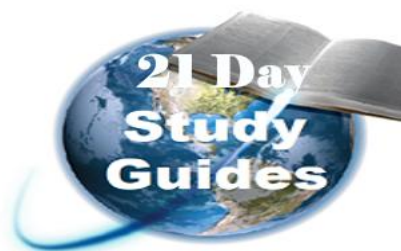
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