

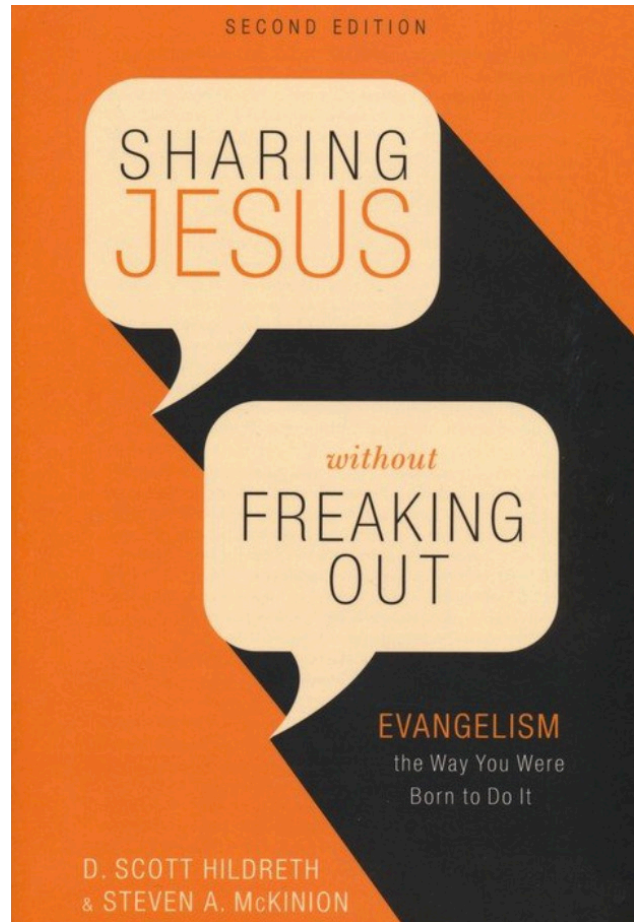
May 23, 2021

CCBC/Community Groups **Together!**

Come prepared to discuss **Chapter 3**

EVANGELISM
Is Better When It's a
CONVERSATION

Principle #3: Gospel conversations are better for everyone.



If you wish, work through any or all of the following questions with your group. Encourage each member of your group to contribute to the discussion. These questions are designed to help you personalize the information provided in the book. (Modified slightly from page 174-5)

1. Why do you think people find it difficult to relax when they talk about their relationship with Jesus?
2. Imagine what it would look like for you, over coffee with a friend, to talk about God's work in your life. What needs to happen for your life to be stronger in your relationship with God?
3. Can you give an example of how you have incorporated "your walk with Jesus" into your everyday conversations?
4. Look again at the differences between a gospel presentation and a gospel conversation (on page 41 & on back). Discuss why a person is much more likely to gain an understanding of the gospel through a relationship with a Christian than through a presentation given by a stranger.
5. Prayer is a spiritual discipline that is essential for any Christian who desires to share Jesus with others. Discuss three ways prayer helps Christians with evangelism. How do you regularly prayed for evangelistic opportunities? How have you prayed for the lost this week?

TRUST THIS TRUTH and develop conviction for CONVERSATIONS... Acts 17:17...

So **he was reasoning** in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing *Gentiles*, and in the market place **every day with those who happened to be present.**

...information doesn't foster relationships. And one of the unwritten rules of relationships is this: *Don't just tell me what you did; tell me something that helps me know you better.* p. 38
Relationships are built on conversations. p. 39

Here's the problem... We know hundreds of instances of people hearing a gospel presentation, praying a prayer, feeling assured of their salvation at the time, and yet walking away without ever again evidencing any true conversion to Christ. p. 40

Evangelism is not selling a product. Evangelism is telling a story. No one who REALLY CARES about a person wants to trick them into believing the gospel. We want them to truly become Christians. p. 40 *Care about people!* Develop a genuine interest in others. p. 50

Presentation	Conversation	p. 41
*Begins with a Christian worldview	*Begins with the other person's worldview	
*Assumes knowledge & understanding of Christian vocabulary	*Assumes little knowledge or understanding of Christian vocabulary	
*Focuses on salvation as a legal transaction	*Focuses on salvation as relational	
*Makes sense to people with a church background	*Makes sense of Christianity to those outside the church too	
*Goal is to answer any questions with truth, with a focus on winning	*Goal is to communicate information, striving for clarity of understanding	
*Requires an immediate decision	*Leaves a door open for a decision any time	
*Success equals a positive decision for Christ	*Hopes for a positive decision, but success equals more conversations/relationship	

The conversation is an invitation to a relationship... an invitation to *more* conversations. p. 42

We meet more and more people these days who both (1) are not Christians and (2) have few if any personal relationships with Christians... And a lone, scripted presentation of the gospel just won't cut it. p. 43

In this book, *lifestyle evangelism* means developing a life-style that enables *gospel conversations* to flow naturally through all the relationships we have. p. 44

Conversations... are a shared journey on which the people collaborate to decide where the trip takes them. p. 47

p. 45

Being relaxed helps you listen; being relaxed helps you know how & when to step in & engage.

1. People can tell if you CARE about them. p. 49
2. People can tell if you BELIEVE what you're talking about.
3. People can tell if you PRACTICE what you believe. p. 50