

Quick Reference Sheet

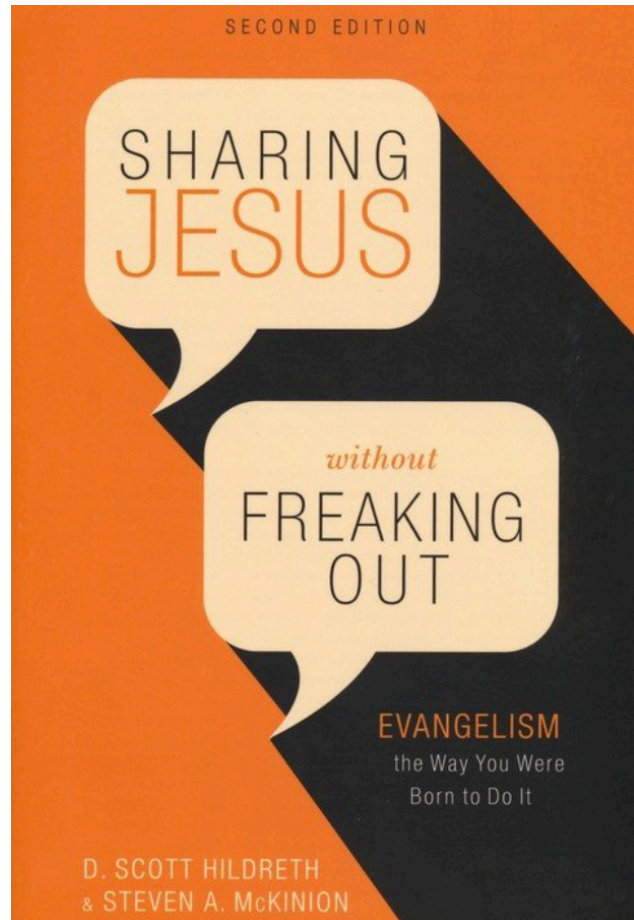
May 30, 2021

CCBC/Community Groups **Together!**

Come prepared to discuss **Chapter 4**

EVANGELISM Is **CONTEXTUAL** (Situational)

Principle #4:
Every context is
an opportunity to share
the joy of the gospel
with others.



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 175)

1. Do you find yourself more comfortable using methods of evangelism or casually communicating Christ through an ordinary life of gospel storytelling? What **habits** and **practices** in your life help you communicate the gospel story without freaking out?
2. As you read 1 Peter 2:9-12, discuss what those statements say is true about you as a believer. How do these identifiers point to God's gracious work in your life?
3. Discuss practical ways in which your **good works** (as they expand into your behaviors and responsibilities) demonstrate God's grace in your lives. Does your **lifestyle** show your personal belief in the story of the gospel? Does it validate the claims you make of Christ?
4. How can you better embrace who God made you to be in order to establish authentic relationships with other people? Discuss how you can use the various contexts of your life to make much of the grace of God in Christ.

TRUST THIS TRUTH and develop situational awareness/CONTEXT... 1 Corinthians 9:22
“I have become all things to all people, so that I may by every possible means save some.”

Evangelism is learning to get both parties in the same place, understanding language about the gospel in the same way, so that true communication can happen. **By knowing your context, you can help your listeners know the gospel.** p. 54

Yet even with all these contexts in mind, even with all the contexts that are out there—cultural, personal, spiritual, generational—the **gospel still speaks to each person.** And **that’s what makes sharing Jesus so exciting,** so exhilarating. That’s why there is no need to freak out. For though **the context** determines how you tell the content of the story, it **never changes the content of the story itself.** p. 56

Context is the place you live in and the people with whom you live that life. Your **culture** is the environment where the other people around you understand your language and speak that same language... **To share the gospel with people in your context, you adjust your language to what they already know.** p. 58

Do your friends have religious or personal beliefs that might be an avenue to a gospel conversation?... **You can find points of connection between the hopes and dreams of people in your own contexts and the life-altering truths of Scripture.** Evangelism means **learning to listen for cultural clues in your conversations with others to discern what elements of God’s grand narrative they are most ready, most able, to hear and understand.** p. 59

But not only do **they** and their own personal, cultural attitudes make the context unique. The interaction is unique (and ripe for the gospel) because of the context **you** bring to the table. You are **who** you are, **where** you are, by God’s design. On purpose. He has put you in this specific time and place—in your own specific context—so that he can use you to be a witness for Christ right where you’re located. p. 60

And since part of his will is that we share Jesus with others, our witness becomes one of the notable casualties whenever we fall victim to sinful desires. **Sin dissuades us from talking about him.** Sharing Jesus is only natural to us when we’re faithfully, humbly walking with him. p. 64

The best way to inhibit our friends, family, and acquaintances from acknowledging the gospel story is to dishonor that story through selfish, unloving, prideful behavior. p. 65

You are a Christian with a story. Everywhere you go, you have that story. And if you’ll **listen closely** to the people in your own context, **you will see why God put you there.** **You will see how the gospel speaks to the people in that context and discover ways to help them hear that message.** p. 66