



MODULE 2 | **Jesus & Conversation**

Leaders Guide

Module Overview

MODULE 2 | Jesus & Conversation

This module is designed to help you prayerfully proclaim the good news of Jesus by connecting the gospel to everyday conversations.

1. Deeper Relationships
2. Deeper Conversations
3. Creation and Identity
4. Fall and Brokenness
5. Redemption and Security
6. Re-creation and Hope
7. Transformation and Change
8. Prayer and Intentionality

Each session includes these components:

1. **INTRO.** Each session starts with a short training video.
2. **TRAIN.** Build our confidence and competence in evangelism by working through Biblically grounded training material.
3. **SHARE.** Talk through evangelistic opportunities in the past week, whether these are stories of successes, 'fails,' or simply interesting conversations with potential.
4. **PRAY.** Praise God for His love, salvation, and the privilege of evangelism. Ask God to save our family and friends and speak through us to them.
5. **HOMEWORK.** Revisit session content from a different angle to consolidate our learning.

Module Goals

- Learn a gospel framework to help us better understand what God has done for us in Christ.
 - So that we continue to grow closer to God and more willing and able to glorify Him.
- Learn how to make connections between core gospel truths and everyday conversation.
 - So that we can naturally and organically nudge conversations to Jesus and the difference knowing Him makes.
- Pray for our family and friends who don't know Jesus yet.
 - So that they might share in knowing Jesus with us.

Session 6

Re-creation and Hope

Jesus promises us resurrection life with Him and each other when we trust Him. Living in hope.

Session Introduction

Watch the introduction video for Session 6.

- What did you learn from Jamie and Emily's conversation about evangelistic conversations?
- What encouraged you about what Sam and Julie-anne said about Re-creation and Hope?

In previous sessions we reflected on three stages of God's Story – Creation, Fall and Redemption – and how we might connect it to our daily conversations. You'll find a summary diagram at the end of the session.

- To help us revise, share with the group the conversation trajectory you worked on for homework. Help each other come up with more or better questions.

Train

God's Story: Re-creation

This session we look at Re-creation. When we trust that Jesus died for us, our relationship with God is restored. God also promises that Jesus will return to save and to judge, and that when He does, all our relationships will be fully restored. God's story is one of hope for God's people.

In an act that points to His own resurrection, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. **Read John 11:1-45.**

1. What happens? Is there anything that surprises you?
 - *Lazarus is dying but Jesus defers going to see him until he is dead.*
 - *Jesus arrives and questions both Mary and Martha about their belief in resurrection.*
 - *Everyone thinks that if Jesus had been there, He could and would have saved Lazarus.*
 - *Jesus is upset by Lazarus' death.*
 - *Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead and says "I am the resurrection and the life."*
 - *New life starts now.*
2. Jesus delays His arrival so that Lazarus is dead by the time He arrives. Why? 1-16

- *So that Jesus might be glorified as people see and believe that Jesus can raise the dead.*
 - *People believed He could heal the sick. Raising the dead was taking it to another level.*
3. Jesus says to Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" 17-27
- a. When does resurrection life start?
 - *In this life. When we believe in Jesus it starts immediately.*
 - *Life is not temporary. Death is temporary. For Christians it can be described as 'sleep.'*
 - b. How is resurrection life received?
 - *By recognising who Jesus is. I am. Jesus uses the divine name (Exod. 3) to describe Himself and His ability to do God-like things, like giving life and raising the dead.*
 - *By believing that Jesus can give it, and will give it, to people who trust Him.*
 - c. What does this add to what Martha already believed?
 - *She believed in a general resurrection. But Jesus connects life after death, resurrection, with faith in Him.*
 - *He also speaks about it as a present experience, not just a future event.*
4. How does Jesus feel about the death of Lazarus and the grief of Lazarus' family? 32-38, (Cf 3,4)
- *Jesus is moved and troubled. He's grieved by Lazarus' death and its impact on the people He loved. Even though Jesus know He was about to raise Lazarus.*
5. This event points to Jesus' own death and resurrection, as well as ours. What reasons does Jesus give people to trust Him when He says that He is the resurrection and the life? 38-45. See also 20:26-31.
- *He raised a dead man. This showed that He was from God and was doing God's work.*
 - *He was raised Himself, physically. Thomas could see him and touch Him. His crucifixion wounds showed that it was really Him.*

Jesus offers eternal life to all who believe in Him. Jesus' resurrection gives us a certain hope that He will return and restore our bodies, relationships, and the world. While our new life starts now, we still wait for the day

when Jesus returns and we will experience this new life with God and each other in the world God has renewed, in all its fullness.

Having this hope ripples out and shapes the decisions we make in our lives.

Our Story: Hope - What hope is there for the future?

In a world where news stories often focus on looming destruction, people need hope. We need a future that we can dream about, plan for and look forward to. God’s story presents us with a beautiful and optimistic future. How do our friends talk about hope?

Choose a couple of the topics in the table below to discuss together. If one of them is a ‘live’ conversation that one of you is having with a friend now, definitely chose that one! Remember, we are looking for questions that create a conversational bridge that connects the topic to Jesus and the deeper questions of life.

General Topic	Specific questions about the heart, feelings and personal impact.	God Question Part A: Questions about values, opinions and the meaning of life.	God Question Part B: Direct questions about God, Creation and Identity.
	Our story	→	God’s story
I work in medicine because I like to help people.	<i>What’s your specialty?</i> <i>Why did you choose it?</i>	<i>How does a terminal patient have hope?</i>	<i>What hope would it give if we knew that God is real and there’s a life beyond this one?</i>
Small acts of kindness between neighbours will make the world a better place._____			<i>Can I share with you about the hope that Jesus offers, which is bigger and better than we can imagine?</i>

<p>My mother was a good person. She is still watching over me from heaven.</p>			
<p>I've got what I wanted but it just doesn't seem to be enough.</p>			
<p>Your own topic –</p>			

The ideas we have discussed under Re-creation and Hope could connect with conversations about:

- Life after death.
- Disappointed hopes.
- Fear of missing out.
- Ultimate justice and equity.

Share

Share any stories of evangelistic opportunities in the past week: successes, failures, answered prayers, and interesting conversations. Take brief notes to remind you of what to pray for. If many group members have lots to say, consider breaking up into groups of three to four people now.

- What opportunities has God given you to share Jesus with others this week?
- Which people would you like to share Jesus with next week? When will you talk with them?
- Think of (one of) the people you are praying for.
 - What do they hope for in their future?
 - How confident are they in this hope?
 - How does their hope shape the way they live life now?

Pray

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

- | Thank God that in Christ we have eternal life and a bigger and better hope than anything the world offers us.
- | Ask for opportunities to talk with people about the future we look forward to with Jesus and His people.
- | Thank God and pray for the conversations or friends that people shared about earlier.

Homework

God's Story

Read Revelation 21:1-8. Using this passage and our discussion on John 11, answer the questions:

- What hope is there for the future?
- What does real peace look like?
- Is hope naïve or necessary?
- What do I look forward to when Jesus returns?

Our Story

→ Watch Sam Chan connect 'your world to Jesus in 60 seconds.'
www.espressotheology.com/

→ Consider two or three topics that interest you or that might be relevant for your friends. For each one:

- How does he move from the topic to Jesus?
- What parts of God's story does Sam connect this topic with?

- Creation and Identity
 - Fall and Brokenness
 - Redemption and Security
 - Re-creation and Hope
- Imagine this was a conversation with your friend. What series of questions could you ask to nudge the conversation in this direction?

Summary Table

Key Concepts and Questions for each gospel theme.

	God's story: How does the Bible answer these questions?	My story: How do I answer these questions? How do my friends answer these questions?
<i>Creation and Identity</i>	<p>What does it mean to be created in God's image?</p> <p>What does God think about us and the world He created?</p>	<p>Who am I? Who are we?</p> <p>What is my purpose?</p> <p>Why do I matter? Why do you matter?</p> <p>How does being created by God bring me joy or rest?</p>
<i>Fall and Brokenness</i>	<p>What is sin and what are its consequences?</p> <p>What went wrong with the world God created?</p>	<p>What is wrong with me (us)?</p> <p>Why is the world so broken?</p> <p>Why can't we fix things?</p> <p>Is God's justice something to look forward to or fear?</p>
<i>Redemption and Security</i>	<p>How does Jesus save us?</p> <p>Why does Jesus save us?</p>	<p>How can I be safe in a broken world?</p> <p>Who can I trust to save me?</p> <p>What do I need saving from?</p> <p>What life am I saved for?</p>
<i>Re-creation and Hope</i>	<p>What future does Jesus promise His people?</p> <p>Why is this future so certain that we start to enjoy it now?</p>	<p>What hope is there for the future?</p> <p>What does real peace look like?</p> <p>Is hope naive or necessary?</p> <p>What do I look forward to?</p>

Keep learning at
ripple-effect.net.au