



MODULE 1 | **Jesus & Me**

Training Guide

Module Overview

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This module is designed to help you prayerfully proclaim the good news of Jesus to people as you tell them the story of how Jesus met and changed you.

1. Listen and Share
2. People and Prayer
3. Trained and Ready
4. Creation and Identity
5. Fall and Brokenness
6. Redemption and Security
7. Re-creation and Hope
8. Transformation and Change
9. Telling My Story
10. Living My Story

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.
- Practice articulating the gospel (= God's story) and how it intersects with our story.
 - So that we can talk with others about 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 1

Listen and Share

Knowing Jesus changes us and our lives for the better.

Module Introduction

Learning to speak clearly about Jesus and our relationship with Him is important for our own understanding of the Gospel, and for that of our family and friends. When we talk about what it means to know Jesus, we give people information about, and reasons to trust, Jesus themselves.

Introduce yourself to the group and share something about why you are participating in Ripple Effect.

- What do you think of when you hear the word 'evangelism'?
- How do you feel about evangelism?

Session Introduction

Watch the introduction video for Session 1 and listen to the impact that meeting Jesus has had on Alec's life. Jakob and Esperanza will then give you an introduction to Session 1: Listen and Share.

Share

This is our first week so we will take some time to get to know each other. Introduce yourself to the group and share something about the story of God's work in your life. Here are some suggestions of what you might talk about:

- | How you came to trust in Jesus
- | Pivotal moments or people in your walk with God
- | How being a Christian has changed you

Don't feel like you need to cover all these areas; they are just prompts. There will be plenty of time in coming sessions to hear more about each other! Set a timer and give each person five minutes.

When people are speaking, remember to listen well. It's a privilege when people trust you enough to share their lives with you. Write down a couple of follow-up questions you would like to ask each member of the group about their story.

- How did you find that experience of listening and sharing?

Train

Now we'll learn from Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman and **read John 4:4-26**. Consider the flow of the conversation.

1. What topics did Jesus and the woman talk about as the conversation progressed?

2. In each phase of the conversation:
 - a. what did Jesus offer her?

 - b. how did He challenge her?

3. How does the 'mood' change over the course of the conversation?

Read John 4:27-30, 39-42.

4. Why do you think the woman spoke about Jesus?

5. Why do you think they listened to her?

6. What are you challenged by in this story?

In John 4 we meet a Samaritan woman who is, unusually, drawing water by herself during the day. She has a history of difficult relationships and is interested in theology. Jesus sees her for who she is, and He welcomes her. But He also challenges her with the truth about God, Himself, and her life. Meeting Jesus is both confronting and incredibly positive for the woman. The effect of this encounter ripples out to others because she can't help but tell her neighbours about this Jesus who she met. Then they come and meet Him too.

Pray

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.
Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.

Psalm 105:1-2 (NIV)

Spend some time thanking God for His work in your life. Ask Him to give you opportunities to share your story with others. Ask him to help you to listen well to the people around you when they share their stories with you.

Some members of the group may feel more comfortable praying out loud than others. Please remember that a one-sentence prayer written down and read out is just as authentic as a five-minute prayer prayed spontaneously.

Homework

- Set up a group chat on social media or a messaging app this week. In your group chat, ask each other your follow-up questions and answer the questions people ask you.

It might feel a bit weird, but we are trying to learn how to talk more comfortably about these things with each other, so just take a deep breath and go with it.

Keep learning at
ripple-effect.net.au