

The Gospel Project for Adults, Winter 2017-18
Interactive Teaching Tips for Adults, Session 5

Introduction: *Relate the concept of chance to evangelism.*

Read the following quote from Lysa TerKeurst of Proverbs 31 Ministries:

I don't believe in chance. I don't believe our lives are filled with random occurrences. I don't think we're supposed to brush past, rush away from and forget others so easily.

Today, I'm certain that I will come across somebody who needs me to feel for them, take care for them, or love them in some way. Taking time to pause for them should be simple and practical.

Maybe I'll mention Jesus. But maybe I won't this time. It shouldn't be an awkward fumbling for the perfect salvation message quickly packaged up and spewed out. Just a pause filled with sincere love.

I'm passionate about leading people to Jesus. But I never want to reduce Jesus to a slick sales pitch where I rush to close the deal. I realize that sometimes I'm just supposed to love.

[Source: Lysa TerKeurst, Proverbs 31 Ministries Post, March 6, 2014, <https://www.facebook.com/Prov31Ministries/photos/a.390955286960.162138.99550061960/10152043333206961/?type=1&theater.>]

Point 1: *Offer some background on Ethiopia.*

After reading the opening passage, ask, “What do you know about Ethiopia? Can you think of any other times the Bible mentions this nation?”

Be prepared to share some of the more interesting facts about Ethiopia's significance in the Bible from the *Holman Bible Dictionary* (available through this website):

<https://www.studydrive.org/dictionaries/hbd/e/ethiopia.html>

Point 2: Point to how Jesus is present in every book of the Bible.

After discussing Acts 8:30-35, say something like, “Some of us might be amazed at the faith of Philip because of his ability to share the truth of Jesus from the Book of Isaiah. But it doesn’t take a Bible scholar to see how Jesus is present in any given book of the Bible.”

Then show the following video, “11 Year Old Proclaiming Jesus Throughout the Bible” (5 minutes, 41 seconds):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nieVIurPSbc>

Encourage learners to commit themselves not only to studying the Bible for themselves but also to consider how to share the truth of Jesus from any place within the biblical canon.

Conclusion: Ask what it means to “walk in the Spirit.”

Share a quick testimony of your own interaction with the Holy Spirit this week:

- How did you acknowledge the Holy Spirit in your day-to-day life?
- How did you hear Him as He impressed on you or illuminated truth from God’s Word?
- How did He empower you in specific ways?

Be ready to also share if you felt out of touch with Him or that you chose to live in a way that did not receive the Holy Spirit’s guidance in accord with Scripture.

For the sake of clarity on the Bible’s teaching about what it means to walk in the Spirit, read or summarize the following article with your group:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Spirit-walk.html>

Exhort your group members to commit to living obediently and in step with the Spirit, not just for now but as a lifelong endeavor.

Teaching Tip of the Week

You will likely have some learners who feel all this talk about the Holy Spirit isn't practical or that it seems too mystical. Pray for them. Dare learners to look at the power of the Holy Spirit as presented the Book of Acts and invite them to consider how He is working in their lives and amongst their local church.