



RELATIONAL EVANGELISM MADE SIMPLE



1millionSTORIES.org



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The Model

The truth is we all have challenges and personal issues we deal with in life. It's encouraging to learn how normal everyday people share in those same struggles and overcome them. 1MillionStories.org provides a platform for individuals to point people to the only lasting solution that offers complete joy and peace in this life, while preparing us for the eternal life to come through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Message

In today's highly digital and fast-paced-global world, there are many things tugging for the attention of our minds, hearts and spirits. Because of the huge cultural shifts in society, Christians often find themselves timid in sharing their faith in Jesus Christ for fear of persecution at one level or another. For those who are not afraid to share their faith, the busyness of daily schedules often prevents us from taking the time to tell others about the blessing and joy of having Jesus Christ in our life. The result, missed opportunities to share the eternal-life-changing message of Jesus with others.

The reality is we will all breathe our last breath and need to ask the question, "Am I ready for eternity?" The tragedy is some will enter eternity having never heard a clear presentation of the message of Jesus Christ because Christians were too afraid to share it.

The Method

1MillionStories.org was launched to help Christians overcome the fear of sharing their faith by providing a tool that would do some of the work for them, and have the potential to revolutionize personal evangelism on a global scale. Ultimately, we want to empower every Christian to fulfill the Great Commission while using modern technology. It's a marriage of high-tech with high-touch.

Our prayer is that you will use 1MillionStories.org and the Story Cards to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those who are lost. Together we can impact the world one life-changing story at a time!



Overview

Sharing your faith in Jesus Christ has been made overly complex. You do not need to be an expert Bible scholar or go through hours of training to share your faith in Jesus Christ. There are only a few requirements necessary to fulfill the task.

FIRST You must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. You cannot share what you do not possess

"Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth..." - Acts 3:6

SECOND Be willing to fulfill the Great Commission, which all Christians have been instructed to do.

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." - Mark 16:15

THIRD Allow God's Spirit to guide

"For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." - Luke 12:12



Story Writing Tips

Your story is unique and was meant to be shared. There are three simple keys to preparing your story.

First, describe your life before you came to Jesus Christ.

Second, describe how you came to know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior

Third, describe how God is working in your life today.

It's important to be genuine and real about your ups and downs throughout life. This lets people know you are a human being and not perfect. At the same time, you also do not need to reveal all the details of any dirty laundry. Focus on the positive and negative situations that impacted your life and how a personal relationship with Jesus Christ has transformed you and continues to.



Preparing Your Heart

It's natural to be a little nervous when you think about personal evangelism and most Christians today don't seem to be doing much of it.

Yes, it can be unnerving because it puts you at risk of being rejected and possibly looking foolish, especially in today's culture where the Christian faith is under so much attack. But we must always remember, that if someone says no, they are not rejecting you, they're rejecting Jesus Christ.

Personal evangelism requires preparation. You need to prepare your heart by confessing any unconfessed sin. Pray for the person you are going to share the Gospel with. Pray for the Lord to use you, to give you the right words to say, and to be bold enough to lovingly speak truth at the appropriate times.

Now just leave the results to God. All we must do is be obedient, He is responsible for the outcome. So the pressure is off. Simply share the love, grace and mercy God has shared with you. Shouldn't everyone have the chance to know Him?



8 Simple Keys to Sharing Your Faith

1. Smile. Be loving, friendly and establish caring communication.

While a one-time encounter with someone may require a more expedited approach, when you are witnessing to someone simply begin establishing a friendly conversation first. Talk about their family, personal interests, and things they do for recreation. As the conversation progresses, you can ask about their church attendance or belief in God and begin leading the conversation to an eternal focus.

The Lord moves in many ways, sometimes we will plant, water and reap a harvest in the same meeting. Other times this process takes many conversations. And often, God will use us to only plant or water in someone's life. Regardless, don't give up! God's Word says in Zechariah 4:6, "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the LORD of hosts." Keep praying and believing. God will use you!

2. In normal conversation ask where or if they attend church.

This is a simple question that will allow you to get a quick read on how the person views religion and spiritual matters. If they already attend a church the conversation can move toward them sharing their personal changed life story. If they don't have one then you know they still need to be led to Jesus Christ.

If they don't attend a church, more than likely they will open up to you about their opinions on church and religion. Let them talk and really hear their heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you at the right time to share the real love and forgiveness found in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

3. Ask to share your personal life-changing story.

It is very difficult to argue about a changed life. No matter how skeptical someone may be about church and religion, sharing the difficult times in your life and then the manner in which Christ healed and changed your life is always powerful. Remember, most people are seeking peace, healing, and spiritual freedom in their own lives, their just not quite ready to admit it. Share that the only way these things come to pass in our life is through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.



If time is short, you can hand them your story card and ask them to check out your life-changing story and others like it. If possible, try and reconnect with the individual personally and see if they had an opportunity to do so. If they did, ask them what they thought about it.

4. Use Scripture

The Bible tells us God's word does not return void. Part of the process for someone to come to faith in Jesus Christ is to come to the understanding that they are sinners in need of a Savior just like you.

Using Scripture enables them to hear God's Word in a lovingly manner and it will reveal three Truths in order to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

- We need to ADMIT we are a sinner. It is our sin that separates us from God.
Romans 3:23, *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*
- We need to BELIEVE Jesus is God's Son and accept God's gift of forgiveness for our sin.
Romans 5:8, *"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*
- We need to CONFESS faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord in our Life
Romans 10:9-10, *"if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."*

Try to commit these verses to memory if you haven't already.

5. Ask if they have ever invited Jesus Christ into their life.

This might take some clarification. Many people believe that simply being a good person amounts to being a Christian. They might also think that being confirmed, attending church, etc. is all that it takes. Be clear that this is a conscience decision made at one point in their life.

6. If they haven't, ask them if you can lead them.

Appeal to their heart. God has given us the opportunity experience eternity with Him and when the time comes to breath our last breath on this earth there is no other decision that matters more. As much as possible you want this to be in a private place where you



won't be interrupted. Turn the phone off, the laptop screen down, close the door and be sensitive to your surroundings and the other person's circumstances.

7. Lead them in prayer to receive Jesus Christ.

If they are ready to accept Jesus Christ, this simple prayer helps them acknowledge they have sinned against God (Romans 3:23). We have all fallen short of God's expectation for our life because of our sin. They should ask Christ to forgive them of their sins (1 John 1:9) and to come and live in their hearts, to guide them the rest of their lives. Then, accept Jesus Christ as God's son that He died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and on the third day He rose again (Romans 10:9-10).

Sample Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, I know I have sinned, please forgive me, I believe you are the Holy Son of God who was crucified, buried and rose from the dead for our sins, come into my life and help me live in a way that is honoring and pleasing to you, Amen."

If you are fortunate enough to lead someone to faith in Jesus Christ there are some next steps available to that person by going to the Learn More About Jesus page from any location on 1MillionStories.org. Our hope and prayer at 1MillionStories.org is this will be the process millions of Christians are encouraged to complete with just one person.

8. Follow up. Continue developing their walk with the Lord.

As you know maturing as a Christian is challenging without any help along the way. The Bible can be confusing, choosing a church can be overwhelming, and old friends can pull us back into our old ways of living. Be a positive influence to those you share your faith with. Continue inviting them to church or contact us to help locate a solid church. Teach them the importance of biblical baptism and communion. Offer to meet with them regularly for Bible study or times of encouragement. Help them get set up for a life of victory!

Then ask the Lord to provide the opportunity for you to share your story again!



Ways to Make Impact using 1MillionStories.org

Add Your Life-Changing Story

How you came to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is not only life-changing for you but can be life-changing for others. Add your story to 1millionsories.org in written or video form and use this site as a tool to share the Gospel with those you know and others you meet.

Social Media & Email

Through the email and social media sharing options on 1MillionStories.org you can share your story or other people's stories with friends, family, coworkers, and people you come into contact with.

- **When sending to an individual**, be sure to add a personal note in your communication to them that fits your relationship to personalize it.
- **When sending to a large group**, you can include a question to prompt discussion and dialogue about God and having a relationship with him.
- **When sharing other people's stories**, send them to people you know that may be dealing with the same types of struggles and challenges that are communicated in the story you share.

Story Cards

Story cards are available at 1MillionStories.org. As you meet people, you can hand your card out to prompt discussion on eternal things. It also allows you to leave something in their hands and direct them to your story even if you don't have a lot of time to talk at that moment. When time is short like in the drive-thru or checkout lines, simply hand the card to the person and say "when you have some time take a moment to check out this website. There are some encouraging stories about how God touches people's lives and my story is on there as well." Then leave it at that and move on. This can be done in 3-5 seconds for those super rushed moments. Each story card includes a direct link to your story using your story ID number.



Gospel Message Presentation

On 1MillionStories.org people can access a simple presentation of the Gospel message. If viewers are still in need of additional prayer or support, our team will help them get the answers and pastoral care they need.

Spread the Word

Help us spread the word and reach our goal of one million stories by encouraging other Christians you know to add their stories to the site. The more stories at 1MillionStories.org, the greater the ability to connect with those who are in need of their own life-changing story through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.



Creating a Relational Evangelism Culture

10 Action Steps

Action 1 – Plan a 2-4 week church-wide sermon series on evangelism.

Action 2 – Order customized and complimentary church story cards from 1MillionStories.org that include your church logo, website, service times, etc. If need be, our team can help you determine a quantity. *If you run out, 1MillionStories.org will send as many as you need free-of-charge.

Action 3 – Have church staff and key volunteers add their stories to 1MillionStories.org.

Action 4 – Set a church-wide goal of how many story cards and social media shares the congregation wants to make in a predetermined period of time. Use printed or digital charts to track your congregation's progress. Place these in a visible location so the church body can see it regularly.

Action 5 – Use the 1MillionStories.org Introduction Video as the start of your first sermon and share the concept of how to use the site throughout your series.

Action 6 – Integrate Preparing Your Heart, Ways to Make an Impact, and 8 Simple Steps concepts into your messages to help reinforce the simplicity in which evangelism can be done.

Action 7 – Use the complimentary 6 week small group study in your adult and youth small groups or Bible studies simultaneously with your sermon series to help people learn how to write their story.

Action 8 – As your congregation begins to have stories of their efforts of passing out cards or sharing their story or others stories via social media, give them opportunity to share their experiences to encourage others. The key is keeping the value of evangelism in front of the church consistently so others are challenged each week.

Action 9 – Periodically announce how you are coming along in reaching your goal.



Action 10 – Be sure to have a solid follow up and discipleship process for new visitors and new Christians. If you need assistance with this, our team can provide you options from 20 years of mega-church ministry experience.

For any questions or information please visit the contact us page at 1MillionStories.org.

We look forward to assisting you and helping you make greater impact in your local community for Jesus Christ.

