

UNSTOPPABLE : Influence

ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

Do you normally approach strangers at a party, event, etc? Why and Why not

WORD

Acts 28:28-31 (NIV)

28 “Therefore I want you to know that God’s salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!” 30 For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. 31 He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!

Paul was unstoppable to share the gospel, in his time wherever he goes, no matter what circumstances or challenges thrown at him in public, in prison, shipwreck, in oppositions.

His life was dramatically changed when he encountered the Lord on his way to Damascus breathing out murderous threats against the Lord`s disciples. Great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem because of him, approving the killing of Stephen (Steven) and he begun to destroy churches by going house to house dragging off men or women to put them into prison and the disciples were scattered all throughout Judea & Samaria.

But when he encountered the Lord, *just like all of us*, he lived his life sharing the gospel for the rest of his life, planted many churches, raised up strong leaders and wrote 13 Books, 1/3 of the New Testament. He became influential not because of who he is but because of the Good News he experienced that day when he encountered Jesus.

*The **gospel** is the Good News that God became man in Jesus Christ. He lived the life we should have lived, and died the death we should have died... in our place. Three days later, he rose from the dead, proving that, he is the Son of*

God, and offering the gift of salvation and forgiveness of sins to anyone who repents and believes in Him.

Everyone can be influential, either good or bad influence. But as believers, we have received and encountered the Lord. We can be unstoppable influencer to our generation today.

A godly influence is the one who move others unto God's agenda. Before we can influence others toward godliness, we ourselves must be under God's influence— by seeking God's direction, obeying His words, and being where we're supposed to be so God can use us. If you are moving toward God, someone is probably following you.

We become godly influencer through our encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. Through the infilling of the Holy Spirit, we become unstoppable influencer of the gospel. The infilling of the Holy Spirit is the beginning to become influencer as the Holy Spirit empowered us. The Holy Spirit becomes the Controller of our lives.

The control of the Holy Spirit over our lives occurs when we surrender our life to Him completely. Godly influence leads to radical change. (Paul's life)

Ephesians 5:8

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,”

DISCUSSION

How can you better connect with strangers? With people in your relational spheres?

WORD

Practical ways to become influential

1. ***Live the gospel.***

Jesus said to his disciples, “abide in me and my words abide in you.” (Abide means, stay, remain, walk, LIVE.)

The earlier believers lived as examples of what a redeemed people look like under the rule and reign of God. We are to live the gospel of the kingdom to others through our actions, words, and attitudes.

Acts 28:30

30 For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him.

We need to proclaim the good news, and we also need to practice the gospel just like what happened during Evangelism training in East Calgary & Lethbridge center.

2. Connect with others.

“Jesus didn’t wait for people to come to him. He walked from village to village looking for people—on the road, in the market places and synagogues, in private homes and in public places, by the lake and in the Temple, at a wedding feast and at a funeral, at a banquet with sinners and a meal with Pharisees. Wherever the people were, Jesus went. The good shepherd was looking for lost sheep”

In the same manner, Jesus send us out into the world to connect with people. As we go throughout our days our paths cross with strangers (the hurting, those in need, those who God “highlights” to you) and those within our relational spheres (family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, classmates, club members, and people we know from frequenting the same business places, etc.).

3. Share the gospel.

Through out the book of Acts, we witness disciples engaging in meaningful conversation with others.

In love and compassion, we can share our story and the story of Jesus with others. Remember, we do not do this in our powers but by the power of God

(Acts 1:8). We are Jesus's witnesses to this dark and hurting world. As an illustration of sharing one's personal testimony, briefly share your story as an example. Remember, your story is God's story.

Acts 28:31

31 He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ —with all boldness and without hindrance!

4. Have a missional life (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18–20).

No matter what Paul's circumstances were, he always sought to be an ambassador of Jesus. Even at the close of Acts, when he is under house arrest, he is still a witness of Jesus.

In the same manner, no matter our circumstances or situations, we can always represent Jesus to others. ***We are to live normally but think missionally!*** Just go about your usual life, but as you go, let the Holy Spirit lead you on a missional adventure.

DISCUSSION

How can you live normally but think missionally?

LIFE APPLICATION

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 (NIV)

*17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation**; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **entrusting to us the message of reconciliation**.*

As we end our series, the call to share the gospel is upon us. We are God's people to deliver the Gospel so that lost people will be reconciled to our Heavenly Father. It's the heart of God to see all people go back to God and

be reconciled to Him. He sent his son Jesus , who is the only way the truth and the life. Encourage all to attend the sessions on 4E` s as you will learn some practical ways to share the Gospel. Suggest to attend Foundation group and learn on what and how it is to live on having a firm foundation in Christ.

DISCUSSION

Are you comfortable sharing the gospel with someone? If not, Why?

VERSE TO MEDITATE ON

Luke 4:18 ESV

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sights to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord` s favour.”

PRAYER

Share your prayer request and answered prayer. Pray for one another and throughout this week.



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