

So I Stay Near The Door

I stay near the door.

I neither go too far in, nor stay too far out,

The door is the most important door in the world –

It is the door through which people walk when they find
God.

There's no use my going way inside, and staying there,
When so many are still outside and they, as much as I,
Crave to know where the door is.

And all that so many ever find

Is only the wall where a door ought to be.

They creep along the wall like blind people,

With outstretched, groping hands,

Feeling for a door, knowing there must be a door,

Yet they never find it ...

So I stay near the door.

The most tremendous thing in the world

Is for people to find that door – the door to God.

The most important thing anyone can do

Is to take hold of one of those blind, groping hands,

And to put it on the latch – the latch that only clicks

And opens to the person's own touch.

People die outside that door, as starving beggars die

On cold nights in cruel cities in the dead of winter –

Die for want of what is within their grasp.

They live, on the other side of it – live because they
have found it.

Nothing else matters compared to helping them find it,

And open it, and walk in, and find Him ...

So I stay near the door.

- Sam Shoemaker

Contagious Christianity

Part 4

An Equation For Evangelism

$$HP + CP + CC = MI$$

HIGH POTENCY:

What you **ARE**

CLOSE PROXIMITY:

What you **DO**

CLEAR COMMUNICATION:

What you **SAY**

MAXIMUM IMPACT:

What you **WANT**

How To Build A Bridge Of Friendship

Good friendships are usually intentional, rather than accidental.

Developing friendships with unbelievers often requires going the second mile, taking some risks, and moving outside your own comfort zone. And with our busy lifestyles, these kinds of relationships take **PLANNING**. If you don't plan to cultivate friendships with unbelievers, you'll find that you never have the time to do so. "We should make our plans – counting on God to direct us." (Proverbs 16:9)

Step #1: Become Aware

- Make a list of them by name
- Realize that they are your responsibility
- Assess each person's level of spiritual receptivity
- Discover what their interests and needs are
- Look for areas of common ground that you can build on
- Figure out what kind of testimony each would respond to

Step #2: Commit To Prayer

- Use your **Impact List** to pray daily for your unsaved friends
- Pray that God will draw them to Himself (John 6:44)
- Pray that God will remove their spiritual blindness (2 Cor. 4:3-4)
- Pray that God will make their heart receptive (John 16:8-13)
- Pray that you'll get the opportunity to share a clear witness (Colossians 4:3-5)
- Pray that God will give you wisdom in what to say (James 1:5)
- Pray that God will use the words you say (1 Thessalonians 1:5)

Step #3: Show You Care

- Treat everyone with respect as PEOPLE, not as PROSPECTS
- Be a genuine friend; help them in practical ways
- Be a good listener; it is a great way to show love
- Make SERVICE your aim, not RECRUITMENT
- Invite them into your home
- Consciously focus your concern on meeting their needs
- Go out of your way to love them until they ask you WHY!
- Accept people as they are without being judgmental

Step #4: Be Ready To Share

- Identify yourself as a positive, joyful follower of Christ
- Share a testimony when the occasion naturally arises (it will!)
- Never force the Good News; be patient, for God is working!
- Use crisis situations to show why we all need God
- Ask questions that lead to spiritual discussions
- Give them appropriate message tapes or books to read
- Concentrate on the essential; don't get sidetracked by hang-ups
- Invite them to a service at church that is designed to reach them
- Offer to pray with them after sharing the Good News

Explanation #1: The Four Spiritual Laws

1. The Law of GOD

- God is LOVING (1 John 4:16) – God is love
- God is HOLY (1 Peter 1:16) – Be ye holy as I am holy
- God is JUST (Revelation 15:3) – Just and true are thy ways

2. The Law of MAN

- Man is SINFUL (Romans 3:23) – All have sinned
- Man deserves DEATH (Romans 6:23) – The wages of sin is death
- Man is HELPLESS (Isaiah 64:6) – Our righteousness is as filthy rags

3. The Law of CHRIST

- Christ is GOD (John 1:14) – The Word became flesh
- Christ became our SUBSTITUTE (Romans 5:8) – Christ died for us
- This is the GOSPEL (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) – NOTE THREE PARTS!

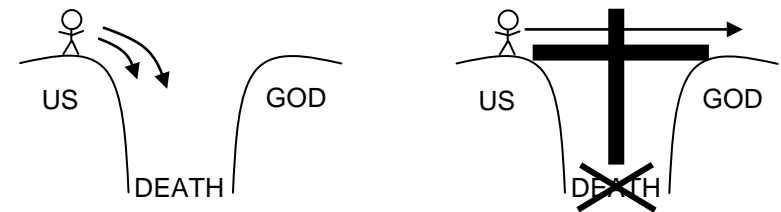
4. The Law of SALVATION

- We respond to Christ's death through REPENTANCE (Luke 13:3) – Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish
- We respond to Christ's burial through BAPTISM (Mark 16:16) – He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved
- We receive our new life through the HOLY GHOST (Acts 2:38) – NOTE THREE PARTS!

Explanation #2: The Roman Road

- Romans 3:23 *How many people have sinned?*
ALL
For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.
- Romans 6:23 *What is the eternal penalty for sin?*
DEATH
For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Romans 5:8 *What is the only remedy for sin?*
CHRIST'S DEATH
But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- Romans 2:4 *What is the right response to God's love?*
REPENT
Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
- Romans 6:4 *How do I put an end to my old sinful life?*
BAPTISM
Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- Romans 8:11 *Where do I get power to live a new life?*
HOLY GHOST
But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Explanation #3: The Bridge



- **1 Peter 3:18** – For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God.
- **John 1:12** – But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

- **Acts 2:38** – *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*