

Tips on Leading Children to Christ

John 4:35 “Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”

Mark 10:15 “Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.”

- The gospel is not complicated: Jesus said a little _____ can understand and get saved.
- Don't _____ they already know. Give the gospel as if they have never heard it before.

I. Know what to _____ - Seven Don'ts when giving the Gospel.

John 3:36 “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

- 1. Don't say: Did you really mean it? (Emphasizes person instead Christ - leads to doubt)
- 2. Don't say: Did you 'Pray the Prayer'? (Emphasizes magic words instead of trusting Christ)
- 3. Don't say: Do you feel different? (Emphasizes feelings instead of God's Word)
- 4. Don't use too difficult language: (Explain: wages, sin, commendeth, etc...)
- 5. Don't take forever: (They have short attention spans; 30 min is long!)
- 6. Don't put words in their mouth: (Yes...yes...yes...yes...repeat after me...Amen)
- 7. Don't forget to give the gospel! (It is the gospel that saves.)

II. Know what the _____ is – What is the Gospel?

- Definition – gospel means “good news.”
- The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is more specific.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4, but especially vs. 3-4 “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”

- 1. Christ Died.
- 2. For Our Sins.
- 3. He was buried.
- 4. He rose again the third day.
- 5. All this is according to the Scriptures.

III. Know where you are _____ – A Clear Way. (The Romans Road is great!)

- **Don't overcomplicate it!!!** Don't add too much detail!
- At what point does a person get saved?
 - The very moment they trust/ask Jesus to save them!
 - “I just trusted/asked Jesus to save me!”
 - 1. You are a _____. (**Romans 3:23**)
 - 2. You don't _____ to go to heaven. (**Romans 6:23**)
 - 3. Jesus is God, and He died on the cross for your sins, was buried, and rose again. (**Romans 6:23; Romans 5:8**)
 - 4. To get saved, pray and _____ Jesus to save you from your sins and give you a home in Heaven - trusting Him alone. (**Romans 10:9-10; Romans 10:13**)
 - “The best way _____ tell God these things, and ask Jesus to save you from your sin and Hell.”

IV. Know how to give assurance – The _____ gives assurance, not you!!!

1 John 5:13 “These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

- “Did you just ask Jesus to save you...or...do you want to try again?”
- “Did you just ask Jesus to save you?”
 - “Let’s look at the Bible. **(Romans 10:13).**”
 - “Did you just call upon the name of the Lord?” Yes
 - “Then what are you?” Saved
 - “So are you going to heaven?” Yes
 - “How do you know that?” Because the Bible says so!

V. Great _____ – To streamline counseling, be familiar with these.

- First Questions at Invitation Counseling:
 - What is your name?
 - Why did you come back? **or** Why did you raise your hand a few moments ago?
 - Do you know for sure that you are on your way to heaven?
 - May I show you how you can know?
- Questions to teach the Gospel:
 - What is sin?
 - Can you give me an example of sin?
 - Have you ever sinned?
 - Do you know where you deserve to go because of your sin?
 - What did Jesus do for you?
 - What did Jesus die for?
 - What happened three days later?
 - Who are you trusting in to forgive your sins and to save you? Are you trusting in me?
- Questions to help clarify how to be saved:
 - So if I pray and ask Jesus to help me to be a good person, will that get me to heaven?
 - What two things you need to be saved from? (Sin & Hell)
- Questions to help strengthen assurance:
 - How many times did Jesus die on the cross? So how many times do you have to get saved?
 - What happens if you go home and disrespect your parents? Are you still going to heaven?
 - Are you going to heaven? How do you know that? How did you get saved? What did you pray?

VI. Three categories of children, John 3:16-18; John 3:36

- Knowing the categories helps to avoid confusion between you and the child.
 - 1. **Unchurched and Unsaved** – unsaved and not familiar with how to get saved
 - Do not rush these kids through. Teach them well. Ask them a lot of review questions.
 - 2. **Churched and Unsaved** – unsaved but familiar with how to get saved
 - Ask a lot of open ended questions. You don’t need as much time to explain.
 - You might want to wait and help them get saved when their parents are present.
 - 3. **Churched and Saved** – saved and familiar with how to get saved
 - Ask a lot of open ended questions. You don’t need as much time to explain.
 - When they are ready to get saved, ask: **“Would you like to trust Christ as your Savior or have you done that before?”**
 - If they have done it before, say: “Tell me about it.”
 - If it is fairly clear that they are saved, then deal with assurance. If they remember getting saved before, then repeating again and again will not help with assurance.
 - If they really do not remember getting saved or talking to anyone about it, then it’s fine to lead them to Christ. But again, you might want to wait until mom and dad are there.
- Great questions to determine which category the child is in...
 - Do you go to church here? What is your last name? (You might know their parents.)
 - Have you ever talked to your parents about this before?
 - Have you heard this before?