

TE5.02 Circle of 5

(2 hours)

Apprentice:	Trainer:	Completed: / /
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Exercise

Cultivate a circle of relationships with people from our day to day living with the aim of preaching Christ to them.

Rationale

Apprentices are training to be ministers of the gospel, ie. evangelists. This is our daily work; this is our role in the world. When you look in the mirror, you are looking at an evangelist. We evangelise in many different contexts throughout the week: in large groups, small groups and personally. If we are not regularly proclaiming the gospel and inviting people to faith while on MTS, we will be unlikely to do it in our long term ministry.

Aims

1. To build evangelism into day to day living
2. To learn to take every opportunity to proclaim the gospel.

Method

1. Study the following passages: 1 Corinthians 9:19-27; Colossians 4:1-6; Titus 2; 1 Peter 3: 13-17
2. Shopkeeper Evangelism:
 - Work with your Trainer together to evangelise a local shopkeeper.
3. Sphere of Contact:
 - List all people in your sphere of contact, those you who have contact with in the normal activities of life. Think of family, work, friends, shops and services etc.
4. Nature of Relationship:
 - For those in your sphere of contact, how would you describe the relationship? How well do you know them? How much personal contact do you have?
 - Rank each one either A, B or C:
A = good friendship / potential for friendship
B = some personal relationship
C = little personal relationship
5. Circle of 5
 - Decide which five you will try to lead to Christ this year.
6. Prayer
 - Pray daily for your Circle of 5
7. Meaningful Conversation

- Aim to have a meaningful conversation with each one, not about the gospel but anything else. With many contacts we have never talked about anything seriously, let alone their eternal prospects.
8. Socialise
- Plan social time outside of the routine contact, preferably with other Christians
9. Understanding People
- One distinctive of Christian love is the sincere interest we take in others. Part of this is listening and understanding what makes them tick. For each in your Circle of 5 work out:
 - ◇ What are their interests?
 - ◇ What are their beliefs and values?
 - ◇ What influences have shaped them?
 - ◇ What motivates them?
 - ◇ What persuades them something is true: logic, people or experience?
 - ◇ What is their religious background and how has it affected them?
 - ◇ What do they know about Christianity?
 - ◇ What is their attitude to Christianity?
 - ◇ What are obstacles to faith and repentance for them?
 - ◇ What are their 'entry points' or 'open nerves' for the gospel? (fear of death, boredom, suffering, loneliness, anxiety, need a cause, guilt, family breakdown, addiction, awareness of supernatural)
10. Conversation Starters
- Use current affairs, workplace issues, ethical issues, etc. to develop conversation starters to arouse curiosity in Christ.
11. Gospelling Steps
- Personal:
 - ◇ Book
 - ◇ MP3
 - ◇ Bible Study
 - ◇ Two Ways to Live
 - Corporate:
 - ◇ Church
 - ◇ Special event
12. Follow-up
- Maintain friendship with all
 - Establish new Christians in Christ and Church

Resources

- Making Friends and Making them Count, Em Griffin (IVP: 1987)
- Bridge-Building, Alister McGrath (IVP: 2002)