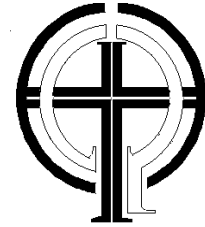


# ***Proclaiming Christ in Every Way***

## **Week 2 Discussion Questions:**

### **Revealing Jesus through Relationship**



1. Do an informal survey in your group. Do your Christian friends outnumber your non-Christian friends or is it the other way around? Do you feel more comfortable hanging out with believers or non-believers? Why? If you have few non-believer friends, should you seek out more? If so, what steps could you take to change this?
2. Aaron spoke about the importance of integrity (that is, the consistency of our words and behavior) if we intend to share Christ with others. Is it possible that a lack of integrity in our lives (after all, none of us are perfect) could become an excuse for us not to share Christ? How do we get around this apparent dilemma?
3. Many experts in evangelism would argue that the most compelling way to introduce your friends to Christ is to share your story—to tell how you encountered Christ and how He has changed and is changing your life. Do you agree, or do you think sharing something like the four spiritual laws is just as effective? Do you have a story? Are you ready to tell it? Have you shared it?
4. As group, think of the many stories of Jesus recorded in the gospels? How did Jesus connect with people? Did he deliver doctrinal lectures? Tell parables and stories? How did Jesus reveal himself to others? We are called to be imitators of Jesus. Is our method of sharing Christ consistent with the way He went about it?
5. In his encounter with the Samaritan woman (see John 4:1-26), Jesus demonstrates his ability to take a conversation about ordinary things (a cup of water) to a whole different spiritual dimension without offense from the woman. Should we be applying the same methods in our conversations with others? Is this something we need to learn how to do or does this come “naturally”? Have you ever tried to think of ways to share your faith using every day language?
6. Aaron spoke of the need to “go to Samaria” as we purpose to share Christ. Christ literally went out of his way to pass through Samaria for his encounter with the woman at the well. Where is your Samaria? Are you OK with the possible inconvenience of rerouting your path to get to your Samaria?

7. Young Life, an international para-church organization devoted to sharing the gospel with mid and high school kids, has an expression – “earn the right to be heard” – which is a key principle in their approach to reaching kids with the message of Christ. How might this principle apply to your relationships with non-Christian friends? How can you earn the respect of your non-believing friends? Are you befriending others in order to lead them to Christ or are you sharing Christ with those you have befriended? Is there a difference between these two statements?
8. Probably one of the biggest deterrents to our sharing Christ is our fear of rejection by others. Do you agree with this statement? Do we decline to share Christ because we feel unprepared to answer questions about Him or our faith? Do we make the Gospel unattractive because we don't know how to present it? Greg Koukl of Stand to Reason says that the Gospel is offensive enough, so we shouldn't add to the offense by being offensive in the way we present the Gospels. How might the Gospel be seen as offensive by non-Christians? How might we add offense to the Gospel in the way we present it to non-Christians?
9. Take a look at John 16:5-15. How might our understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit give us confidence in sharing the Gospel? Can we rely on the Holy Spirit to give us the right words to say? Do we need to prepare to share or simply rely on the Spirit? Pastor Aaron suggested that to be the best possible witnesses, we need to deepen ourselves in Christ in every way. What is the role of the Spirit in this process?
10. Go to any large city and you will likely find someone standing on a street corner holding a sign or a megaphone, proclaiming the Gospel. Is this a good way to share Christ? Is it effective? Do you like door-to-door salesmen? Do we sometimes try to share Christ like door-to-door salesmen? How does this approach differ from relational or friendship evangelism? Are we likely to see you at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Central anytime soon? Why or why not?

**Last Thing:** Leaders, Take a minute a write down some of your group's unanswered questions from your discussion or comments about sharing faith in general. Email them to this address ([hcppcomments@ymail.com](mailto:hcppcomments@ymail.com)) or drop them by the Information Desk on Sunday. We will incorporate them into our *Proclaiming Christ in Every Way* series.

Thanks! The Adult Discipleship Team

**You can listen to the sermon on our website: [www.heightscpc.org](http://www.heightscpc.org)**