

Welcome to *How to Share Your Faith with Jamie and Donna Winship!*

You are about to lead your life group through a four week learning lab on personal outreach with the help of Jamie and Donna Winship. Our prayer is that this video curriculum and the discussion it creates will challenge everyone in your group toward greater dependence on Jesus and greater confidence in their God-given ability to share their faith with others. Here is a brief overview of the flow of this four-week series:

Week 1

Big Idea: Personal outreach is not a goal, but the result of a transformed life.

The Gist: Donna Winship teaches us about *identity* and spiritual transformation and leads us in a listening prayer on *identity*. Your group will wrestle with the positive and negative names we call ourselves and how those identities help or hinder us in our attempts to share our faith.

Week 2

Big Idea: We can trust God to lead us to people of peace.

The Gist: Jamie Winship teaches us how to know who God is leading us to share our faith with, and who he may not be leading us to. Your group will learn the definition for *person of peace* and identify those in their lives who may fall in that category.

Week 3

Big Idea: Partnership with Jesus is the power behind effective personal outreach.

The Gist: Jamie Winship teaches us about an approach to evangelism that looks more like partnership than obligation and shares a personal outreach experience that demonstrates many concepts your group has been learning. Your group will be challenged to wrestle with where they place their confidence when they attempt to share their faith with others.

Week 4

Big Idea: No big idea this week—it's time to practice!

The Gist: You will guide your group through some opportunities to dialogue and then practice sharing their personal story. Your group will learn to see their personal testimony as a faith-sharing tool and get feedback from other group members about how to share their story more effectively.

Now that you have a general idea of where we are going, let's break it down week by week with some practical tips and instructions on how to leverage this series for its greatest impact with your group!





LIFE GROUPS

LEADER GUIDE

Week 1: Personal outreach is not a goal, but the result of a transformed life.



Before Pressing Play

Each week will begin with a host segment and a leader check-in time. We designed this time for you to build rapport and accountability within your group. We encourage you to review the check-in questions before your group so that you are ready to guide that time with intentionality:

1. What is your initial reaction to the big idea?
2. What are some reasons we often choose not to share our faith?
3. What are your expectations for this evangelism learning lab?

We also would encourage you to ask your group members to come ready each week with a notebook or journal in order to make the most of opportunities for reflection, journaling and sharing. Your group may also want to use the Listening Prayer tool in their *Personal Outreach Tools Packet* this week.



Discussion Tips

Each discussion segment is timed. If you find that the conversation is fruitful and going longer than the timer allows, push pause and complete the conversation. If you find that your group moves quickly through a discussion segment, feel free to ask more questions, or probe more into the questions we provided. Below are some suggestions for probing questions:

- “What resonated with you most from this video segment?”
- “Is there a different question that you wish we would have been asked?”
- “Say more...”
- “Does anyone see this differently (or the same)?”



Wrapping Up

The closing time of your group each week should have three key elements:

1. Closing discussion (pause final screen and discuss provided questions).
2. Check-in with the Scribe and Social Media Guru.
3. Challenge to the group to practice a new skill (suggestions below) and closing prayer.



Challenge

- Practice listening prayer once a day. Journal everything you hear or see.
- Pay attention to the false perceptions of yourself that surface this week. Make a note of when and where they surface.
- Find a few stories in the Bible where God gives someone a new name. Journal about your findings.





LIFE GROUPS

LEADER GUIDE

Week 2: We can trust God to lead us to people of peace.



Before Pressing Play

Leader Check-in Questions:

1. What was your biggest “aha” moment from last week’s session?
2. What practices did you try out this week? How did it go?
3. Take the last five minutes of this check-in time to make a list of people you know who are not yet believers.



Discussion Tips

Jamie is going to challenge us to think differently about who God may be calling us to share our faith with. **It may be important to remind your group that “walking away” from someone who is not a person of peace doesn’t mean we stop loving them or cut off relationship.** Rather, it means that we release our own desire to be the person who leads them to Christ and focus our personal outreach on the people of peace God has brought to us. Who knows, maybe our loved ones who are not people of peace with us are open and truthful with someone else!



Wrapping Up

After you finish the final discussion segment, ask your Scribe to share a few notes from the night. Encourage other members to add any insights that they recorded. If you can, use those notes as a way to transition into the challenge for the week before praying. Remember, you can get creative in the way your group prays each week!



Challenge

- Try a new kind of listening prayer this week. Ask God “Where is my place? Who are my people?” Journal what he shows you.
- Pray each day for the people on your list who are not people of peace. Ask God for wisdom on how to love them well while following his instruction in Luke 10.
- Make a list of all the places you go this week. Ask God to open your eyes to the people in these places that you haven’t seen before.
- Share an insight from this week on social media using #HTSYF. Pay attention to the people of peace who respond.





LIFE GROUPS

LEADER GUIDE

Week 3: Partnership with Jesus is the power behind effective personal outreach.



Before Pressing Play

We would like for you to provide two personal outreach tools to your group at the end of today's session. Please familiarize yourself with the **BLESS** strategy and the **Share Your Story Guideline** in your *Personal Outreach Tools Packet* so that you can introduce them to your group.

Leader Check-in Questions:

1. Did you achieve your goal to connect with a person of peace this week? What happened? What did you learn?
2. Is it easy for you to "hear" God in your day to day life?
3. What do you hope to get out of today's session?



Discussion Tips

If you have time during your first discussion, you may want to read **John 15:1-5** with your group. This passage illustrates this week's big idea well! Jamie's second video segment is a powerful demonstration of how listening prayer, identifying peace, and spiritual transformation come together. Help your group see the practical things that Jamie did in this encounter that helped him to share his faith effectively:

- He was in listening prayer and obeyed God.
- He was curious and caring toward the young man he met, not argumentative.
- He identified him as a person of peace before talking to him about the kingdom.
- He depended on God as the source of spiritual transformation.



Wrapping Up

After you finish your final discussion, introduce your group to the **BLESS** acronym and **Share Your Story Guideline** in your *Personal Outreach Tools Packet*. You will be practicing sharing your personal testimony next week, so it is important that your group get a head start!



Challenge

- Make a decision now to **BLESS** someone this week. If you are feeling brave, choose someone new who is not on your list from last week!
- Spend some time this week thinking about your personal story. Answer the questions from the guideline provided, and come ready to practice next week.



Week 4: Practice, Practice, Practice.



Before Pressing Play

This may be the last week of this series, but we see it more as the launching pad of personal outreach for your group. Use your check-in to help your group reflect on their learning and prepare to practice sharing with one another.

Leader Check-in Questions:

1. If you could only take away one thing from this entire experience, what would it be? Why?
2. How has this experience changed the way you think about evangelism?
3. How has this experience changed the way you think about yourself?



Discussion Tips

Your group members may feel awkward practicing at first, but sharing our stories in a safe environment is an important step in gaining confidence to share our stories with people of peace. You may want to remind your group that sharing our story often comes late in the process of personal outreach. **We must always be intentional to do more listening and praying than speaking when we are entering into a personal outreach opportunity. Remember, Jesus is the one who draws people to himself!** When we have this perspective, our personal testimonies can become a tool for personal outreach because we learn to share them when Jesus leads us to through listening prayer.



Wrapping Up

We encourage you to end your discussion in this final week with an opportunity for everyone in the group to share and pray. Our prayer is that your group has learned to lean on one another for support during this four-week process and that this will dynamic will continue as we move on from this series.



Challenge

- Encourage your group members to choose at least one personal outreach practice or skill they have learned from this series to integrate into their spiritual rhythm or disciplines.
- Plan a fellowship night or event and challenge each group member to invite a person of peace.
- Make a commitment to building in accountability (like the Leader Check-in Time) to your Life Group meetings moving forward.

