

Foundations of Faith

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What are these lessons for?

These lessons are intended to lay a firm foundation in the life of a new believer as well as provide a simple, reproducible tool for disciple-makers. The first two lessons are a review of the gospel. Some may discover that they are not a believer. Our hope is that everyone in our church would be equipped to use the simple "Evangelism Module" and their testimony to lead someone to the Lord as our primary evangelism tools. These lessons are the initial follow up, discipleship tool. There will be multiple opportunities throughout this study to share the gospel and even go through the lesson with someone.

Taking someone through a lesson is not really my style. Do I have to use these?

We are encouraging everyone to use these lessons, even if it's not your normal style. We believe there will be tremendous benefits in having something that is simple and reproducible for everyone. We realize that the mark of true discipleship is not only personal growth but also helping generations of others to grow. These lessons can allow generations to pass down spiritual truths in a simple way. We do encourage you, though, to incorporate your own style into these lessons while still using the content of the lessons as your template.

Do I have to use the stories from the website?

These are simply suggestions if you don't have any stories of your own to use. We tried to pick stories that are easy for people to relate to and easy to share, but if you have a better story, feel free to use it!

What do I do if someone I meet with does not want to do these lessons?

If you meet someone who doesn't want to do the lessons, then simply move on to someone who is interested and open. We're aware that not everyone will be responsive to the Lord (Luke 8, story of the seed and the sower) or even willing to put in the work necessary to finish these.

Am I supposed to teach these lessons or let the person just work through it on their own?

The interpersonal relationship you develop with people as you take them through the lessons is absolutely necessary in order for this to work. This is why we're asking everyone to go through it with a trainer; we don't want anybody to do it alone. It could be even more helpful if you're able to go through it with a small group of 3-4 people. Our goal is to obey the Great Commission by teaching others to "observe all that [Jesus] commanded." This will include instruction that leads to more self-discovery from the scriptures.

What if I don't have someone to take through the lessons?

Talk with your Life Group/NDOW/CellGroup/L2 leader and let them know. There may be a need there. We also encourage you to actively share the gospel. As you sow widely, you will invariably come across new or young believers to take through these lessons.

Can these lessons be used with people of different cultures?

Yes, that's our hope. We designed the lessons so that they can be easily used cross-culturally. Stories and illustrations can be different but the principles will translate to any language. We recommend that you learn them now so that you will be prepared wherever God takes you to make disciples.

The lessons seem pretty basic. Does everyone have to go through it? Do I have to do it with someone else?

We are asking everyone to go through these lessons. Successful discipleship is not only knowing the material yourself, but being able to pass it along to someone else. 2 Timothy 2:2 says, "and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." This is the heart behind our desire to have everyone do these lessons. The way for these spiritual truths to take root in your life is to not only hear them but to transfer them to others.

Why is there so much accountability in these lessons?

As children of God, the way we change is by having other people in our lives that will help us move forward in our relationship with Him. Accountability is important because we want you to pass the lessons on to others, and being accountable helps this happen. We all know that we often struggle in reaching our goals, and walking with others helps us to press forward.

How do I take a friend or peer through these lessons without coming across as condescending?

Discipling someone who has been a believer for a while may seem awkward, yet our conviction is that everyone needs someone else to take initiative in their life. Many "mature" believers have no idea how to disciple someone in a simple, reproducible way. We believe these lessons will be a helpful review for many, but a critical tool for everyone who desires to obey the Great Commission. If you are meeting with someone you consider a peer in the Lord, then treat them like a friend. Invite them into a relationship where you can sharpen each other. Ask them if they are okay with you taking the initial lead. This can often be an indicator of whether or not someone is teachable, wanting to grow and willing to be accountable. Lastly, focus your energy on the hungry. Someone hungry for God will want to learn from anyone.