



ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH • OMAHA, NEBRASKA

RECLAIMING EVANGELISM

PARTICIPANT MANUAL

Built from the Reclaiming Evangelism sermon series, the 5 Skills mini-lessons, and Antioch's relational strategy.

PASTOR DWAYNE HAWKINS

Three parts • Twelve sessions • Small-group length

"I am because we are."

TWELVE SESSIONS

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Every session opens with the same three-minute PCIS check-in and closes with one thing to do this week.

HOW TO USE THIS STUDY

Three pieces, twelve sessions, each designed to fit inside a small-group meeting.

- **Lessons 1A and 1B** cover who we're reaching and how we work, about 15 minutes each.
- **Part 1, Overcoming the Barriers** is Lessons 2–6, about 20–25 minutes each.
- **Part 2, Building the Skills** is Labs 1–5, about 20 minutes each.

Start with Lessons 1A and 1B. After that, we recommend Part 1 and then Part 2, since the sermons are fresh and most of us heard the mini-lessons in worship. If you missed the mini-lessons, do Part 2 first.

THE PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MINUTES · PAIRS OR TRIADS

Every session opens the same way.

Prayer. Who did you pray for this week?

Care. How did you show care through presence, listening, or empathy?

Invite. Did you invite anyone to anything?

Share. Did a story, a conversation, or the gospel come up?

Share one. "Not yet" is a real answer. Include last week's step if it fits. Prayer, Care, Invite, and Share are postures, not a script, so no one needs an answer for all four.

YOUR ONE

Your one is the one person you've chosen to pray for, care for, and share with. If no one comes to mind, pray for God to bring someone to mind, and practice care with the people you already meet.

If someone says yes to a next step, stay with them, since the relationship doesn't disappear after a next step, and use the follow-up tool in Lesson 1B.

If time runs short, protect the check-in and "This week." From Lesson 2 on, every session opens with room to write your check-in down, so the group can see your one move week to week.

On your own. Answer in writing, and find a partner who texts you and asks what happened. Each lab has an "On your own" option.

After Lab 5, hold one final check-in on how the invitation went.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

THE WORDS WE USE

A few terms come up in every session. Here is what each one means at Antioch.

PCIS. Prayer, Care, Invite, Share — the four postures this whole study runs on, and the shape of the check-in that opens every session.

Your one. The single person you have chosen to pray for, care for, and share with across these twelve sessions.

The five skills. Prayer, Care, Turning the Conversation, Testimony, and Invite. PCIS is what you do; the five skills are how. Part 2 practices each one, and the card at the back is your quick reference.

Engage. Staying in the relationship after a next step. The relationship does not end when someone says yes to something.

God's Story. A self-paced Bible app with no group and no schedule — the lowest-pressure thing you can hand someone.

Fast and Fellowship. Antioch's monthly relational gathering, and usually the easiest first invitation.

The follow-up tool. The NFC bracelet or keychain you tap after a real conversation. It opens a personal page from Pastor Hawkins with next steps.

1A

LESSON ONE, FIRST HALF

WHO WE'RE REACHING

About 15 min. PCIS check-in (3) → Who we're trying to reach (8) → Apply (4). You leave tonight having chosen your one.

PCIS CHECK-IN

Where are you right now in Prayer, Care, Invite, and Share?

WHO WE'RE TRYING TO REACH

Antioch is trying to reach people who need a genuine, relational, low-pressure way back into faith and community. In our area, only 21% say they attend religious services regularly and 45% say they never do (Church Answers/Esri), yet 51.4% are formally affiliated with a congregation (ARDA). So we're reaching both the truly unchurched and those who claim a church home on paper but don't attend.

We're not ignoring anyone else. But because of our relational approach to ministry, there is a kind of person we're most suited to reach. We picture them as a composite, "Reachable Rhonda" and "Searching Seth."

Their connection. They're already connected to a member, as a coworker, family member, or neighbor. They're not a cold prospect.

Their posture. They're curious but wary of "churchy" pressure or performance. They may have drifted from a church background, have none, or carry a negative or shallow past experience with institutional religion.

Their life right now. They're carrying something, such as transition, isolation, recovery, grief, or burnout. It's not necessarily a crisis, but they're seeking stability and belonging.

What draws them. Authenticity over formality, which is often the actual reason they'd choose Antioch. They're also drawn to one consistent person, not a swarm, to being known, not managed, and to a low-stakes way in at their own pace.

What repels them. Feeling like the target of a campaign, or programs that feel like more to keep up with.

The person we can actually reach is already in a member's life, carrying something they haven't named out loud, and looking for a way in that doesn't ask them to perform.

DISCUSS Who in your life fits that profile?

NOTE

This is who we're most suited to reach, not a filter. Your one doesn't have to match every detail. The test is that they're already connected to you.

APPLY

Choose your one and write their name. Begin praying for them by name this week. Don't invite yet, because care and trust come first.

MY ONE

WHAT I KNOW THEY'RE CARRYING

1B

LESSON ONE, SECOND HALF

HOW WE WORK

About 15 min. PCIS check-in (3) → The engine (4) → The venue (5) → The non-negotiables (3).

PCIS CHECK-IN

Start where you left off. Did you pray for your one by name this week?

OUR PERSONAL INITIATIVE: THE ENGINE

This is the work of one member inside one relationship, week to week.

- **Prayer.** Carrying someone before God, before any outward move.
- **Care.** Real trust over time, through presence, listening, and empathy.
- **Invite.** Something low-stakes and shared.
- **Share.** Telling them your own story and the gospel, plainly.

These are postures, not a fixed script. Prayer and Care come first and undergird everything. Invite and Share are situational moves that follow in whichever order the relationship calls for. Sometimes an invitation opens the door to a gospel conversation, and sometimes a testimony or a gospel word is what makes someone willing to accept an invitation. It isn't a stage that ends at the invite. Stay present through Engage and beyond.

DISCUSS Which of the four do you already do without thinking, and which will take the most effort?

OUR CORPORATE INITIATIVE: THE VENUE

The personal initiative only works if there is somewhere to invite someone into. That is what the whole church puts on the calendar.

- **Any week, at their own pace.** God's Story, a self-paced Bible app with no group and no schedule, and our website, social media, and YouTube for a no-pressure first look.
- **Monthly, relational.** Fast and Fellowship.

- **Quarterly and church-wide.** Antioch also holds quarterly outreach gatherings out in the community and church-wide events throughout the year. These are places to invite your one, so watch for dates and details from the church.

THE FOLLOW-UP TOOL

After a real conversation or moment of care, tap your NFC bracelet or keychain. It opens a personal page from Pastor Hawkins with next steps: explore Scripture, request prayer, ask a question, decide to follow Jesus, learn more about Antioch, or connect in person. It runs Relationship → Digital → Relationship.

The calendar gives your relationship somewhere to go, but it does not reach anyone by itself.

DISCUSS Which of these would fit your one best, and why?

THE FOUR NON-NEGOTIABLES

EVERYTHING ABOVE RESTS ON THESE

1. The person is already connected to someone at Antioch.
2. The first move is relational, not programmatic.
3. Care and trust are earned before any ask or invitation.
4. The relationship does not disappear after a next step.

DISCUSS Which of the four will be hardest to keep once you're eager for someone to come?

HOW THIS STUDY WORKS

PCIS is what you do, and the five skills are how. Part 1 takes on the barriers that stop us, and Part 2 builds the skills: Lab 1 is Prayer, Lab 2 is Care, Labs 3 and 4 are Share, and Lab 5 is Invite. Keep your 5 Skills handout handy.

APPLY

Keep praying for your one by name. Note which venue above might fit them, and don't invite yet, because care and trust come first.

THE VENUE THAT MIGHT FIT THEM

THE NON-NEGOTIABLE I WILL FIND HARDEST

PART ONE

LESSONS 2-6

OVERCOMING THE BARRIERS

About 20-25 min each. Every lesson runs: PCIS check-in (3) → Opening (2) → Text (3) → Movements (9) → Apply (4).

RECLAIMING OPPORTUNITY

BARRIER · FEAR

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

OPENING

Nearly one-third of Antioch respondents named fear of rejection as their biggest obstacle. Nationally, 44% of Christians say they’d avoid a spiritual conversation if they knew a friend would reject them (Barna). In the sermon, Pastor told this story: he froze at a coffee shop, stayed silent, and felt the guilt, though God later gave him another chance.

DISCUSS When have you had an opening to talk about Jesus and stayed quiet?

TEXT

Since the first Easter, fear has kept people from sharing. Read Mark 16:1-8. What do the women do in verse 8?

NOTE

Mark 16 doesn’t say how the women’s fear was resolved. The second movement draws a pattern from other scenes.

MOVEMENTS

I. REMEMBER THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MESSAGE.

It is “of first importance,” and it was what the disciples needed to hear, including Peter, who denied Jesus three times. *“When we understand what’s at stake, we are better able to overcome our fear and share the only message that prepares people for eternity.”*

DISCUSS Who overcame their fear so you could hear this news, and what is at stake for the people you haven’t told?

II. HAVE AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS.

The passage ends with the women silent and afraid. In other scenes, Jesus shows up and speaks to fear: walking on the water, Jairus’s daughter, the Transfiguration, and the locked room. *Optional lookup: Matt 14:22–33; Mark 5:21–43; Matt 17:1–8; John 20:19–21.*

DISCUSS Which of those scenes speaks to your fear?

APPLY

Go to God in prayer. Confess your fears, ask for courage, prepare for gospel conversations in advance, and leave the results to God. Write down your fear and a one-line prayer for courage.

TOOLBOX *Prayer. Lab 1, Praying for Others, is where this week’s prayer becomes a practice.*

RECLAIMING URGENCY

BARRIER · INACTION

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

OPENING

Lifeway found that 55% of churchgoers haven’t shared their faith in six months, though about the same number pray weekly for the opportunity. At Antioch, 58% haven’t shared in three months, yet 58% are praying for at least one unsaved or unchurched person by name. Urgency bridges that gap.

DISCUSS Where is the gap between who you have prayed for and what you have actually done?

TEXT

This scene sits between two evangelistic moments: the woman at the well and the Samaritans who believe. Jesus’s lesson is for the disciples. Read John 4:31–38, and notice verses 36–38: who sows, and who reaps?

MOVEMENTS

I. CHANGE THE SOURCE OF OUR SUSTENANCE.

The disciples’ “Rabbi, eat” was a fair concern, but Jesus names another food: doing the Father’s will and accomplishing His work. *“When we develop a spiritual thirst for the things of God, our urgent response will satisfy that thirst.”*

DISCUSS What fair “Rabbi, eat” concerns keep you from the Father’s work?

II. VIEW WHAT WE SEE THROUGH THE RIGHT LENS.

“Lift up your eyes.” Jesus means spiritual eyes. When we care for someone’s struggle, we listen for the need underneath it, such as forgiveness, grace, mercy, and the good news.

DISCUSS Think of someone who is struggling. What spiritual need might sit under the physical one?

APPLY

What gospel conversation have you been putting off? Who has the Lord placed on your heart that you haven’t acted on? We partner with all who have gone before us and sown the gospel, but now the baton has been passed to us. This week, listen for the spiritual need underneath one person’s struggle, and write down what you heard. If the door opens into a gospel conversation, walk through it. The fields are white for harvest.

NOTE

Don’t wait for perfect words. Noticing is the assignment this week. Lab 2 builds the listening and Lab 3 builds the turn.

TOOLBOX *Care and Turning the Conversation. Labs 2 and 3 build the listening this asks for.*

RECLAIMING SIMPLICITY

BARRIER · NOT KNOWING WHAT TO SAY

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

OPENING

Multiple Antioch respondents said not knowing what to say holds them back. Nationally, “lack of knowledge of faith issues” is a top-three obstacle for Scripture-engaged Christians at 15%, and 31% among Gen Z (Baptist Press).

DISCUSS If someone asked you tonight what the gospel is, what would you say?

TEXT

Paul wrote this chapter to correct a belief that the resurrection wasn’t real, and in doing so he shows how simple the message is. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1–8.

MOVEMENTS

I. A TIMELY REMINDER.

What we heard, what we received, and what we’re holding on to. “Keep holding on to the same message that you heard... that you received... that is not in vain.”

DISCUSS Who first preached the gospel to you? How old were you, and where were you?

II. A TIMELESS MESSAGE.

It has four parts. It is simple enough that Pastor’s father, a deacon, could explain it to a choir stand of kids in a 5–10 minute lesson.

THE FOUR PARTS

The truth. Christ died for our sins.

The proof. He was buried.

The truth. He rose on the third day.

The proof. He was seen.

DISCUSS Say the four parts in your own words in 30 seconds.

APPLY

This week, tell someone: “The Bible says Christ died for our sins... he was buried... he rose again the third day... he was seen.” If they believe that message and receive Jesus into their heart, they shall be saved. *“Whatever you do, keep it simple.”*

TOOLBOX *Sharing the gospel. Lab 4 practices saying it in your own words.*

RECLAIMING SUFFICIENCY

BARRIER · FEELING UNQUALIFIED

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

OPENING

Several Antioch answers spoke to feeling inadequate. Nationally, “not feeling qualified or equipped” is the single largest barrier to faith-sharing at 37% (Baptist News Global), and “feeling inadequate in social interactions” ranks first among Scripture-engaged Christians at 19% (Baptist Press).

DISCUSS What do you think you would need before you would feel qualified to share your faith?

TEXT

Paul is defending his apostleship. In 2:15–16, he calls us “the aroma of Christ” and then asks, “Who is sufficient for these things?” Read 2 Corinthians 3:4–6, where he answers.

NOTE

The four means in the second movement are Pastor’s application of the text, not a list from verses 4–6.

MOVEMENTS

I. THE REALITY OF CONFIDENCE.

It is possible, but it isn’t internal. It comes through Christ, and it is our standing before God, not something we give to God. Confidence based on self leads to pride, frustration, or blame. “*Biblical confidence isn’t cockiness; it’s dependence on Christ.*” Pastor felt inadequate for ministry because he

measured his readiness by internal standards.

DISCUSS When you judge whether you're ready to share your faith, what are you measuring yourself by?

II. THE REALITY OF SUFFICIENCY.

It comes from God, and its aim is to make us ministers of the new covenant through proclaiming the gospel. God declares it, and we still grow in it, by studying the Word, yielding to the Spirit, trusting His grace, and believing the Son.

DISCUSS Which of those four means do you most need to lean into this month?

APPLY

Answer in writing, then share one answer.

Who are you trusting to make you sufficient, self or God?

Do you believe His Word, Spirit, grace, and Son are able to make you competent?

Are you willing to draw closer through studying, yielding, trusting, and believing?

TOOLBOX *Prayer. Lab 1 is where dependence gets practical.*

RECLAIMING COMMUNITY

BARRIER · RESISTANCE IN THE PEOPLE WE'RE SENT TO

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. "Not yet" is a real answer.

WHO I'VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

OPENING

Our survey found that 58% of us haven't shared in three months, though 58% are praying for a name. The first four barriers were in us. Today's barrier is in the people we're sent to.

DISCUSS Who have you quietly written off as too resistant to hear it?

TEXT

Jesus heals a man in the region of the Gerasenes. The townspeople see it, are afraid, and beg Jesus to leave. They are the same people the healed man is sent to. What do you do when you're sent to tell people about Jesus and they don't want Him anywhere near them? Read Mark 5:18–20.

MOVEMENTS

I. A REQUEST, AND A RESPONSE.

The man wants to go with Jesus, which is reasonable, since it shows gratitude and loyalty. But Jesus, who granted the spirits' request twice and the people's request, tells him no.

DISCUSS Can Jesus tell you no? Are you mature enough to let Him?

II. A REDIRECT, AND A RESOLVE.

“Go home” means to where they knew you at your worst, where they were scared, where they begged Jesus to leave, and to the place you wanted to leave. “Tell them,” because they need to see it and hear it for themselves. “Jesus sends us back to reclaim community, not leave it without a witness.” He went and began to proclaim, and the text doesn’t say he stopped.

DISCUSS What is your “home,” the place you wanted to leave?

APPLY

What community do you need to reclaim? Where is Jesus sending you? What family member needs to see that God still delivers? What friend from back in the day needs to hear what the Lord has done? What drinking buddy needs to see you living in sobriety? What ride-or-die club-hopping friend needs to see you singing praises? Pick one specific person or place, and write down what you would tell them about how much the Lord has done for you and how He has had mercy on you. If the moment comes this week, say it. Lab 4 builds the telling.

TOOLBOX Testimony and Invite. Labs 4 and 5 build the telling and the asking.

PART TWO

LABS 1-5

BUILDING THE SKILLS

About 20 min each. Every lab runs: PCIS check-in (3) → Why and When (3) → How (3) → Practice (8) → This week (2) → Close (1).

PRAYING FOR OTHERS

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

WHY AND WHEN

“No one comes to God unless the Father draws them first.” Prayer is what makes room for that. It seeks God on their behalf and prepares their heart and ours before we ever speak. Use it any time someone comes to mind, before a conversation happens or long after one already has.

HOW

- **Specific.** Pray for them by name.
- **Compassionate.** Ask God to burden your heart for them.
- **Expectant.** Ask God to prepare their hearts for your witness.

PRACTICE

Write a prayer for your one using all three marks. Include something real: their heart, their circumstances, or their openness to God. Then pair up and pray it aloud for each other’s one, sharing only what you’re comfortable sharing.

THIS WEEK

Pray for your one, by name, every day.

CLOSE

“The Harvest Is Plentiful.”

Half the work happens before you ever open your mouth.

On your own. Write the prayer out and pray it daily.

CARING FOR OTHERS

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

WHY AND WHEN

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” Quality care isn’t automatic. It’s a skill that can be learned, and it’s often the very thing God uses to reach someone’s life. Use it whenever you engage a person. Quality Christian care should be part of our everyday lives, regardless of what’s happening.

HOW

- **Compassion.** Being moved to action to lessen the suffering of others.
- **Presence.** Being fully aware of the moment, free from distractions.
- **Listening.** Giving full attention. Struggles, fears, and joys are the material spiritual conversation is made of.
- **Empathy.** Experiencing their feelings with them, not just understanding intellectually.
- **Discernment.** Responding to their true need. Often the most natural bridge is simply, “Can I tell you what got me through something like that?”

PRACTICE

In pairs, one person shares a small real struggle for one minute. The listener practices Presence (no phone, no fixing), then says back what they heard and what they think the person feels. Discuss what the person most needed, then swap.

THIS WEEK

Practice quality care. God has called us to care, not cure. Keep your focus on coming alongside them, not trying to fix them.

CLOSE

“Care Begins at the Center.”

Care begins at the center and deepens outward, one circle at a time.

On your own. Recall a recent conversation. Which of the five did you practice, and which was missing?

TURNING THE CONVERSATION

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

WHY AND WHEN

Philip heard the man reading Isaiah and asked, “Do you *understand what you’re reading?*” There are often spiritual issues underneath the surface of a conversation. Knowing how to reach them opens the door to a spiritual conversation. Use it the moment an ordinary conversation offers an opening: a struggle, a question, or an honest moment that could turn spiritual.

HOW

- **Notice.** Listen for a struggle, a question, or an honest moment.
- **Acknowledge.** Name what you’re hearing, out loud, with the same empathy Care taught you: “That sounds really hard.”
- **Ask.** “Can I tell you what helped me with something like that?” Haven’t lived it yourself? “I wonder if you might consider...” works too.
- **Follow.** Whatever they say, follow their lead. The door stays open either way.

PRACTICE

Work in triads. The speaker names a real or realistic struggle or question. The responder practices Notice, Acknowledge, and Ask. The speaker answers yes or no, and the responder Follows either way. The observer names which step was missed. Rotate roles.

THIS WEEK

Notice one opening this week and use your bridge. Not your whole testimony, just the door. Save the story for next week.

CLOSE

“Whatever Happens Next Feeds Forward.”

A testimony, yours or someone else’s, or the gospel itself.

On your own. Write your bridge in your own words, both versions. List two openings you’ve noticed recently.

SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

WHY AND WHEN

“Always be ready to give an answer for the hope that is in you.” Gospel conversations can happen at any time, so being ready in advance is essential to effective evangelism. Use it once the door’s open and they’re asking you to go deeper, whether that calls for a story or a straightforward answer.

HOW

There are two shapes.

What God is doing now. What Was Happening (the situation you were in), How God Impacted It (what changed through your relationship with Him), and How Your Faith Community Helped (if applicable).

Your salvation story. The same Before/How/After shape, built entirely around your salvation: what your life was like before Christ, how you came to trust Him, and what’s changed since.

PRACTICE

Write three sentences in the first shape, or the opening line of each part of your salvation story (4 min). Then tell it to a partner in about a minute (2 min each).

THIS WEEK

Take fifteen minutes with pen and paper. Write your salvation story and how you'll use Scripture to present the gospel.

CLOSE

"Just the Truth."

You're not trying to win an argument. You're just telling the truth about what happened.

On your own. Same. Read it aloud once.

INVITING OTHERS

PCIS CHECK-IN · 3 MIN · PAIRS OR TRIADS

☐ Prayer ☐ Care ☐ Invite ☐ Share

Name the person, then share one. “Not yet” is a real answer.

WHO I’VE BEEN PRAYING FOR AND CARING FOR

WHAT HAPPENED THIS WEEK · PRAYER, CARE, INVITE, OR SHARE

WHY AND WHEN

Philip didn’t argue with Nathanael’s skepticism. He just said, “*Come and see.*” Sometimes the best way to witness is to invite someone to experience God’s love in community: worship, Bible study, a men’s or women’s gathering, a fellowship meal, a service project, a concert, or a kids’ event. Any church-sponsored activity is a low-pressure step that often yields big results. Use it any time it fits naturally, before a spiritual conversation, after one, or entirely on its own.

HOW

- **Ask.** “Do you go to church anywhere regularly?” A respectful opener, not presumptuous.
- **Explain.** Share why your church matters to you, or how it might meet a need you’ve noticed. Your testimony fits here.
- **Invite.** Be specific, such as “This Sunday at 9:00” or “Our men’s breakfast Saturday — want to come with me?” Pick whichever event fits them, and offer to go together.
- **Respond.** Whatever they say, respond with grace. Success is obedience, not outcome.

PRACTICE

In pairs, practice Ask and Explain, then give a specific Invite for a real upcoming Antioch event. Your partner answers yes, no, or maybe, and you Respond with grace. Swap.

THIS WEEK

Invite your one person to any church event that fits them, specifically, by day and time, and offer to go with them. Whatever they say, the door stays open.

MY INVITATION · EVENT, DAY, AND TIME

CLOSE

“The Invite’s Always Open.”

Your job is to invite well, not to secure a yes. Whatever happens next, you were faithful.

On your own. Write the invitation with day, time, and event. List which events fit your one.

After Lab 5, hold one final check-in on how the invitation went.

QUICK REFERENCE · TEAR OUT AND KEEP

THE FIVE SKILLS

01 · PRAYER

Specific · by name

Compassionate · burden my heart

Expectant · prepare their heart

02 · CARE

Compassion · Presence · Listening · Empathy
· Discernment

“Can I tell you what got me through something like that?”

03 · TURNING THE CONVERSATION

Notice → Acknowledge → Ask → Follow

The door stays open either way.

04 · TESTIMONY

Before → How → After

What was happening, how God impacted it, how the community helped.

05 · INVITE

Ask → Explain → Invite → Respond

Success is obedience, not outcome.

THE GOSPEL, IN FOUR PARTS

Christ died for our sins. He was buried. He rose on the third day. He was seen.

THE FOUR NON-NEGOTIABLES

Already connected to someone at Antioch · the first move is relational, not programmatic · care and trust before any ask · the relationship does not disappear after a next step.

“I am because we are.”