IGNITION: PRE-EVENT



IGNITE: A resource for getting to know Jesus

IGNITE: A RESOURCE FOR GETTING TO KNOW JESUS



CONTENTS

Week 1	Pages 3-6
Week 2	Pages 7-10
Week 3	Pages 11-14

IGNITION EVANGELISM LEADER TRAINING



Timing: 45mins-1hr

1 7 1

Aims & Objectives:

- That participants would be thankful for God's saving work in their own life.
- That participants would delight in how God saves:
 - God is the one who saves, through the gospel, by his Spirit, for God's glory.
 - God calls us to play an important part in his mission by sharing the gospel with our friends and family.
- **That participants spend time praying** for non-Christian friends who they desire to see come to Christ.

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
Pray to start	Always spend time praying at the start!	
Imagine the line below is a timeline of your life. Add in the points that have been the most significant in your Christian journey. For example, you could add when a friend invited you to youth group, a time when you really trusted God, a time you ran away from God or anything!	Imagine the line below is a timeline of your life. Add in the points that have been the most significant in your Christian journey. For example, you could add when a friend invited you to youth group, a time when you really trusted God, a time you ran away from God or anything!	10 mins
Born Now		

Training S	equence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
There will be differences between o	ur stories, but also some pretty important	What we hope comes out of the discussion:	15 mins
Share your timeline with the persor	next to you.	a. Who saves? God is the one who saves – we don't save ourselves, but rather "God chose you as firstfruits to be saved"	
Then read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14	•		
66 But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved		b. How? Through the Spirit, through belief in the truth and through the gospel.	
through the sanctifying work o	hose you as firstfruits to be saved of the Spirit and through belief in the bugh our gospel, that you might share hrist.	c. What? When we accept the Gospel we share in Christ's glory. See also Jn 17:22 and Rom 8:17.	
From this passage, what are some of Fill in the table below.	of the similarities in all our stories?	d. This is a little tricker, but by using the phrase "our gospel" Paul refers to his preaching of the good news to the Thessalonians. It's not often we hear testimonies like Paul's, or testimonies of Christians who have heard God's voice or	
From this passage, encourage parti	cpants to answer the following questions:	had a vision. Most of the time, people hear the Gospel from Christians who share the good news.Perhaps you want to	
a. Who Saves?	b. How does He save?	go to another passage in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-4, or even Acts 17:1-4. These passages show how Pauls' preaching of the gospel played an important role in the Thessalonians'	
c. What is the Result?	d. What part did Paul in the salvation of the Thessalonians?	conversion.	

* * * N/2 # * * * * · //0* · · · //0*

Tra	aining Sequ	ience:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
Remember your timeline on the last page? How does it make you feel to think that God could use you to help someone in their journey as a Christian (maybe even by telling them about Jesus for the first time!)? Tick the ones that apply to you. Awesome! Let's go! Absolutely terrified. Exciting, but I don't really think I'm a good enough Christian to do that. Nervous, but I'd like to have a go. I'm already the KING of impacting lives. I love the thought of that, but I don't really think I have gifts like other people do. It's not really that important to me. Other:		eone in their journey as a Christian us for the first time!)? n a good enough Christian to do that. lives. n't really think	The aim here is to encourage the group to think about the fact that God could use them to impact someone else's Christian 'timeline' (as above). It's possible that not all participants will be excited by this. Try and spend time to see how they react to this thought, and what some obstacles might be. There are some reactions here that aren't necessarily right (i.e them feeling like the they're the best or feeling that God can't use them both have the wrong focus!) but the aim here is to get them to discuss the various options and lead them towards a biblical view.	
a. Is there anything good abo	 Split up into groups and choose one of the two people below. a. Is there anything good about the way Peter and Quinn think about evangelism? b. What is missing from their thoughts and actions? 		a. Help participants see that it's good that both Peter and Quinn want their friends to be saved, and it's great that they try.	10 mins
Prayerless Pete Peter is keen to see his saved, and tries to sk gospel with them, but he pray much about it. Whe seem to go well, Peter f the greatest Christian o but when things don't go well, he is shattered.	s friends hare the e doesn't en things feels like on earth, seem to	Quitting Quinn Whenever someone mentions mission, or evangelism, Quinn just feels guilty and responsible for failing at it in the past. She doesn't feel very good at it, and none of her friends are Christian yet. She just feels like giving up.	 b. But also make sure you point out that they are both focused on themselves and that ultimately – both of these people both have the same problem: Pride. 	

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
 Fill in the blanks below: c. Prayerless Peter thinks that saving his friends is all up to: d. Quitting Quinn thinks that saving her friends is all up to: e. Read 2 Thess 2:13-14 again. Who is responsible for salvation? f. Knowing who is ultimately responsible for the salvation of your friends and family, have another look at your answer to Question 3. Do you feel differently about being used by God to impact someone else's Christian journey? 	 They both think that the salvation of others is up to them: c. one depends on themselves (rather than on God) and d. the other thinks that it is all too hard and despairs of seeing anyone saved. e. Point participants to 2 Thess 2:13-14 and help them see that it is GOD who calls people to be saved. Encourage the group to recognise that God is always in control, and it is He who brings people into His family. Trusting in Him helps us avoid the errors of either thinking that peoples' salvation depends on our persuasive words, or thinking that we will never see any of our friends and family saved. f. Encourage participants to have another look at their answer to Question 3. Knowing that it is God who is ultimately responsible for the salvation of people may change their answer, but remember to tell them that it is okay if it doesn't - this course is designed to help participants gain the skills to feel more confident to share the gospel with friends and family. 	
 Think of a friend that you would like to share the gospel with sometime in the next few weeks. Use what you've learnt this session to spend some time praying for them. You could pray that: God would show you how much he loves your friend and ask that God would help you to love them like he does. God would help you to trust that He has the power to save them. God would give you to make an impact on their journey. God would give you wisdom to know how to speak to them. God would give you courage to share with them. God would save them into his family! 	 Perhaps you want to run this in smaller groups (pairs) if you are worried of running out of time. Ask the group to write down the names of people they want to pray for. Encourage them to pray regularly for them throughout the week. The big aim here is to reiterate that we share the gospel out of a love for people – because we have seen what God has done in our lives, and we believe He is able to do the same for other people. You want to be fostering an attitude of trust in God, not an attitude of self-dependance. Remember, if someone says no to coming to an Ignition event – that doesn't mean they'll never be saved! 	10 mins

* * * N/2 # * * * * · //0* · · · //0*

IGNITION EVANGELISM LEADER TRAINING



Timing: 45mins-1hr

+ * 1

Aims & Objectives:

- That participants read and understand the Ignition tract.
- That participants grow in confidence in the gospel that saves: Participants will be able to articulate a summary of the gospel in their own words.
- **That participants spend time praying** for non-Christian friends who they desire to see come to Christ through Ignition.

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
Pray to start	Always spend time praying at the start!	
The word 'gospel' is generally used to describe the good news about Jesus. How would you describe the gospel?	Allow about 5 mins for this activity. Some will finish faster, but it's nice to give others in the group enough time to think and write a solid answer.	5 mins

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
 As a part of Ignition, a booklet has been produced containing the gospel of John that you can give to your friends. At the start there's a short overview (tract) of the gospel. Have a read of the gospel overview together. a. What is the dominant theme used in the tract? b. Are there similarities between your answer to Question 1 above and what you've just read in the Ignition tract? How might you alter the way you would describe the gospel to a friend in light of what you've read in this tract? c. The word 'gospel' means 'good news.' Can you see how the gospel has been good news in your own life? Share your story with the group 	 a. Christians seem to talk about it all the time, but when push comes to shove, it can be pretty tricky to define the gospel. Even the Bible itself uses lots of different ways to explain the great news about Jesus. Perhaps you first thought of one of the four gospels from the New Testament? Perhaps you thought of a specific Bible verse, like John 3:16? Perhaps you thought of a particular gospel explanation/summary that you have memorised at youth group? All of these could be considered the gospel, because all of them speak the great news about Jesus Christ! You might like to do this as a big group, or have them split up individually. b. This series of questions is designed to spark discussion out of the tract and get people thinking about how they might share the gospel with their friends. c. There is room to move this towards a more open testimony time, where participants share their thankfulness for God's grace in Jesus. If you're running short on time, you can cut out the sharing time. 	10 mins

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
In pairs, take turns telling each other the gospel. What bits are necessary? What bits would you leave out? See if you can do this in under 1 minute!	 We learn content best when we have to process it ourselves, and then teach it to others. And if Christians aren't sharing the gospel with other Christians, how do we expect them to share it with non-Christians? This exercise should help the group to develop confidence in sharing the gospel. This is an important part for you as a leader – be listening in to peoples' understanding of the gospel. It might be worthwhile having prepared a one minute gospel presentation that you as leader can share with the group at the end of this activity. We can at times naturally revert to a works-based view of salvation – it's hard to accept that salvation is purely a gift from God! That's because it hurts our sense of self-belief. We are never 'grace-graduates'. This is the time to remind the group that we are sharing good news, not a self-help project. 	10 mins
 Now that you've practised sharing the gospel, what's your reaction when you think about God using you to have an impact on others' lives by sharing the news of Jesus with them? I'm ready! Absolutely terrified. I'm excited, but I'm scared I'll forget an important detail. I feel like I need more practise. It's not really that important to me. Other: 	This course is designed to help participants feel more confi- dent sharing the gospel with their friends, so it's a good idea to take the temperature of the room, and see if they are getting more confident in their ability to speak and share. Again it's worth reminding them that it's okay to be nerv- ous, because it is God who does the work of salvation, and that he uses our meagre efforts to bring people to saving faith in Christ.	5 mins

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
Last week you prayed about your friends. Does anyone have any stories to share about how God answered our prayers? Pray again for courage to share the gospel with your friends.	It might be good to have on hand the list of people that participants wanted to pray for at the end of session one, and to pray for them again this session. Encourage people to share stories of answered prayer – particularly ways that God has opened up doors for them to share the gospel.	10 mins
Prayer ideas: - Thank God that he is the one who saves people. - Ask God to give you confidence to invite your friend to Ignition. - Ask God to help you be gracious as you speak of his grace to your friends. - Ask God to save them into his family!	After the stories have been shared, remember to pray. Continue to pray specifically for friends being invited. Encourage people to share any conversations they may have had with the friends they prayed for in the last session.	

IGNITION EVANGELISM LEADER TRAINING



Timing: 45mins-1hr

+ * 1

Aims & Objectives:

- That participants examine their motivations in sharing the gospel.
- That they will think about how to invite their friends to Ignition and spent some time role playing this.
- That participants spend time praying for non-Christian friends who they desire to see come to Christ through Ignition.

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
Pray to start	Always spend time praying at the start!	
Why would a Christian share the good news about Jesus with their friends? List any reasons you can think of!	Ask the group to write these down – reminding them that there are no right or wrong answers here. The aim is to encourage the group to think about different motives for sharing the gospel and to understand that their friends are not projects that need to be completed but people that need to be loved!	3 mins

Training Sequence:		Leaders Notes:	Timing:
 Read the following verses from the Bible and write down the reason given a sharing the gospel: 1 Thessalonians 2:4: On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. 1 Timothy 2:3-4: This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 2 Peter 3:9: The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance . John 14:6: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me". 1 Thessalonians 2:4: On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. 	Reason for Sharing the gospel Reason for Sharing the gospel J	Don't rush through this. Help participants to see what the Bible says about why we share the gospel. As they fill in the table, encourage them to reflect out loud on the differences between the reasons they listed in Question 1 and what they read in the Scriptures. Encourage the group to think about how their motivation for evangelism will impact their actions and perhaps even their feelings, fears, doubts etc. At this point in the session, spend a couple of minutes praying about some of the things the group is feeling towards this topic. Pray specifically about any fears the group may have in regards to sharing the gospel.	10-15 mins

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
Last week we practised telling each other the gospel. In pairs, take turns telling each other the gospel, pretending that the person you are speaking with has never heard of Jesus before.	Don't rush through this. Help participants to see what the This is a repeat of the activity from last week. It should help reinforce what they learned last week. Again, be paying attention to how people are explaining the gospel and provide loving feedback to help participants grow in the confidence to explain it.	5 mins
Has anyone already invited someone to Ignition? How did it go?	Encourage participants to share freely about their experi- ences of inviting friends to Ignition. Reassure those who have not yet invited someone and seem worried about it that we are about to role play how they might approach it.	5 mins
In pairs, take turns role playing an invitation to an Ignition event. The person pretending to be the friend can choose to respond any way they like (keen, unsure, confused, negative).	Encourage participants to practice several different ways of inviting friends to Ignition, and help give feedback on what was good and what could have been clearer. Remind people that if a friend says no to their invitation, it doesn't mean that it's the end of the journey. Whilst we pray that Ignition would be a great chance for thier friends to hear the gospel, there are other ways in which this can happen.	10 mins

* * * N & * * * * * * · //0* · · · ·

Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
 Divide into small groups and discuss how you might follow up each of the people in the following case studies: Case Study 1: A friend whom you have been praying for and sharing your faith with decides to come along to Ignition. At the event you are overjoyed when they decide to put their faith in Jesus. Case Study 2: A good friend comes along to Ignition with you. They aren't ready to put their faith in Jesus at the event, but are challenged by the talk and would like to know more. Case Study 3: You invite a friend from school to Ignition. They enjoy the event and get on well with your friends from youth group. But when you speak to them afterwards they say they are not really interested in Christianity and don't see how it is relevant to their life at the moment. Remember: We have a big God who loves to save people! 	Divide up into smaller groups to discuss the case studies. After each case study have a short debrief (as a larger group) before moving unto the next one. If you are running low on time, allow each group to choose one of the three case studies and spend some time discuss- ing that case study within their group (alternatively you may like to assign a case study to each group). Have a short debrief (as a larger group) at the end. Encourage the group to remember that it is God who is ultimately responsible for the salvation of our friends, and that he may have used this experience as a significant moment in their Christian journey.	15 mins
Spend some time praying together to wrap up.	Spend some time praying together to wrap up.	5 mins

* * * N & * * * * * · //0* · · · ·