

IGNITION: PRE-EVENT
LEADERS GUIDE



IGNITE: A resource for getting to know Jesus



IGNITE: A RESOURCE FOR GETTING TO KNOW JESUS

LEADERS GUIDE

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IGNITION EVANGELISM LEADER TRAINING

WEEK 1


Timing: 45mins-1hr

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!	
<p> 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!</p> <p></p>	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



Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:				
<p> There will be differences between our stories, but also some pretty important similarities.</p> <p>Share your timeline with the person next to you.</p> <p>Then read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14:</p> <p>“<i>But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.</i>”</p> <p>From this passage, what are some of the similarities in all our stories? Fill in the table below.</p> <p>From this passage, encourage participants to answer the following questions:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="208 901 1055 1096"> <tr> <td data-bbox="208 901 631 997">a. Who Saves?</td> <td data-bbox="631 901 1055 997">b. How does He save?</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="208 997 631 1096">c. What is the Result?</td> <td data-bbox="631 997 1055 1096">d. What part did Paul in the salvation of the Thessalonians?</td> </tr> </table>	a. Who Saves?	b. How does He save?	c. What is the Result?	d. What part did Paul in the salvation of the Thessalonians?	<p>What we hope comes out of the discussion:</p> <p>a. Who saves? God is the one who saves – we don’t save ourselves, but rather “God chose you as firstfruits to be saved”</p> <p>b. How? Through the Spirit, through belief in the truth and through the gospel.</p> <p>c. What? When we accept the Gospel we share in Christ’s glory. See also Jn 17:22 and Rom 8:17.</p> <p>d. This is a little trickier, 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 had a vision. Most of the time, people hear the Gospel from Christians who share the good news. Perhaps you want to go to another passage in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-4, or even Acts 17:1-4. These passages show how Paul’s preaching of the gospel played an important role in the Thessalonians’ conversion.</p>	<p>15 mins</p>
a. Who Saves?	b. How does He save?					
c. What is the Result?	d. What part did Paul in the salvation of the Thessalonians?					



Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:		
<p> 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!)?</p> <p>Tick the ones that apply to you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Awesome! Let's go! <input type="checkbox"/> Absolutely terrified. <input type="checkbox"/> Exciting, but I don't really think I'm a good enough Christian to do that. <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous, but I'd like to have a go. <input type="checkbox"/> I'm already the KING of impacting lives. <input type="checkbox"/> I love the thought of that, but I don't really think I have gifts like other people do. <input type="checkbox"/> It's not really that important to me. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>There are some reactions here that aren't necessarily right (i.e them feeling like 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.</p>			
<p> Split up into groups and choose one of the two people below.</p> <p>a. Is there anything good about the way Peter and Quinn think about evangelism? b. What is missing from their thoughts and actions?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="174 1046 1077 1426" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 10px; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Prayerless Peter</p> <p>Peter is keen to see his friends saved, and tries to share the gospel with them, but he doesn't pray much about it. When things seem to go well, Peter feels like the greatest Christian on earth, but when things don't seem to go well, he is shattered.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 10px; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Quitting Quinn</p> <p>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.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p style="text-align: center;">Prayerless Peter</p> <p>Peter is keen to see his friends saved, and tries to share the gospel with them, but he doesn't pray much about it. When things seem to go well, Peter feels like the greatest Christian on earth, but when things don't seem to go well, he is shattered.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Quitting Quinn</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>Pride.</p>	10 mins
<p style="text-align: center;">Prayerless Peter</p> <p>Peter is keen to see his friends saved, and tries to share the gospel with them, but he doesn't pray much about it. When things seem to go well, Peter feels like the greatest Christian on earth, but when things don't seem to go well, he is shattered.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Quitting Quinn</p> <p>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.</p>			




IGNITION EVANGELISM LEADER TRAINING

WEEK 2


Timing: 45mins-1hr

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:
<p> 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.</p> <p>a. What is the dominant theme used in the tract?</p> <p>b. Are there similarities between your answer to Question 1 above and what you've just read in the Ignition tract?</p> <p>How might you alter the way you would describe the gospel to a friend in light of what you've read in this tract?</p> <p>c. The word 'gospel' means 'good news.'</p> <p>Can you see how the gospel has been good news in your own life? Share your story with the group</p>	<p>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!</p> <p>You might like to do this as a big group, or have them split up individually.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>10 mins</p>





Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
<p> Last week you prayed about your friends. Does anyone have any stories to share about how God answered our prayers?</p> <p>Pray again for courage to share the gospel with your friends.</p> <p>Prayer ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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!	<p>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.</p> <p>After the stories have been shared, remember to pray.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>10 mins</p>


IGNITION EVANGELISM LEADER TRAINING

WEEK 3


Timing: 45mins-1hr

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:
<p> Read the following verses from the Bible and write down the reason given for sharing the gospel:</p> <p>1 Thessalonians 2:4:</p> <p>“ <i>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.</i> ”</p> <p>1 Timothy 2:3-4:</p> <p>“ <i>This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.</i> ”</p> <p>2 Peter 3:9:</p> <p>“ <i>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 .</i> ”</p> <p>John 14:6:</p> <p>“ <i>Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”.</i> ”</p> <p>1 Thessalonians 2:4:</p> <p>“ <i>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.</i> ”</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Reason for Sharing the gospel</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Encourage the group to think about how their motivation for evangelism will impact their actions and perhaps even their feelings, fears, doubts etc.</p> <p>At this point in the session, spend a couple of minutes praying about some of the things the group is feeling towards this topic.</p> <p>Pray specifically about any fears the group may have in regards to sharing the gospel.</p>	<p>10-15 mins</p>



Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
<p> Last week we practised telling each other the gospel.</p> <p>In pairs, take turns telling each other the gospel, pretending that the person you are speaking with has never heard of Jesus before.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>5 mins</p>
<p> Has anyone already invited someone to Ignition? How did it go?</p>	<p>Encourage participants to share freely about their experiences 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.</p>	<p>5 mins</p>
<p> 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).</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>10 mins</p>



Training Sequence:	Leaders Notes:	Timing:
<p> Divide into small groups and discuss how you might follow up each of the people in the following case studies:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Remember: We have a big God who loves to save people!</p>	<p>Divide up into smaller groups to discuss the case studies. After each case study have a short debrief (as a larger group) before moving onto the next one.</p> <p>If you are running low on time, allow each group to choose one of the three case studies and spend some time discussing 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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>15 mins</p>
<p>Spend some time praying together to wrap up.</p>	<p>Spend some time praying together to wrap up.</p>	<p>5 mins</p>