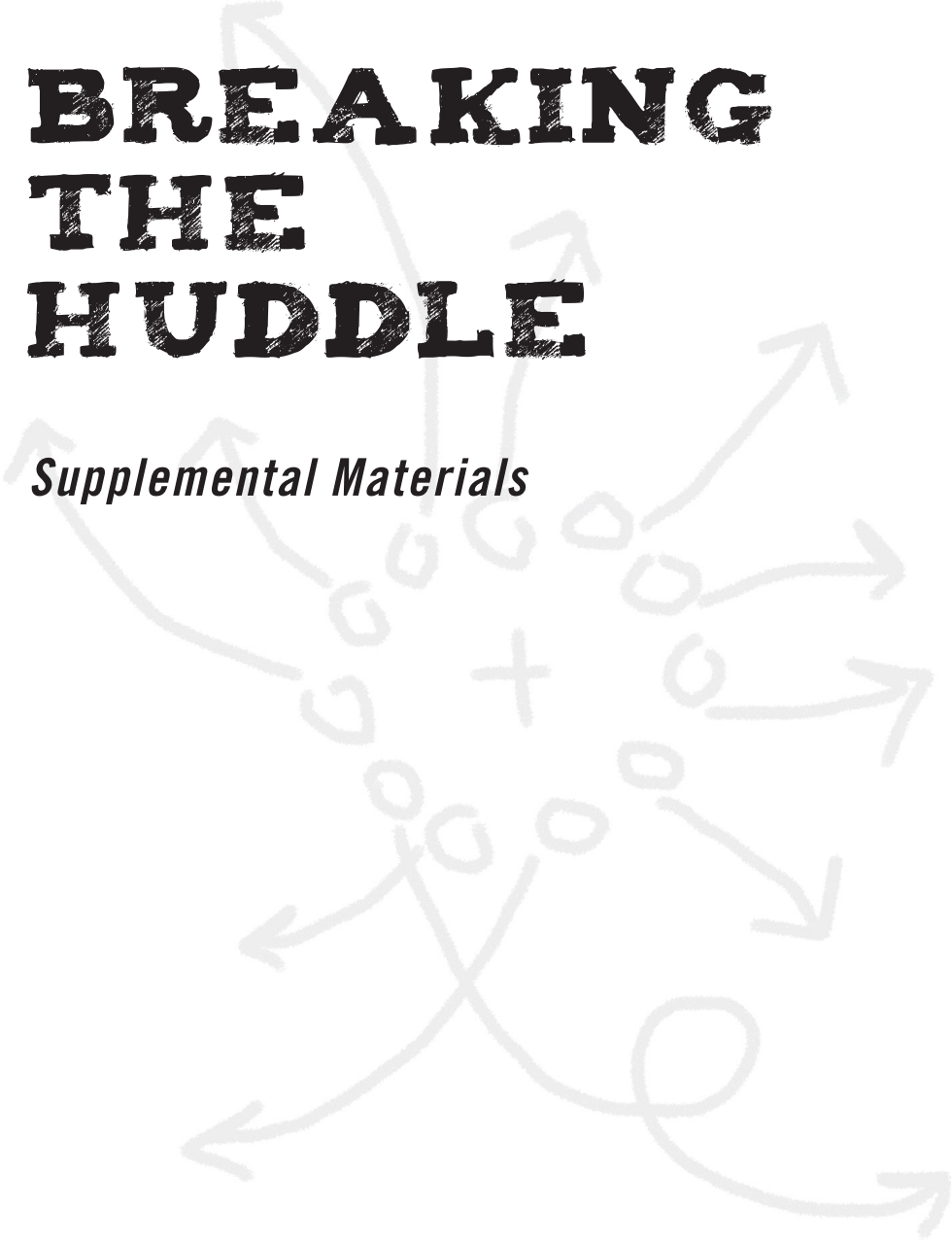


# **BREAKING THE HUDDLE**

*Supplemental Materials*



**IVP Books**

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# APPENDIX A

## Evangelism in a Postmodern World

Throughout *Breaking the Huddle* we mention “postmodernity” and talk about doing evangelism “in this age.”<sup>1</sup> What exactly do we mean by this? In short, many believe that the characteristics, moods, and tendencies in the West have recently shifted in a dramatic way.

The modern era (roughly 1600s to the early 1900s) in the West was marked by a certain set of assumptions, values, questions, and concerns. For about three hundred years the Christian church in the West has purposefully announced the good news in a way perfectly fitted to the modern era. From the 1600s on the church in the West has been presenting the gospel to a people who placed a high emphasis on human reasoning (*Does the gospel make rational sense?*), who thought in individualistic categories (*How does the gospel affect me?*), and who lived in a predominantly Christian culture (*I understand Christian language and biblical allusions, but is it all true?*).

So for three hundred years Christians have, as incarnational servants, practiced an evangelism that focused on apologetics (*Here’s how the gospel makes rational sense*), addressed the gospel’s impact on individuals (*Here’s what the gospel can do for you*) and been able to use insider Christian words and idioms (since Christian language was understood and effectively communicated).

But things have begun to change. In the early 1900s the monolithic modern culture of the Enlightenment (and accompanying cultural assumptions) began to diminish. The confidence and rational certainty that gave rise to the Age of Reason in the 1600s (think René Descartes) started to give way under the skepticism and existential doubt of the early 1900s (think Friedrich Nietzsche). Two world wars, the dark side of colonialism, and a technology-infused global mindset are among the many factors that have led to the gradual fading of the modern era and the emergence of a brand-new cultural landscape—something some are calling the post-modern era. In other words, things have indelibly changed in Western culture, and this has implications for how we do evangelism.

I (Don) grew up learning about evangelism from C. S. Lewis and Josh McDowell. The rational, logical arguments they armed me with (from Lord-Liar-Lunatic to all the “evidence that demands a verdict”) were how I learned to be a witness. The only problem was, I began running into people who just didn’t itch where these great tools scratched. For example, in Tacoma, Washington, I had an elderly coworker for a couple years who was not a Christian. When our conversation one day got around to Christianity she made it clear that she didn’t believe Jesus ever existed. Let me clarify: it’s not that she wasn’t intellectually convinced of Jesus’ divinity—she just plain didn’t think he ever existed at all. But she *was* convinced that we humans were brought to Earth by aliens. And she wasn’t a fringe oddball: she had a PhD and was quite intelligent and well read! I found that all my well-practiced rational arguments lay limp before her odd combination of irrational

incredulity (Jesus never existed) and random credulity (we come from aliens). At that point I started to wonder if my evangelist instincts might not be fitted for this emerging, very different culture.

Later on I met another non-Christian, Matthew, who was full of venom toward all things Christian. No questions, no intellectual inquiries—just venom. All my “evidence” seemed ill-fitted for someone so full of church-hurt, so distrustful of all things Christian. And I found myself where many missional Christians find themselves these days: equipped with evangelistic tendencies that aren’t fitted for the age I live in.

Perhaps people in the West placed a strong emphasis on objective truth and human reasoning for three hundred years, but these days more and more people are placing a strong emphasis on subjective human experience. It isn’t that they aren’t interested in “truth”; they are *quite* interested in truth. They just ascribe veracity differently. Rather than evaluating the truthfulness of the gospel based on its logical sense, they want to know, *Does it fit with my experience in life?* This means the missional Christian needs to be good not only at apologetics but also at telling stories (the story of Scripture, the story of my own redemption, the story of God working in me this week).

Perhaps people in the West thought in individualistic categories for three hundred years, but these days more and more people are thinking in communal, global categories. This doesn’t mean people aren’t selfish (they still are!); it’s just that they think in global categories. They want to know, *How does the gospel help this world? Is it good news for this falling apart, war-ridden, oppression-littered world?* This means the missional Christian needs to understand not just how the gospel is good news for the individual (e.g., able to draw the bridge diagram) but also how it is good news for the world around us (e.g., able to draw James Choung’s four circles).<sup>2</sup>

And in this era of distrust for all things Christian, in a Western culture where many people have dismissed Christianity out of hand, the missional Christian needs to learn how to build bridges of trust and how to verbalize the gospel without using cliché Christian words that many folks are allergic to and that, in our post-Christian world, are nearly unintelligible.

Because God is still calling people to him (even in this in-between, partly modern, partly postmodern strange age we live in), missional Christians need to be willing, as servants, to retool themselves for this age we are called to. I highly recommend that missional Christians sit under the teaching of cultural watchers and Christian leaders who have been watching these developments in cultural change for some time. Laurence Singlehurst’s *Sowing, Reaping, Keeping: People-Sensitive Evangelism* (a great starting place) and Lesslie Newbigin’s profound but quite readable *Proper Confidence: Faith, Doubt and Certainty in Christian Discipleship* provide incredible insights into the cultural shifts we are living through and must respond to thoughtfully.

# APPENDIX B

## How to Build Ownership for Your Vision

Ownership for the vision is as important as the vision itself. How can we build ownership for vision as we clarify it? As you think about casting vision for change in your community, how do you find out if your members are on board? You can't always tell someone's level of conviction or enthusiasm for an idea or decision just by looking at that person. You often can't tell about someone's motivation—is the person nodding his head as you talk because he is being compliant or because he actually agrees with what you say? Vision and clarity are two pieces of the process of building ownership, but they will mean nothing if you haven't gotten to the heart of what people are thinking and what they want.

Part of building ownership is identifying the forces, values, and beliefs that are working toward ownership and then on the flip side the forces, values, and beliefs that are working against ownership (thanks to Kurt Lewin for the chart). Once you identify the forces on both sides, you can develop strategies to increase the forces *for* the change and strategies to mitigate the forces *against* the change.

<b>What are you building ownership for?</b>	
<b>What are the forces, values, and beliefs working <i>for</i> this decision/change?</b>	<b>What are the forces, values, and beliefs working <i>against</i> this decision/change?</b>
<b>What are some strategies that will help you increase the forces <i>for</i>?</b>	<b>What are some strategies that will help mitigate the forces <i>against</i>?</b>

# APPENDIX C

## Telling Your Story

Telling your story of how you came to faith in Jesus is one of the best gifts you can give to a friend. Here is a worksheet to help you think through how to tell your story so that it has impact.

**BEFORE:** Describe what your life used to be like.

*Back in high school . . .*

**PROBLEM:** What was keeping you from having a close relationship with God?

*I got confused between having a love relationship with God and following a lot of rules . . .*

*I was looking for God without religion . . .*

*I was living under this burden . . .*

**DURING:** How did you encounter the real Jesus or the living God?

*I bumped into this community of intriguing Christians . . .*

*Jesus came to life for me . . .*

*I had this powerful experience of God's personal love for me . . .*

**AFTER:** What is your life like today?

*My life is not perfect, but I am much less [fill in the blank] than I used to be.*

*Jesus is teaching me to . . .*

**BRIDGE:** What invitation can you offer them?

*How about you? Would you be interested in taking an adult look at Jesus for yourself? I'd love to look at Jesus with you.*

*How about you? Have you ever put God to the test, that he would reveal himself to you? I'd love to pray with you.*

*Have you ever thought about looking for God but leaving religion behind? Please come check out our community.*

# APPENDIX D

## Leading Better Debriefs

We like the image of an onion for a debrief. The first few questions are taking off the outer skin of the onion. What did you like? Highlights? Lowlights? What did you learn? These initial questions are essential to start the conversation. They help each of us unleash a part of the brain that helps us move into a more reflective space. These questions help a group of people begin talking to each other to start a group process. Sometimes these basic questions make for excellent debriefing as layers of the onion are peeled away and transformation for each person and group is revealed quite easily.

Other times, these questions don't provide for the transformation we hope for or that could be there. We need more tools in our tool belt. We hope what we are providing here will be another tool for your debriefing toolbox.

Jesus told the disciples they were given the "secret of the kingdom of God" (Mark 4:11) by staying late and asking questions. What if we thought about debriefing in the same way? "We just got a parable from God. Let's hang around and ask questions and get the deeper interpretation."

We are proposing four invitations of transformation that God offers us through a debrief:

1. Leadership lessons—affirmation and/or growth step for our leadership role
2. Community transformation—affirmation and/or growth step for us a community
3. Skills you need—awareness of a skill needed
4. Personal transformation—affirmation and/or growth step for our own spiritual formation

Underneath each invitation are five types of questions that help us interpret and receive the invitations more clearly. Here are the categories of questions:

1. Celebration. What were the good things?
2. Paradigm shift. What might be the new paradigm this experience is showing us? What is God inviting us to see in ourselves, about God, about our community, or about the world?
3. Godly discontent. Where do we want more of God in our own leadership, our community, or ourselves?
4. Biblical image. Where in Scripture do we find similar experiences or a word of interpretation for what we experienced or saw?
5. Next step. What would it mean to live this way? What do I do with what I have experienced and interpreted?

# APPENDIX E

## Practical Challenges from the Putting-It-into-Action Group

1. Serve in secret. Do a good deed for someone in a way that prevents them from finding out who did it. (See Mt 6:1-4.)
2. Just listen. Ask someone about their faith. Practice listening and asking good questions. Resist the impulse to share. (See Mt 16:13-17; Prov 18:2, 13, 15.)
3. Follow leadings. Ask God to give you a “leading” (a strong impression from God to do something). Do it. (See Jn 10:2-4; 1 Sam 3:1-19.)
4. Affirm strengths. Pay attention to the people in your life. Build them up by pointing out things they do well. (See Heb 10:24-25; 1 Thess 5:11.)
5. Ask someone you really trust and who knows you well (a friend, family member, roommate) to give you honest feedback about some area in your life. (See Prov 27:6, 17.)
6. Make a list of all the things that you value in your friendships. Then go through the list and reflect on ways you can experience those things with God. Welcome him into those silly, spontaneous, and unique things that deepen your friendships with the people in your life. (See Jn 15:13-17.)
7. Offer to pray for someone you might not normally pray for. (See Jas 5:14-18; Eph 6:18.)
8. Initiate a friendship with someone of a different ethnicity or culture. Ask them about their experiences. Don't turn them into a project. Go to an event sponsored by folks of a different culture. (See Eph 2:14-16; Jn 4:5-10.)
9. Do something generous for a friend who is not in your faith community (someone you would like to see begin a relationship with God). (See Lk 16:9-10; Prov 11:24-25.)
10. Work at the discipline of silence in your life. Take five minutes daily to sit and just listen. Don't think, don't pray, don't write, don't read your Bible. Most important: invite God to be with you or speak to you in this time. Then write down how you felt, what you observed about yourself and God, and anything you heard God say. If God engages you in conversation, then you can leave the silence. (See Zeph 3:17; Mk 6:31; Is 30:15.)



# APPENDIX F

## Principles from Leadership Books

### ***MADE TO STICK: WHY SOME IDEAS SURVIVE AND OTHERS DIE BY CHIP HEATH AND DAN HEATH***

God used this book to help us grow in our clarity of vision. The Heath brothers give a checklist of what makes an idea sticky. Sticky is defined as unforgettable, understandable, and effective in changing behavior. The book answers the question, How do you communicate your best ideas so that they stick, take root, and become the new normal? They also have challenged us to make our complex ideas more “simple.” This principle sounds like the easiest one, but it is surprisingly difficult. This book helped us see a number of our mistakes in some of our initial testing of ideas.

### ***SWITCH: HOW TO CHANGE THINGS WHEN CHANGE IS HARD BY CHIP HEATH AND DAN HEATH***

God used this book to open our eyes to “bright spots,” a concept that continues to be an ingrained part of our leadership today. A bright spot is a situation or a person who is living out the change that you want to see everywhere. Celebrating bright spots helps shape community culture. Studying bright spots helps us see more clearly what God is doing and helps us then improve our training for others.

### ***INFLUENCER: THE NEW SCIENCE OF LEADING CHANGE BY JOSEPH GRENNY, KERRY PATTERSON, DAVID MAXFIELD, RON MCMILLAN, AND AL SWITZLER***

God used this book to help us pay attention to two to three “vital behaviors” in every community transformation story. Previously, we focused on the values that we wanted communities to experience and live out. This book helped flip the script in our minds. By focusing on a few vital behaviors, we have been much more fruitful in helping communities break the huddle and move toward conversion communities.

### ***GREAT BY CHOICE: UNCERTAINTY, CHAOS, AND LUCK—WHY SOME THRIVE DESPITE THEM ALL BY JIM COLLINS AND MORTEN T. HANSEN***

God used this book to open our eyes in a number of helpful ways. We use four of the authors’ concepts regularly. One is “Zoom Out/Zoom In.” A good leader needs to keep her or his eye on the big picture and also the nuts and bolts details. Typically we preferred to do one or the other, not both. As you can tell in our book, we now really value both.

### ***CANOEING THE MOUNTAINS: CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IN UNCHARTED TERRITORY BY TOD BOLSINGER***

Tod put language to what we have been experiencing as we test ministry ideas and as we lead learning in communities. Leadership in conversion communities does feel like leaving behind your canoe. It is wonderful and vulnerable.

# APPENDIX G

## How to Lead a Learning Community

**Intro:** What is the vision for our learning community?

- Consider the parable of the four soils (Mk 4). People come to Jesus asking questions about what they don't understand. We too are in a learning process, and we ask Jesus our questions.

**Setting Up:** What are some agreements we want to make as a learning community?

- Everyone is a contributor to the learning community.
- We examine our assumptions (what do we know versus what do we think?).
- We value honesty. All emotions can be heard.

**Clarify:** What do we want to learn about today?

- Restate/summarize learning lessons so far.
- What are some questions being raised?
- What do we wish we knew now that would have changed our leadership six months ago?

**Process:** What questions will help us learn best?

- Make a chart. What do we know? What don't we know?
- Let's look at both sides of the coin. Where is this working? Where did it not work? What can we learn from both types of stories?

**Getting Practical:** What is next?

- What do we want to test out this next month?
- What training or tools could we develop?

# EXERCISES AND ACTIVITIES FOR GETTING PRACTICAL

## LEARNING HOW TO CAST VISION

One of the skills we can use to move our community toward greater fruitfulness is articulating what *could be*, putting words to the vision in our hearts. God often uses a clear and compelling vision to call others to join us in creating the change. Here are three simple steps to help you develop and articulate vision:

**1. Reflect.** Ruminant over these questions:

- Where are you feeling godly discontent in your community? Why?
- What are you feeling hopeful that God wants to do in your community? Why?
- What Scripture, images, and words could capture these feelings?

**2. Create a first draft.** Write out a vision statement that can be stated in under sixty seconds and includes three things:

1. Words that describe your vision for the future of your community
2. Why it's personally meaningful to you
3. A question that invites others into dialogue about the vision with you

**3. Share.** Practice sharing this vision with a mentor or a friend and ask for feedback. What was most compelling about my vision casting? What was confusing or least clear? Make changes to improve your vision for the future.

Once you have a clear and compelling vision, see appendix B, "How to Build Ownership for Your Vision."

## GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER TWO

**Learning from new Christians.** New Christians can help open your eyes to your community and some of the changes that might help you grow in your fruitfulness. Ask your friends to help you interview the people in your community who have become followers of Jesus in the past two years in order to learn more about their stories.

Possible interview questions include these:

- What were you like before you became a follower of Jesus?
- Were there things in your past that gave you a negative impression of God or religion or church? Please describe.
- What barriers did you have to overcome as you grew toward Jesus? What big questions or doubts did you have?

- Who helped you grow and move toward Jesus? Describe your journey.
- What was it like to visit our community for the first time? Where did you feel comfortable? Why? Were there things that made you feel uncomfortable?
- Was there a Scripture or a part of the Bible God used to help you come to know him more?
- Have you ever invited any of your curious friends to come to our church? Why or why not?
- What is one thing we could change about our community to make it more welcoming to visitors and people who have never been to church?

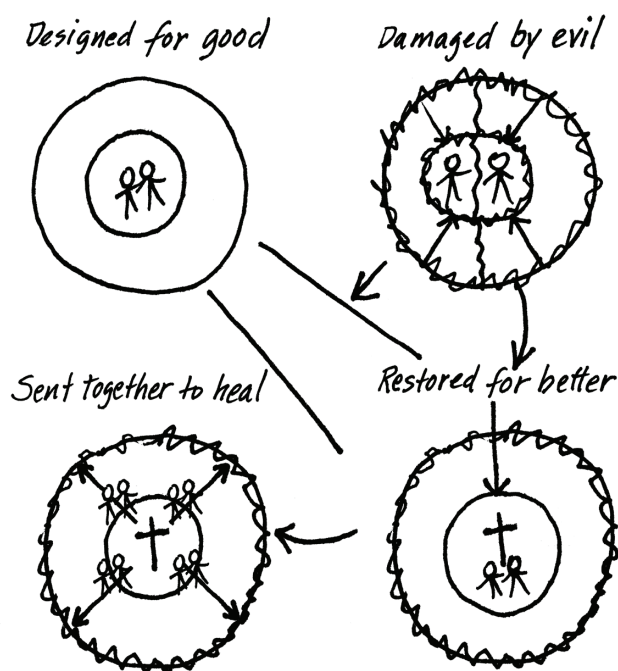
If a group of people conducted the interviews, do a group debriefing. Otherwise, spend some time writing about these questions and share your responses with a mentor or leader.

1. Share the stories from the interviews. Make a note of themes, patterns, and learning lessons.
2. Where are non-Christians comfortable in our community? Which events do they tend to avoid? Why?
3. What do we need to change so that our community is better able to serve nonbelievers on their journey toward Jesus?

### GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER THREE

*How to talk with the curious and the seeking about Jesus.* When you are in a conversion community it is not uncommon to find yourself interacting (live!) with non-Christians who want to hear more about Jesus and his gospel and the things of God. In our postmodern context it is important that we get comfortable talking about these things in ways that are intelligible and helpful. For the postmodern ears around us this means, in part, that we don't use tired clichés and stereotypes and insider "christianese" words.

This is why we have found James Choung's new diagram to be so helpful. Not only is this diagram easy to remember (and therefore carry around in your head), but it uses simple, understandable words to describe the broad, robust good news of Jesus. To see the diagram modeled, check out James's video on YouTube or download the free app "Big Story" from InterVarsity.<sup>3</sup> For a more detailed explanation of the diagram, read *True Story: A Christianity Worth Believing In* or the pamphlet "Based on a True Story," both by InterVarsity Press.<sup>4</sup>



We have also found that learning to tell our story of faith is a great way to help others become curious about Jesus and seek after him themselves. See appendix C, “Telling Your Story.”

#### GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER FOUR

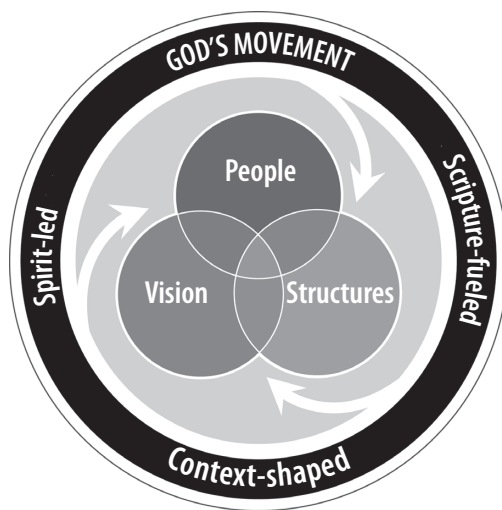
*How to implement the discipleship cycle.* InterVarsity has created a worksheet to help you use the discipleship cycle, as well as some specific discipleship cycles to help your community move from huddled to witnessing. We’ve made this content available at the end of this section. Feel free to use it in your community.

#### GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER FIVE

*How to introduce relational evangelism through Bible study.* A great way to help a Christian community begin to lean in to relational evangelism is through study of the Bible. We created a six-week Bible study series based on the five thresholds. Feel free to use it for free. We hope it helps your community move from huddled to witnessing. Go to “Overview of Thresholds: Having Eyes for Growth” at [http://2100.intervarsity.org/sites/2100/files/5\\_t\\_one%20sheets.pdf](http://2100.intervarsity.org/sites/2100/files/5_t_one%20sheets.pdf).

#### GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER SIX

*How to use vision–structures–people to move toward a conversion community.* An important step in growing your community’s vision, structures, and people is to evaluate where you currently are in each area. An honest assessment sets the foundation for profound community transformation.



The leadership cycle

Consider discussing the following questions to help this discernment process begin.

#### *Vision.*

- What is the current vision for your community?
- Are there changes you want to make to the vision that would help articulate the changes you want to see in the community?

#### *Structures.*

- Which structures are currently serving your vision?
- What structure do you want to rethink to align more with the vision?

**People.**

- How are leaders being developed in your community?
- How is everyone being encouraged and equipped to be part of the vision?
- Which structures are most attended by non-Christians, and how do those events help them through the five thresholds?

**GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER SEVEN**

**Consulting with your leadership team.** How would you use the leadership cycle if you were considering starting more small groups?

First, put on your vision glasses:

- Why are you asking this question?
- What has God put on your heart?
- What is your vision for these potential small groups?
- How will you help current community members consider leading a new small group?
- How much time are you willing to invest for the sake of this vision? Five hours a week?

Then, put on your people glasses:

- How many people currently go to your existing small groups weekly?
- Please write down the names of twenty families or individuals who don't currently attend small groups who you hope would begin attending.
- Why are they not coming to small groups now?
- Who might lead these new small groups? How might starting these small groups be an opportunity for people to become leaders in your community?
- Who are the gatekeepers who need to give their permission?

Finally, get specific as to structures:

- Where will you cast vision to the whole community about this new vision?
- When and how will you invite these twenty families or individuals (who you hope will become your core members) to attend a vision-casting meeting where you will help them consider becoming part of a small group?
- How will you actually cast the vision at this meeting for what it might mean for these people to be involved?
- How will you help existing small groups thrive if some members leave to start new groups?
- Where and how will you train these new leaders to lead small groups?

**GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER EIGHT**

**How to help your leaders gain clarity about the change process.** In order to help your team gain clarity about the change process and visualize the way forward, spend time filling out this basic three-part change process panel. We've provided some possible questions to help your team fill out each stage in front of you.

**Leading Our Community Through Change**

<b>Examine Fruit and Stoke Godly Discontent</b>	<b>Hold On to Hope and Cast Vision for a Different Future</b>	<b>Have a Plan and Dive In to the Messy Work</b>
1. Which metrics will we use to honestly evaluate our fruit? 2. How do we get good data on those metrics? 3. In what settings will we study and examine the metrics and honestly wrestle with the picture of reality it gives us?	1. What people should be involved in praying for and discerning God’s vision for our community? 2. What Scriptures has God been bringing to our minds? Is there language in our community’s history and culture that can help us paint a picture of hope? 3. How do we both summarize and expound on that vision? What’s a plan for casting that vision throughout our leadership and our community?	1. What teams or leaders should be a part of crafting a plan for moving toward the vision? 2. What are the different steps of the plan? Who should be involved in implementing each step? Who is overseeing the whole process? 3. What is our timeline? What feedback loops for evaluation will we put in place? How will we measure success?
<b>Our Fruit</b>	<b>Our Vision</b>	<b>Our Plan</b>

**GETTING PRACTICAL: CHAPTER NINE**

We suggest you invite a friend to try peer coaching with you. Here is our “Peer Coaching Framework” using the acronym “GROW.”<sup>5</sup>

Decide who will be the coach and who will be the “coachee.”

1. Pray. Ask the Holy Spirit to create a space for peace to discern God’s voice.
2. Set a GOAL:
  - What specifically would you like to talk about today?
  - So I hear you talking about a couple things—which of those things feels most helpful to spend our short time on today?
3. Clarify REALITY:
  - Where are you now in relation to your goal? What is clear to you already?
  - Have you already taken any steps toward your goal? How would you describe what you did?
  - What do you think is really happening?
  - What do you think is stopping you?
  - What will be required of you?
4. Consider OPTIONS:
  - What are five possible options you see moving forward?
  - What would you do if you knew you couldn’t fail?
  - Who could help you come up with a good next step to help you succeed?

5. Determine the WILL:

- What specifically are you committing to do next?
- What are the obstacles that might prevent you from taking this step?
- Who could help support you in this action step?
- What is your most important takeaway from the time today?

6. Close in prayer.

Switch roles.



WHO IS THIS FOR?  
DESIRED IMPACT:

CAMPUS GUEST MEMBER APPRENTICE LEADER LEADER OF LEADERS

## DISCIPLESHIP CYCLE TEMPLATE

This simple but powerful pattern is the DNA of missional discipleship. It not only speaks to the transformation of Jesus' disciples as individuals but illustrates how communities are transformed together by taking three simple steps again and again.



### Hear the Word

What kingdom value or skill do you hope to see developed?

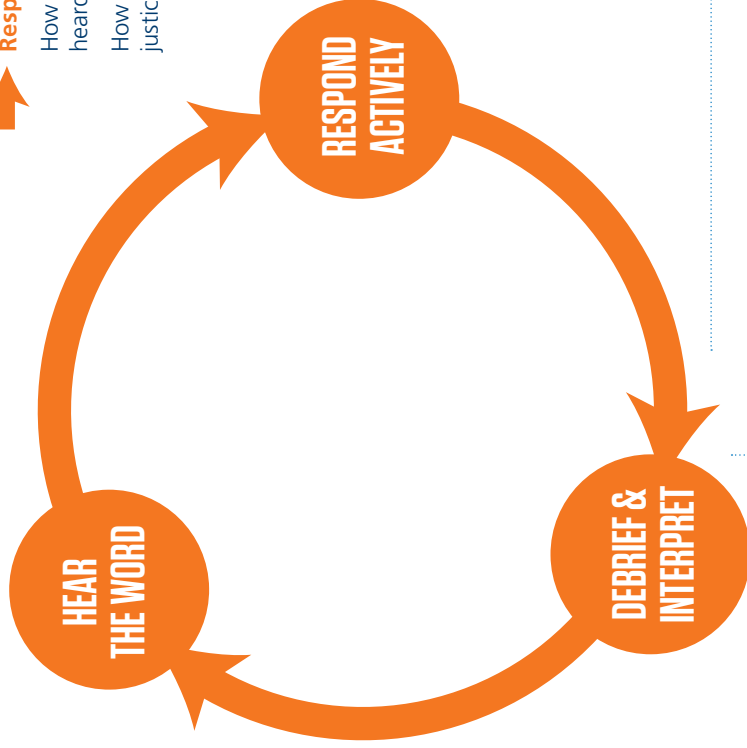
How will you make space to hear God in submission to scripture? How will you ground it in prayer?



### Respond Actively

How will you, in faith, respond actively to what you have heard from God?

How will you encourage risks of faith in mission, repentance, justice, or loving God and others?



### Debrief & Interpret

How and when will you gather? How will you discern and interpret, in humility, what God is doing?

What do you hope will be gained from the debrief? What questions will you ask? What will this person need to take the next step in the pathway?



### Expand the Influence

What are the next cycles to capture and increase momentum?

Who else can you include? Where else can this make an impact?

# John 4: Turning God Moments into Movements

## Two Workshops on Relational Networks

When Jesus met the woman at the well in John 4, her life was radically changed – and so was the village where she lived. These two workshops will give students a vision for God’s Kingdom purposes in the lives of the people around them.

### WORKSHOP #1: Seeing God’s Vision for Your Networks

#### Overview

##### Part 1: Scripture Study in John 4 (Hear the Word)

- Apprenticeship cycle—hear the Word, respond, and debrief.
- Be like the Samaritan woman and go to your village and invite people.

##### Part 2: Networking Exercise (Respond to the Word)

- p. 82, *Start Something New*
- [The Power of Network Mapping](#), an InterVarsity article from [StudentSoul](#)

##### Part 3: Debrief Moments to Movements

### Part 1: Scripture Study in John 4 (Hear the Word)

God loves to take unassuming things and use them for his kingdom purposes! For example, a mustard seed becomes an enormous tree which then provides shelter. God is the Master Gardener and he has planted mustard seeds in each and every one of us.

Think about the woman at the well from [John 4](#). At first, this woman doesn’t see Jesus clearly. She’s focused on one thing: getting water for the day. As Jesus talks with her, he brings clarity to her deep spiritual thirst and she begins to see more clearly who she is – and who Jesus is.

[Read John 4:27-42](#) and focus on v. 27. At this point in the story, what do the disciples see? What does Jesus see?

The disciples return from their trip to the village and find Jesus talking to a Samaritan woman—something that’s culturally unacceptable for a Jewish man. They don’t know how to react to Jesus. And they’re probably too embarrassed to simply ask Jesus why he is talking with her. They don’t see his grace toward her. They only see the barriers of class, gender and racial division.

Instead of asking Jesus their questions, they discuss what they were told to do: go get lunch. They are focused on the logistics of their responsibilities.

The disciples are caught in two common traps and miss out on an important 'God-moment.' They see people through a *human lens* by looking at how they are different. In addition, they're more focused on what *they* were doing instead of what *God* was doing.

In John 1, this woman was not in the story when Jesus started the "come and see" chain reaction of grace, but in John 4 she is having the same "come and see" missional response of someone won over by God's grace. No one has to tell her to pass it on to others. She is experiencing the power of God, and she *has* to talk about it. She says, "Come see a man who told me everything I ever did." Her shame has been transformed into shamelessness.

Unlike the disciples, Jesus looks and *what God is doing* to meet this woman's spiritual thirst. The disciples, on the other hand, are focused on their own physical hunger (eating lunch). They are stuck on the mundane logistics and details.

What does Jesus say to us when we are stuck in the routine of our daily lives? Look at v. 35: "Lift up your eyes." You don't think now is the time for the harvest. Not true. Jesus shows us it is here now. Lift up your eyes to become aware of God's wonderful movement in our world. What if you asked this question every day: "What is God doing today?"

**Look at John 4:39-42.** The story moves from a woman to a village, from a moment to a movement. Not only does Jesus care about the Samaritan woman as an individual, but he cares about the people in her village.

The disciples do not see this 'God-moment,' but it is the beginning of a 'God-movement' as the woman goes back to her Samaritan village to tell people about Jesus.

We are like the disciples on lunch duty who are occupied with busy, responsible, logistical lives. Like them, we see other people through the lens of our differences and make judgments about their lives.

How do we move toward becoming like Jesus in John 4? Like the woman, how do we recognize and respond to 'God-moments' on campus and become part of 'God's movement' on campus?

## **YOUR OPPORTUNITIES**

Everyone is connected to a village but, like the disciples, we often struggle to lift up our eyes and see how God is working and how he is inviting us to join him.

When you witness a 'God-moment,' remember that what you are seeing is just the beginning. Ask God how this might be the start of a movement?

When we live with our eyes wide-open, not only do we see God create movements out of moments, but life becomes more joy-filled and adventurous. We spend our day anticipating and asking, "God, what are you going to do today?" or, "Jesus, what do you want to teach me today?" This leads to more joy, less burn-out.

## **TATIANA AND ALLEN**

When Tatiana participated in this training from John 4, she prayed, "God, please bring me a 'woman at the well.' Please give me eyes to see how the fields are ripe for harvest." Tatiana was at the Red Cup Proxe Station on campus before her classes started when Allen, a freshman, came to the Proxe Station and went through it with her.

When they started discussing John 4, Allen said, “I know this story,” and began to lose interest. Without missing a beat, Tatiana replied, “Great! Let me train you how to lead others through this.” Allen was taken aback by her boldness, but he agreed. Over the next hour, he shadowed her and learned to lead evangelistic conversations at the Proxe. He loved it! At the end, they debriefed Allen’s experience. Allen said, “Before I came to campus, I prayed that God would give me a faith risk to take—I think he just answered that prayer.”

If you were Tatiana, what would you have said to Allen at this point?

Tatiana told Allen, “God is just getting started. I have been praying that God would give me one or two freshmen to become my apprentices who are faithful, ready, passionate, and have high potential. I want you to pray and see if God is calling you to three months of risk and discipleship.” Allen prayed and became her apprentice. They had an amazing year and then Allen was a sophomore small group leader and a part of God’s movement on campus.

Thank God that Tatiana did not just see the Red Cup Proxe Station as something only for non-Christians to see Jesus, but also as a place for God to invite Christians into deeper discipleship and commitment.

## **MARY AND JUSTIN**

Mary and Justin started the year as co-leaders of a small group with no members. They had a great New Student Outreach (NSO) and followed up with those who were interested in getting involved. God grew their small group to 10 members by November.

By November, Justin and Mary remarked, “Our small group has too much good stuff from God to keep to ourselves. We need to recruit apprentices and multiply.” They shared this vision with the other members. They all agreed and several stepped up to become apprentices.

In January the new small group felt small so Michelle, a freshman, invited all of her friends. “You *have* to join my small group. It’s empty,” she told them. “Come be a part of something at the ground level. We can make it become the ideal small group together.” Ten of Michelle’s friends came the next week, loved it, and committed to following Jesus more seriously or for the first time. Their group multiplied again during spring break. By the end of the year, they had three small groups with 38 members total, four apprentices, and five conversions.

Thank God that Mary and Justin saw their small group as a movement, not just as a moment. God did so much more through this SG once they lifted up their eyes, saw the “village” connected to freshmen like Michelle, and followed God’s leading.

## **THREE STEPS TO CHANGE THE WORLD**

- Hear the Word.
- Respond and live missionally.
- Interpret and debrief.

## **DISCIPLESHIP CYCLE** (Introduce the chart)

- What does it mean to be an apprentice?
- What does it mean to be a leader?

- What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus?

Follow this cycle on campus. It becomes the pattern of your life with Jesus for the rest of your life.

### **Part 2: Networking Exercise** (p. 82 *Starting Something New*)

Identify relationships where you already have trust, friendship, and love—‘low-hanging fruit’. It’s not crazy to think that God might use you to bless these people.

- Begin to use spiritual vision when looking at the people you normally see through human vision (only seeing people’s differences).
- Focus on what God might be calling the group to. Normally people don’t think about “calling” in a communal way, so this is a good exercise.

### **Part 3: Debrief Moments to Movements**

Think back to the woman and the village she represents. The moment of conversation Jesus had with the Samaritan woman turned into a movement – a work of God in the entire village.

What are you learning about your “village?” How might God use you to impact your relational networks? As you think about your connections, what if this moment you’re having with God turned into a movement? What if, as leaders and apprentices, you prayed for God to turn moments into movements, believing God would use you in his movement on campus?

Ask God to give you hope for your village of relationships. Let’s pray that what happens in this moment turns into a movement of God.

**Do this week:** Meet in pairs of apprentices or leaders to pray together.

## WORKSHOP #2: Developing a clear vision for networks

### Overview (60 minutes):

- Part 1: Debrief the assignment from last week
- Part 2: Hear the Word: John 4:29
- Part 3: Processing the Vision (Respond to the Word)
- Part 4: Debrief and Next Steps

### Part 1: Debrief the assignment from last week

What has God been showing you about your village? How has he been giving you hope for your village? Any words to share? This workshop will help you articulate your vision for your village.

### Part 2: Hear the Word: John 4:29

The woman's vision is: If this is the Messiah, my town needs to meet him!

The town people respond to her invitation to see Jesus for themselves. They accept her vision of Jesus, but make it their own.

You also will have a sense from God of what you hope he will do. Others will participate in your vision and shape it differently, so don't be offended. Look for God in the shaping and refining of your vision as more partners arise to join your mission. It starts with an individual, but it ends with a team effort.

### Part 3: Processing the Vision (Respond to the Word)

Coach students to process their vision by applying what they're learning to their networks.

#### Small group exercise:

In table groups, look at one person's 'village'—a network that has potential to bear fruit. Ask group members to share their sense of what God might be doing in this particular network. Then let others from the table group give feedback and refine their initial vision.

#### Refine the idea together.

Post questions from p.18 and p.19 of *Start Something New* to use if needed:

- "What do you think God wants to see happen with these people?"
- "What excites you most about this vision?"
- "When I look at these people, I see . . ."
- "I'm excited about seeing . . ."
- "I wonder if God is nudging me toward . . ."
- "For this to become a reality, we would need. . ."

#### Large Group Exercise:

Ask for a volunteer who would like some help refining their vision. Ask that person to share their vision and encourage them with input. Try to answer some of the questions from p. 18-19. Help them see how easy it would be to plant a small group in that network.

**LG debrief:** Ask the volunteer, “What was this experience like?” “What are you learning?”

**In pairs:** Meet in pairs of apprentices or leaders to work on the same questions for each person’s network. Take time to share, refine and coach each other.

#### **Part 4: Debrief and Next Steps**

##### **Debrief:**

What are you learning about developing a good vision for ministry? How have you responded to sharing your vision with someone and having them refine it? What is God saying to you in this process? Interpret what you sense happened during the workshop.

##### **Next Steps:**

Write the names of three friends who are not in this room. Share with them your vision. Write the key points from your vision that you want to share with them. Give this to your staff member. Or, post them on the wall. Allow time for people to read and pray for the lists of friends or the vision statements.

##### **This Week:**

Share your vision statement with at least three trusted friends this week to get their input. Ask them:

1. What seems most compelling or interesting about this vision?
2. What questions do you have about it?
3. What could have been clearer?
4. How would you say it differently?
5. Who do you think might join me in this mission?

**Written Assignment:** Rewrite your vision in light of what you’re learning.

# NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Appendix A is adapted from Don Everts, *Go and Do: Becoming a Missional Christian* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012), 119-22.

<sup>2</sup>James Choung, *True Story: A Christianity Worth Believing In* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2008).

<sup>3</sup>James Choung, “The Big Story, Part 1,” [www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCVcSiUUMhY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCVcSiUUMhY), and “The Big Story, Part 2,” [www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4V60n6KiB8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4V60n6KiB8). Download the free Big Story app at InterVarsity Evangelism, <http://evangelism.intervarsity.org/how/gospel-outline/get-big-story-app>.

<sup>4</sup>James Choung, *True Story: A Christianity Worth Believing In* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2008); “Based on a True Story” (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2008).

<sup>5</sup>Thanks to Performance Consultants International, “The GROW Model,” [www.performanceconsultants.com/grow-model](http://www.performanceconsultants.com/grow-model).



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