

EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM:



***6 KEYS FOR BREAKTHROUGH IN SHARING
THE GOSPEL ON YOUR CAMPUS***

GET CONFIDENT SHARING YOUR FAITH.

Spend just one day on a high school or college campus and there's no doubt you'll meet students who are struggling with anxiety, depression, or feeling like life is devoid of meaning.

What's the cure?

Giving their lives completely over to the life-giving power of Jesus Christ. Jesus is deserving of their worship, and He's the only way they'll ever truly feel satisfied.

THEY WON'T KNOW WHO JESUS IS IF SOMEONE DOESN'T TELL THEM. AND THAT SOMEONE CAN BE YOU.

Students often want to tell their peers about Jesus - but they feel like they don't have what it takes to be evangelists.

This guide will give you tools to evangelize effectively, so you can feel confident that Jesus will move through you when you share the Gospel with friends.

But first, let's talk about your calling.

THE CALLING OF THE EVANGELIST.

The world is under pressure.

There are many voices crying out telling you who you need to be. Not fitting into the cultural mold comes at a risk, and poses a sobering question: if you don't fit in, how will you ever get ahead?

As a follower of Jesus, you know you were not created to fit into the cultural mold. Instead you live according to the truth of the Gospel, which leads to freedom, eternal hope, joy, and peace.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, 'If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.' John 8:31-32 (ESV)

You are Jesus' disciple. You know the truth, you've been set free

- and now you have a mission. But your unsaved friends are still in captivity - under pressure from the world at large.

You carry the Answer to the struggles that you see your friends face day in and day out. It's time to proclaim the Good News. If you don't tell them, who will?

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they

are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!' Romans 10:13-15 (ESV)

The scripture above explains the calling of an evangelist.

True evangelism is the preaching of the Gospel. When you give a full presentation of the Gospel, you become a bringer of Good News to the hurting people around you.

But there's still a problem: even if you're confident in your calling to share

the Gospel, evangelism can feel intimidating. Culture doesn't celebrate the preaching of the Gospel. Culture will tell you that spreading the Gospel won't improve your status or recognition.

But the call of an evangelist is not to be popular or move up in society. His or her mission is to proclaim the Good News that brings freedom and true life. The moment you accept this truth and you shift your concern from the cares of culture to the concerns of the Kingdom you become a force to be reckoned with - and a threat to the powers that want to keep your friends captive.



THERE IS AN ENEMY.

You understand the need to share the Gospel with your friends. You're getting fired up about preaching the Truth. That's awesome. But as you grow in readiness to share the news, there's an enemy who is ready to stop you.

This enemy's mission is to give you many reasons to keep silent. He'll try to convince you that you're not qualified, that you'll be rejected, that your faith is unnecessary. He'll even tell you that some people don't deserve to hear the Good News of Jesus.

This enemy is the father of lies and he only knows how to lie, there is no truth in him (See John 8:44).

When it comes to the lies and fears you face around evangelism, the truth is that you already have the victory because ***“he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”*** 1 John 4:4 (ESV).

Jesus knew we would face these lies and made the following promise after his command to preach the Gospel: ***“I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*** Matthew 28:20 (ESV). Jesus, the One who is greater than anyone or thing in this world, promises that he is with you forever.

When you face that enemy, be confident that the Holy Spirit in you is greater than anything the enemy can throw at you.

So here's the bottom line: you have the privilege - and the responsibility - to share your faith. And evangelism is something you can improve at. But ultimately, the fruit of evangelism is left to Jesus. This should help crush the fear of doing it right: your job is to share your faith and encourage your peers in their faith journeys; Jesus' job is to create fruit in their lives.

USING THIS GUIDE IS EASY: READ THE PROMPTS AND SCRIPTURES, TAKE THE ACTION STEPS, AND START SHARING THE GOSPEL.

Soon you'll stop feeling overwhelmed by evangelism and start feeling confident sharing your faith.

**READ THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

MATTHEW 28:19-20

1 JOHN 4:4

1 CORINTHIANS 2:2-4

ACTS 1:8

1. YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW JESUS TO PREACH JESUS.

Imagine going to a really good restaurant - or seeing an awesome movie. If it was a good experience for you, odds are you'll want to tell your friends about it. It's natural to want to share great experiences with others so that they can experience and enjoy them, too.

But what if *you'd never actually had food at that restaurant, or you never actually saw that movie?* What if everything you knew about it was secondhand or hearsay? Maybe you heard rave reviews, but would you actually try to convince others to go there? Probably not, and even if you did, you have no credibility and no valid experience to share with people.

The excitement and urgency that you feel when you discover something great also goes for sharing Jesus with those around you. As a follower of Jesus, you have news to share that is better than any other experience this world could offer. You carry the message every single person is longing to hear.

HOWEVER, IN ORDER FOR YOUR MESSAGE TO BE AUTHENTIC, CREDIBLE, AND GENUINE YOU MUST FIRST SPEND TIME KNOWING AND EXPERIENCING THE ONE YOU ARE SHARING ABOUT.





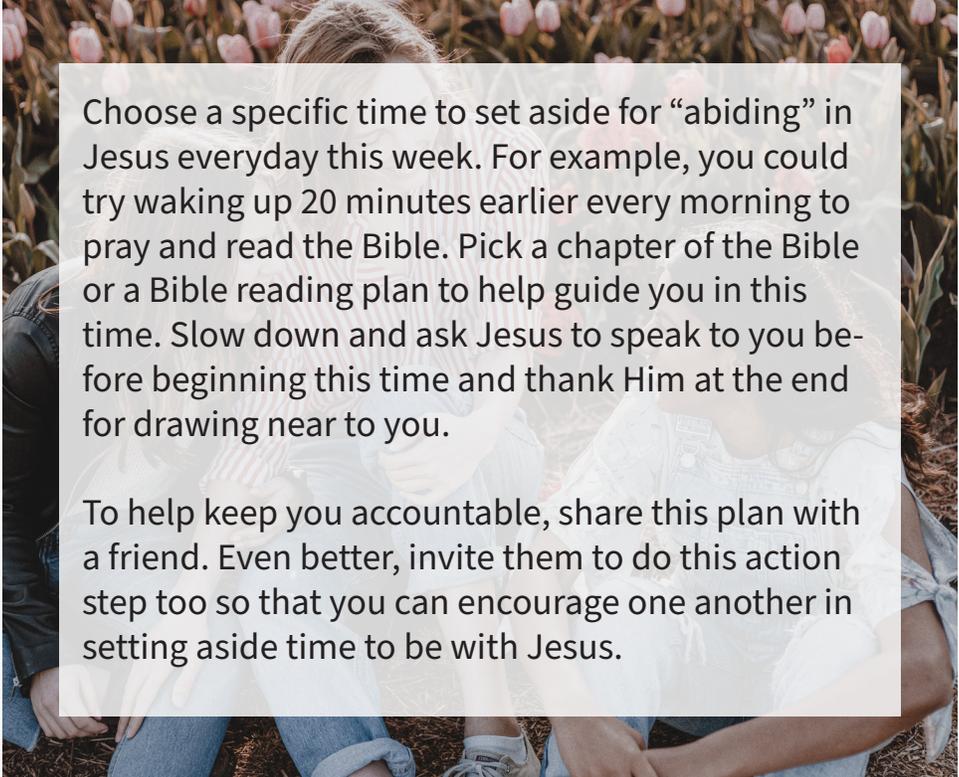
Jesus tells us in John 15:4-5 (ESV), *“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”*

To *abide* means to dwell, remain, or hang around. Dwelling with and remaining in Jesus is the key to life-giving “fruit” in your evangelism. **Before you ever do anything for Jesus, He simply wants you to be with him.** Being with Jesus in prayer, reading the Bible, and worship is key to bearing fruit in our lives.

Apart from Him you can do *nothing*. It doesn’t matter how many people you speak to or how eloquent your message is. If the message is not a result of a personal experience and relationship with Jesus, evangelism will be inauthentic and ineffective. Effective evangelism is not about striving, it’s all about abiding.

The beautiful thing about being in an intimate relationship with Jesus is this: the more you dwell, remain, and hang around Him, the more you want to talk about Him. Our evangelism comes out of an overflow of Jesus Himself. **The product of abiding in Jesus is a lifestyle of a joyful evangelist carrying the greatest news ever.**

TAKE ACTION



Choose a specific time to set aside for “abiding” in Jesus everyday this week. For example, you could try waking up 20 minutes earlier every morning to pray and read the Bible. Pick a chapter of the Bible or a Bible reading plan to help guide you in this time. Slow down and ask Jesus to speak to you before beginning this time and thank Him at the end for drawing near to you.

To help keep you accountable, share this plan with a friend. Even better, invite them to do this action step too so that you can encourage one another in setting aside time to be with Jesus.

READ THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES:

JOHN 15:1-11

1 JOHN 3:23-24, 4:18-19

DEUTERONOMY 6:5

2. OWN YOUR TERRITORY

Every day you interact with people who are created for a relationship with Jesus. The problem is, those same people haven't been told the truth about Jesus. The amazing thing is you hold the solution to this problem; by sharing the Gospel with others you can introduce them to Jesus and the meaningful life He has for them.

There's a whole world out there dying to hear the Good News. You can't possibly preach the Gospel to everyone. But you do have unique influence over the lives of your peers. You can impact other students and shift the culture of your campus in ways that no one else can.

In 2 Corinthians 5 the apostle Paul uses the analogy of an ambassador to describe our role in reaching the people around us: *we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.*

An ambassador by definition is a *diplomat sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country.* An ambassador works in a foreign country while retaining citizenship in their home country.

You are a direct representative of Christ at your school, which is essentially a "foreign land." But your citizenship is in heaven. As an ambassador in this foreign land you've been entrusted with a message: the news of reconciliation (See 2 Corinthians 5:19).

This message of reconciliation is the Gospel: that even though relationship with God was broken, there is still redemption. Where there once was sin, there is now healing. We make this appeal for reconciliation because God has *entrusted this message to us.*

Your role as an ambassador is to *own your territory* with the

message of reconciliation. If you do this, you'll transform your home, your school, your neighborhood, and beyond.

**“YOUR ROLE AS AN
AMBASSADOR IS TO
OWN YOUR TERRITORY
WITH THE MESSAGE OF
RECONCILIATION”**

Ask God to highlight the territory to which He's calling you to be an ambassador. Are there specific individuals he wants you to focus on? You can be confident that your friend group *is your territory*, but God might ask you to look outside of your inner circle.

Evangelism requires getting outside of your comfort zone (no one is comfortable entering into a foreign land). The message you carry is powerful and if you play it safe you risk not sharing this Good News with people who may never hear it.

As God leads you to evangelize to a specific person, group, or place you can trust that He is with you. You're not carrying the message of the Gospel alone. Jesus' territory was the entire world, and with the help of the Father He completed His mission. Jesus has enabled you to walk boldly and He's paved the way for you to achieve breakthrough at your school or college campus.

TAKE ACTION

Prayerfully ask God about a specific person or place that He wants you to go and share his love with. Then go and do that! If God speaks to you about a person, send them an encouraging message or encourage them face-to-face. If God calls you to a place, go to that place and spend time praying for the love of God to transform it.

**READ THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-20

ROMANS 8:29-31

JOSHUA 1:7-9

ISAIAH 6:8

3. YOUR PRAYERS CHANGE LIVES

The fight for lost students extends beyond the walls of your school. You can have an impact for Jesus on your classmates and friends even when you're home. Jesus isn't just looking for someone who will share the Gospel in person. He's looking for someone who will battle in prayer for their classmates.

Ephesians 6:12 (NLT) says, *For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.* The sole desire of the enemy is to take advantage of hurting, confused people and lie about who Jesus truly is.

He attacks any sign of obe-

dience to Jesus he can find. Have you ever been fearful before sharing the Gospel with someone? Fear, distraction, and restlessness are all ways the enemy will try to attack your prayer time.

Have you ever had a prayer time that was well intentioned but you didn't even last 5 minutes? Maybe you got bored or distracted and found yourself on Instagram for the next hour.

I know what those good-intentioned prayer times are like. I've been there myself. If the enemy can make you believe that your prayers aren't good enough, that God isn't listening or won't answer your prayers, or even that prayer is just too boring to commit to, then he's done his part.

IF YOU HAVE A HEART TO REACH YOUR FRIENDS WITH THE GOSPEL, THE ENEMY IS DEVOTED TO KEEPING YOU SILENT WHEREVER YOU ARE.



Your prayers for your unsaved, lost friends threaten the enemy. Those prayers of faith rob the enemy of his terrible plans for people. When you set your heart to pray, the enemy sets himself on ruining that prayer time.

Jesus truly loves and values your prayers. The more you devote yourself to prayer and His presence, the more Jesus will bless you with a burning

heart to reach your friends and even strategy on how to do that. Sometimes it's a question to ask your friend who's been hard to reach. Maybe even a part of your own story that you haven't shared before. **Jesus will bless you with keys to breakthrough in prayer. Prayer declares reliance on Jesus.** The more you pray, the more you're declaring to Jesus, "I can't

reach this person without Your help."

Maybe you've tried to sound like your pastor and immediately failed. Even if you don't feel like you can say long, eloquent prayers and you keep on repeating the same thing, Jesus still listens and acts. He'd rather you

give Him your most heartfelt, simple prayers than not pray at all. Think of

the stories in the Bible of Esther, David, or Moses. Before they became the mighty prayer warriors of the faith we recognize today, they were once young guys and girls who didn't have fancy prayers in their back pocket. Maybe they even had a first awkward prayer time. Imagine if they gave up because it didn't feel 'spiritual' and they didn't see instantaneous

**"JESUS HONORS THE
SELFLESS PRAYERS OF AN
AUTHENTIC HEART."**

results. Instead they chose to keep pressing on and fighting in prayer. Because of their perseverance, they witnessed Jesus encounter those around them and triumphantly answer their prayers. **Your words don't have to *sound* powerful. When your words are in Jesus' name, they *are* powerful.** When your words are pleading for Jesus to encounter your friends, Jesus moves in power. **Jesus honors the selfless prayers of an authentic heart.**

Jesus is looking for young people to fight for their friends and classmates. He's looking for people who will preach the Gospel in front of 1 person, 10 people, or all alone in prayer in their bedroom. **Will you be that person?**

TAKE ACTION

Set aside three times a week to pray for your school or campus. Commit to a minimum of 30 minutes. During each prayer time, choose a passage of scripture and pray out the truths found in those verses.

READ THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES:

JOHN 10:10

EZEKIEL 22:30

EPHESIANS 6:12

GENESIS 18:16-33

EXODUS 17:11

4. YOU NEED A PARTNER IN CRIME

Picture this: you've gotten fired up to evangelize. You drive to campus one morning, sling on your backpack, and head to class. And suddenly you feel really, really small and alone in your faith.

Jesus never intended for you to fight alone. He never intended for you to fight your fears in isolation. He never intended for you to walk the halls of your school alone, with no one at your side to labor for the Gospel. Jesus created you to be at your strongest within a community setting, with a 'partner in crime' to attack the fear and condemnation that fills your schools.

The fight for your unsaved friends and classmates is too great for you to handle yourself. You'll need a partner, an *armor bearer*.

1 Samuel 14:1-15 tells a story

about two young 'partners in crime.' One of them is the king's son. His name is Jonathan. The other is his armor bearer. These guys aren't evangelists at a school full of lost, hurting students; but they're in another kind of war. Your weapons are the truth of the Gospel, your testimony, and prayer; theirs are swords and shields. You're fighting against the enemy from Ephesians 6:12 who despises your school and everyone in it; these guys are fighting against the Philistines.

Jonathan and his armor bearer are no ordinary men. They trust each other fully - so much so that they pick a fight with an entire camp of Philistines. And they're committed; they'll fight to the death. They didn't wait for the enemy to meet them on their territory. They didn't hide out down below, waiting in secret for the perfect moment to make

a surprise attack. The moment the enemy camp mocked God's people, Jonathan and his armor bearer rose for combat.

It was 2 versus 20 in an uphill battle, but these brave and battle-hungry friends fought without fear. And together they found victory.

Does this story sound familiar? Do you feel like you're in a war, like there are enemies hidden in the hills

around you?

Fear, condemnation, and shame have taken residence in those hills, and they mock you with a familiar chant:

"Keep quiet about Jesus."

"No one will like you if you speak up."

"This isn't the place for Jesus."

The enemy mocks you, but their words also mock Jesus and His Gospel. That's your cue. Take on that enemy camp on that hill. Claim your territory. Don't wait for a comfortable fight on level ground. Claim the hill. Claim your

school.

But wait - Jonathan was the King's son. He had years of combat training. That's a huge advantage. You probably don't have years of experience sharing the Gospel. You might even be a new Christian. Is it safe for you to try to take on that hill?

Yes. Your advantage is the Holy Spirit living inside you and fighting on your behalf for the sake of

"DON'T WAIT FOR A COMFORTABLE FIGHT ON LEVEL GROUND. CLAIM THE HILL."

the Gospel. The moment you said yes to Jesus, you took on His battle for your friends. And the same moment you said yes to Jesus, you became empowered by the Holy Spirit. With your testimony and the Gospel as your weapon, you can free your friends from the grip of the enemy.

But there's just one thing missing...Who will be your armor bearer?

Who can you partner with as you contend for your school? To see

your school reached, Jesus wants to use both of you. You're both the son of the King with the weapon of the Gospel in hand. You're both the armor bearer, anointed to help carry the load and serve the other. When Jesus sees unified warriors who have eyes for both reaching the lost and strengthening their brother and sister, He commands a blessing (See Psalm 133). Imagine the impact of Gospel blessing breaking through at your school, simply because you linked arms with a partner in crime.

Jesus' heart burns to reach the hurting and lost in your schools. You're the armor-bearing Son of the King. He's anointed you for victory. With whom will you take up the fight? There's a hill waiting to be conquered.

TAKE ACTION

At some point in the next three days, ask God who your partner should be and reach out to them with your desire to reach your campus for Jesus. Ask them if they want to stand with you in the fight.

READ THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES:

LUKE 10:1

PSALM 133

1 SAMUEL 14:1-15

ECCLESIASTES 4:12

NEHEMIAH 4:19-20

5. YOUR WORDS HAVE POWER

You want to tell others about Jesus - but where do you start? The Gospel can seem complicated. That makes sharing your faith intimidating.

Not knowing what you want to communicate can make evangelism even more intimidating. If you don't know where to begin when telling someone about Jesus, the *Simple Gospel* and your testimony are great places to begin. While it is the work of the Holy Spirit that ultimately leads people to give their life to Jesus, it is your responsibility to understand how to clearly communicate the Gospel.

KEEP IN MIND...

- As you put to memory and practice speaking this outline of the Gospel, it is important to use your own voice and language when sharing it with others. People don't buy into a message that feels robotic and rehearsed.
- Sharing good news is joyful. The Gospel is not a message of condemnation, but a life-giving invitation.



THE GOSPEL:

- God created us for a relationship with Him.
- Our sin separates us from God. (Romans 3:23)
- The wages of sin is death. We have all sinned and therefore deserve death. (Romans 6:23)
- Jesus restores our relationship with God by taking the punishment that we deserved by dying on the cross and giving us his righteousness. We access this relationship through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus. (Romans 5:8)
- God promises eternal life to those who believe: *“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”* Romans 10:9-10.



In addition to equipping yourself with a clear understanding of the message of the Gospel, a clear and concise testimony of how Jesus has changed your life is another powerful tool for evangelism (Revelation 12:11).

KEEP IN MIND...

- When evangelizing, your testimony does not have to be your whole life story. You may only have a few minutes with someone, so it's ok to choose *one* thing you have seen Jesus do in your life.
- Don't spend all your time focusing on your sin and struggle. Highlight what *Jesus* has done in your life and the *freedom* you have as a result of his work.

TESTIMONY EXAMPLE:

“When I was in high school I *used to struggle* with fear and anxiety whenever I had to stay the night away from home. I was so overcome by this fear that I let it control my life and would never sleep away from home. At the end of high school after a cycle of struggling with this, I recognized that I could not get free from this anxiety on my own. I invited Jesus to set me free from letting anxiety control my life and let Him take control. *In exchange for* fear and anxiety, *Jesus gave me* peace and courage. *Now*, I no longer struggle with the anxiety of staying away from home because of Jesus’ kindness and power to transform my anxious mind. As a result of this freedom, I have been able to travel and live in many different places on mission trips to share Jesus with others.”

3 PARTS OF A TESTIMONY:

1. I USED TO STRUGGLE WITH _____ .
2. WHEN I INVITED JESUS INTO THIS STRUGGLE HE GAVE ME _____ .
3. NOW _____ .

The more you share these messages, the more natural evangelism will become. **Practice sharing the gospel and your testimony with your partner in crime.**

TAKE ACTION

Take time this week to write out the message of the Gospel in your own personal words. Then write out a testimony from your life. Practice verbally sharing the Gospel and your testimony with a friend. The more you practice speaking out these messages, the more natural evangelism will become!

READ THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES:

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21
ROMANS 10:13-15
EPHESIANS 2:8-10
REVELATION 12:11

6. TURN THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

Picture your school. Picture every person you see on the daily: every student who's in a sports program, in the marching band, or in theatre, even those who don't have a group to call their own. There's a worldly anthem that rings through the halls of your school. **Pain, confusion, and selfishness** make up this chorus that echoes in your classrooms. Whether or not you agree with it, it still loudly demands you sing your part.

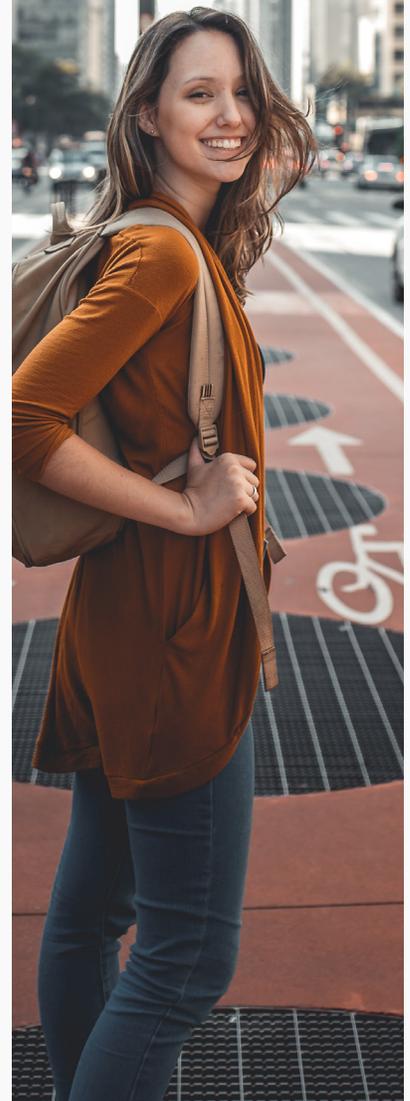
Now, picture this; same school, same people,

from John 6 - "**Jesus, to whom shall we go?**" You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God." This time, they know there's nowhere else to go. Jesus is their destination. Jesus has the words of truth and life, so they speak to each other in love, leaving gossip and inappropriate speech behind. **They've met the man of Jesus who healed their pain, brought peace to confusion, and turned them away from ordinary, selfish living.**

"THIS IS HOW JESUS ENVISIONS YOUR SCHOOL"

but there's a different anthem on their lips. Now their words are the same as Peter's

This is how Jesus envisions your school: every student has met Him and lives for Him. For this to happen, your school needs your boldness. It needs your firm, daily yes to be obedient to His vision for your school.



Maybe you still don't feel like a bold evangelist. **The thing is, your feelings don't dictate the truth of who Jesus has called you to be.** Peter from the verse above was once an ordinary fisherman, not much different from his peers. When Jesus called him into his true identity, he gave his life for Jesus' vision. Peter's "yes" started a movement. You and I are the fruit of that same movement that is now the global Christian church. The result of Peter's daily "yes" to Jesus and refusal to give up has lasted 2000 years.

Fortunately, 2000 years later, Jesus still invites His followers into completing His vision. To witness change in your school, you have to accept His invitation and take responsibility. You have to take on a burden for your unsaved friends and stand your ground in the fight for the Gospel.

One of Peter's partners in the fight for the church was named Paul. He stood his ground for the Gospel. Throughout the Bible, he risked his life with the city officials. He was beaten, whipped, and even dragged out of town and left for dead. What was his crime? He "*turned the world upside down*" (Acts 17:6). Those who were against the Gospel and Jesus knew how dangerous

Paul and Peter were. When those two guys showed up to town, so would Jesus. When those two guys were obedient to Jesus and gave Him their "yes," they *turned the world upside down*.

"IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO TURN THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN"

Jesus is ready to flip the table on that worldly anthem running the halls of your school. Pain, confusion, and selfishness have beaten and dragged around enough of your classmates. It's time for you to *turn the world upside down* by agreeing with Jesus' vision.

Proverbs 3:27 (ESV) says "***Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.***" Everyone in your school is due an encounter with a follower of Jesus. Regardless of how adequate or prepared you feel, *it is in your power* to show them how *Good Jesus is*. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you (see Romans 8:11) and it's time to stop withholding the **Goodness** of Jesus. **It's time for the worldly anthem to meet Jesus.**

Your school is full of people who



simply need to encounter Him. They've been searching for something or someone Loving, Merciful, and Gracious. His name is Jesus and He's ready to use you to fulfill His vision and turn your school upside down. If you continue withholding the *Goodness* of Jesus by choosing passivity, your classmates will suffer the consequences of your inaction. How much longer will they have to live in bondage to pain, confusion, and selfishness before you introduce them to Jesus? How much longer will you be silent? How much more injustice in your schools will you allow before you take your stand? Jesus is waiting. Your friends and classmates are waiting. Will you take your stand? Will you say *YES!* to reach your school for Jesus?

Partner with Jesus in his vision for your school and you'll see the world turned upside down: hearts set free, culture changed, and Jesus getting the worship and adoration he deserves.

TAKE ACTION

Start fulfilling Jesus' vision today. Share the gospel and your testimony with one stranger in the next 24 hours.

READ THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES:

PROVERBS 3:27

ROMANS 8:11

JUDGES 5

JOHN 6:68-69

ACTS 17:6

MATTHEW 28:18-20



YOU WANT TO USE YOUR FAITH TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

To do that, you need to stop settling for the ordinary life.

The problem is, you don't think you have what it takes, and that can make you feel insignificant.

We know what it's like to feel insignificant. But we believe you can be a part of what God is doing in the world. That's why we've activated thousands of young adults to impact their campuses and communities for Jesus.

The Launch is a 5 day event that will activate you for a lifestyle of faith.

Getting to the Launch is simple.

- 1) Visit info.YWAMOrlando.LAUNCH and register.***
- 2) Tell your friends about the event. You can even become an ambassador and earn cool swag.***
- 3) Come to Launch and get activated to change the world.***

The Launch is August 10th - 14th, so register soon.

So you can stop settling for ordinary, and start using your faith to impact your campus and community.