

Introduction to the First Method—Five Word Method

1. What is written below is a suggestion of what you might say when sharing the Five Word Method of witnessing.
2. There are many more ideas about what to say in Lessons 2 to 8 of this module.
3. In the text below, when there are extra notes containing more suggestions about how you might proceed, these notes are in brackets [].
4. The Bible verse references are written in case the person wants to know where those verses are located in the Bible. You do not need to look up each reference with the listener.
5. When witnessing to someone, you may want to use just one Bible verse for each point.

1. God's Love

Fill in the blanks below with the words: anxiety, love, peace.

What do you think is the most important thing in the world? [Let your listener say whatever he thinks is important, and then tell him that you think the most important thing is love.] Let me tell you about God's _____. He loves us so much that He wants us to have a good life on this earth as well as a beautiful home in the life to come. (1Jn 4:10a)

1. God provides for all our needs on this earth and does not want our lives to be full of _____. He wants us to have an abundant life on this earth. This abundant life, which can be experienced by the rich and poor alike, consists of love, joy and _____. The way to an abundant life is through repenting of our sin and having a close relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Besides the abundant life on this earth, God has also provided salvation for us so that after we die we can go to heaven. In heaven there are beautiful mansions which Jesus is preparing for us, streets of gold, and a tree of life with twelve kinds of fruit. Best of all, in heaven, we will be with the Lord Jesus forever. The greatness and wonder of heaven is beyond our imagination. In heaven we will be eternally joyful and so there will be no tears, death, mourning, crying, or pain.

2. Sin

Fill in the blanks below with the words: hear, words.

1. All people have committed wrong acts in thought word and deed. (Ro 3:12) Some examples of these three kinds of sin are:
 - 1) Wrong thoughts such as deceit, envy, pride, looking down on others, coveting, jealousy, pride, anger, selfishness
 - 2) Wrong _____ such as lying, gossiping, saying angry words to someone, quarrelling, belittling someone
 - 3) Wrong deeds such as fighting, hitting, stealing, committing adultery

2. We also sin when we *do not* think, say, or do the things that we should. There are many things that we should think (such as how to help people), say (like encouraging words), or do (like helping people). We often fail in these areas.

3. [One of our goals is to tell the listener as much as he is willing to _____. You want to speak in such a manner that he will gladly welcome you back to talk more. You should talk about sin only as long as the non-Christian is willing to listen. Usually you would not talk about sin longer than you talk about each of the other four points.]

3. Substitution

Fill in the blanks below with the words: God, victory, punishment.

1. God sees us in our sin and has mercy upon us. He does not want us to receive the _____ we deserve for our sin. Jesus was our substitute by taking our punishment when He suffered and died on the cross for our sins.

2. In order to be our substitute, Jesus had to have three qualifications. He had to be:
 - 1) Sinless, or else He would have to be punished for His own sins, and thus could not be punished for other people's sins.
 - 2) _____, because only God could take the punishment for ALL the sins of mankind upon Himself and suffer for them.
 - 3) A human being, because only a human being can take the place of another human being.

3. Just before Jesus died He said, "It is finished."
 - 1) He had finished all the suffering for the sins of the whole world.
 - 2) This was a cry of _____ as Jesus had conquered sin, death and the devil. He saved us from our sin by bearing the punishment for our sin, and giving us the strength to overcome sin. He saved us from the devil who wants us to continue living in sin and to experience eternal death in hell as a result of our sin.
 - 3) The Bible says that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Ro 5:8)

4. Belief/Baptism

Fill in the blanks below with the words: Holy Spirit, baptized, God.

1. [The Holy Spirit works in a person's heart to make him thirst to hear more, and to want to have a relationship with God. After you have told a person about God's love and forgiveness, you may ask the person one of the following two questions.]
 - 1) Would you like to learn more about ___ and His love? [If the person says he would, this is your opportunity to set up a time each week to share more about the Word of God with him and thus continue to witness to him. Of course you will invite him to come to church services and to give him a Bible or a Christian book.]
 - 2) Would you like to talk to ___ in prayer with me right now?
 - a. [If he is willing, then you can pray and thank God for sending Jesus Christ into this world to suffer and die on the cross for everyone's sin. You can teach him a simple prayer from the Bible such as, "Create in me a clean heart, O God." (Ps 51:10a) In this way the person has an opportunity to repent of his sins and have direct contact with God in prayer.]
 - b. [It is important to remember that it is the _____ Who reveals the truth to a person about God's love and forgiveness so that he wants to pray (1Co 2:10). It is not the person's act of prayer which saves him. Praying is the response of faith that the Holy Spirit has worked in the person's heart.]
2. [When a non-Christian has heard about Christ and believes, it is important that he be _____ for the remission of his sins (Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; Ac 22:16). Tell him when your church has baptism classes and arrange for him to attend. When a person believes in the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior, he will want to be baptized. (Ac 2:41; 8:35-38; Ac 16:25-33)]

5. Growth

Fill in the blanks below with the words: Holy Spirit, friends, trusting, repentance.

1. [After a person believes, you will of course encourage him to grow in Christ (Eph 4:15).]
2. [A person grows in Christ in the following ways.
 - 1) Going to church regularly and receiving Holy Communion (after being baptized)
 - 2) Personal Bible reading
 - 3) Prayer including a life of _____
 - 4) Choice of close _____
 - 5) A life-style of Christian love
 - 6) Witnessing
 - 7) _____ in God]
3. [You might begin helping him to grow by encouraging him to attend church regularly and to read the Bible.]

4. [Remember that it is the _____ Who enables a Christian to say that Jesus is the Lord of his life and begin to grow in these seven ways (1 Co 12:3).]