

Month	Evangelism Training	Evangelism Opportunity	Evangelism Assessment
March 2020	How to start building bridges through food/your home.	<b>The Gospel through hospitality.</b>	See at " <a href="http://Branchsd.org/evangelism">Branchsd.org/evangelism</a> "

**Evangelism Opportunity:** This month we will be focusing on sharing the Gospel through hospitality.

Goal: Engaging others with the Gospel through hospitality.

1. Invite two different neighbors out for coffee.
2. Build relationship with them.
3. Invite those neighbors over for dinner.

Team Aspect:

- Invite two other people to pray with you over the neighbors you are going to invite.

**Evangelism Training:** This month we will learn how to use hospitality to engage our neighbors with the Gospel. Hospitality is a great way to engage others as everyone likes the gift of food and the places where we enjoy food can provide opportunity for initial and meaningful conversation.

- The following ideas come from Sam Chan in his book *Evangelism in a Skeptical World*, 2018, Chapter 2.

1. To engage in hospitality effectively first consider the realms of conversation.

- (a) Interest: “Conversations usually begin with interests” (Chan, 49). Here we discuss simple matters of likes, dislikes and activities. What is your favorite color? Do you have any hobbies? What do you do on Saturday nights? “These are safe topics. They won’t start arguments or disagreements. They are usually descriptive, factual statements about empirical observations. We are merely describing things that just are” (Chan, 49).
- (b) Values: Conversations can progress to values. Here we discuss what we consider to be good, bad, right and wrong. What did you think of the movie? What do you think of the government? How do you feel about public education? What do you think about abortion? “Either they will give us permission to move on to topics about values or we

can invite them. Usually we do this by asking questions such as, ‘Why do you enjoy running?’ ‘Why do you enjoy that book?’ ‘What do you like about picnics on weekends?’ To answer these questions, they can start talking about their system of values” (Chan 50).

- (c) Worldviews: Conversations can progress even further to worldviews. Here is where underlying views on life, God, morality, and death are explored. “This is the underlying core of all that we believe” (Chan, 49). Where did the earth come from? What is right and wrong? Where do we go when we die? “To answer these questions, they will have to talk about their underlying worldview” (Chan, 50).

2. To prepare for meaningful conversation complete the following.

- (a) Interest questions: Search through the internet and write down 10 interest questions. You can also think of your own, asks friends or use helpful books.
- (b) Value questions: Search through the internet and write down 10 value questions. You can also think of your own, asks friends or use helpful books.
- (c) Worldview questions: Search through the internet and write down 10 worldview questions. You can also think of your own, asks friends or use helpful books.
- Go over these questions from time to time committing many of them to memory.
- Practice them with your family and church family.

3. Invite two neighbors (could be any sphere of your life; ex: actual neighbor, co-worker, softball teammate, etc.) out for a coffee.

- Begin with interest questions and get to know the person.
- Keep it simple and casual. You are looking to build an organic and authentic relationship with the other person.
- Coffee is in public and affords 20-30-minute non-trapped simple conversations.
- After the meeting suggest meeting again and work out a time and place before leaving.

4. Invite two neighbors (the ones you took out to coffee) over for dinner.

- Dinner is in private and affords 1-2 hours of growing conversation and trust.
- Look for invitation to further conversation with your neighbor (from interest to value to worldview) or at least the opportunity to take the conversation further (from interest to value to worldview).
- Listen to their story

- Ask questions. Let them share their beliefs. Try to understand as much as possible what they believe, how long and why.
- Then seek to respond.
- Look to share your story (testimony). (Chan, 56)
  - (1) Introduction: I am [describe yourself], and my mission is to [state your mission]. For example, [now give an example].
  - (2) Body: So I tried to achieve my mission in these ways: [give examples]. But [now explain the problem of trying to achieve your mission without God]. For example, [now give an example].
  - (3) Bridge: But this is what Jesus has done for me. [Explain how Jesus fulfills your mission.]
  - (4) Climax: That's when I decided [explain how you decided to follow Jesus].
  - (5) Denouement: So now [explain what living with Jesus looks like in your life now]. For example, [now give an example].
- Look to tell a story about Jesus
  - Seek to tell the story behind your story—the story of Jesus. ““Would you like to hear a story that explains my story?” Tell them, ‘It’s a story about Jesus from some of the original eyewitness accounts. It will only take one or two minutes’ (Chan 59). Use stories of people whom Jesus interacted with in Scripture, using conversational English. Ex: The woman at the well (John 4).
  - Ask non-threatening questions, “What did you like in that story?...What things are hard to understand?” (Chan, 60)
  - Move to more probing questions. “What does the story teach us about Jesus?” “What does the story want us to do?”
  - Resist the urge to correct their answers. Generate curiosity and dialogue.

Benefit: You will understand the basic progression of conversation and how it can be used through hospitality to bring in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.