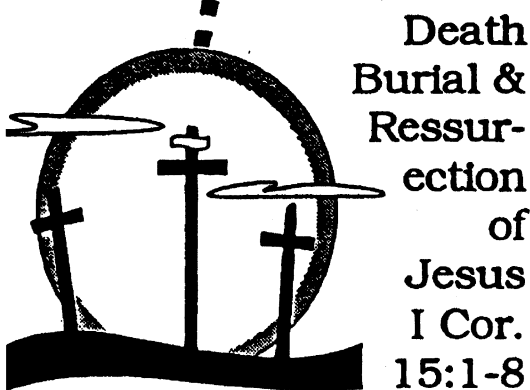


How To Begin... What To Say... In Sharing the Gospel



In the
beginning,
God...
John
1:1-4



Death
Burial &
Ressur-
ection
of
Jesus
I Cor.
15:1-8

I will
send you
the
Holy
Spirit...
Acts 1:1-8



Behold,
I come
quickly!
Rev. 22:
12-21

The Bible tells us in I Peter 3:15 *to be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of hope that is in you.*

We know that the Jews are not a very evangelistic people. They were quite satisfied in keeping their faith to themselves. But if you were to go to any Jew and ask them about their faith, very few of them would have any trouble. They will tell you in no uncertain terms that Jehovah God is the God that was in the Beginning. That He is the God who created all things. Prod him further and he will tell you how once - a long time ago, long before the Jews become a nation, God led them out of Egypt with many wondrous signs. This in essence, is the faith of the Jews. God the Creator. God the Saviour. God the Provider.

In reference to the chart on the next page, for the child of God who is sharing his faith, it is also appropriate to begin where our Jewish friends start. In the beginning - God. God existed. God created. This is a good place to start a discussion on our faith. However, instead of referring to Genesis, my preference would be the first chapter of the gospel of John. The key verse is 14.

Our faith is built on a God who was at the beginning. He was more than the great Creator but also was made flesh. For those who never read the gospel these foundational truths are to a certain extent, surprising facts.

Right at the beginning, there God was. This God made everything we see and touch. He made us and millions like us — not only in Singapore but all over the world; not only at this time but since the beginning. Now picture the most amazing thing of all: this

God became flesh and dwelled among us! Why would a God, who can create whatever he wanted come and live in this troublesome world?

The answer is the good news - the gospel. What a message of hope we have which we can share with our family, friends and even strangers.

This is not a difficult message. This point will bring out many important things for discussion. There is a lot we can say about the love of God, His power and majesty. From this point, it is so natural to introduce to them all we know about Jesus.

When this message is driven home, we can turn the focus to man's need. How Jesus was life and the light of man. Why the world received him not and how we can become the sons of God.

In the first 14 verses of John chapter 1, we have the gospel, the good news that focuses on God and the universal needs of man. Every Christian who shares this message is hitting on the essence of the gospel. Whether it is 5 minutes with a stranger, the next time we see our family or the final sermon we will preach, this would be what you want to convey.

Just as the power of God and His love for His people is seen in the story of Moses in Exodus, so the power of God and His love for His people today is seen in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. It's a story that we need to tell and share - not just the facts but also its meaning, significance and application.

As it is very natural to move from God to the Christ, the same smooth flow follows the resurrection of Christ to the Holy Spirit. Start with Acts 1 right at verse 1 if needed. The key is in verse 8.

First, God created the world and sent His son. Then Jesus died and was buried and rose again to send us the Holy Spirit.

In sharing on the third person in the Godhead, we can invite the hearer to be born of the water and the Spirit. We can talk about our prayer life by explaining how the Spirit intercedes for us. There's so much more we can share - what it means to be filled with the Spirit and how we can cultivate the fruit of the Spirit.

Not only is this a good place to continue but this subject is a good place to conclude for the time being. And what better place to end than the last ten verses of the Bible? Revelation 22:17, 20 are apt verses to relate to your lesson on the Holy Spirit and an excellent passage to encourage your listener

to respond to His invitation. The points we can emphasize in these two verses are:

1. The return of Jesus. Nothing makes our salvation more urgent and especially for those who are lost than knowing that we are living in the last days and that Jesus may return any time.

2. The the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ can only be applied if we will accept His invitation - He stands at the door and knocks.

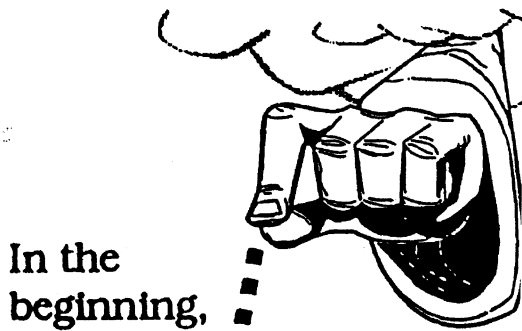
So here we have it - our message in a nutshell. So wonderfully concise and precise. When we have these in place, our listeners can grow from a solid foundation and add to this basis more knowledge, depth and insight. But when we beat around the bush and fail to establish this solid foundation, no wonder we are confused and have no confidence in what we are saying, do not know what to say and have no desire to tell it.

To recap, start from John 1 and present God as the Creator, how the word was made flesh and tell the story of Jesus. Then go on to amplify this message by focusing on the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. Conclude your message on Jesus' final words in Acts 1 and introduce the third person of Godhead.

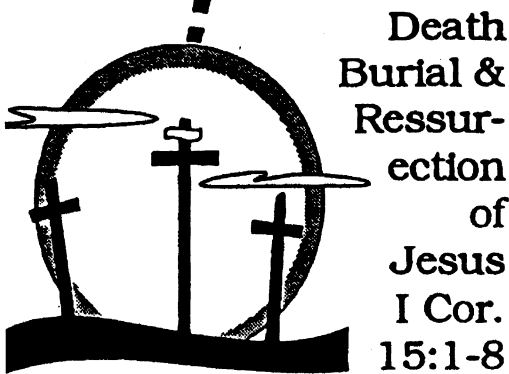
This message is a God-centered one, addressing the needs of mankind with an invitation to respond to the good news. All of us can share on any of these 4 passages on the diagram on this leaflet even if we are just new christians.

There are many applications we can make that are so meaningful, significant and needed. Here are a sampling: Because God created us, we are people of worth. God became flesh in the person of Jesus because He loves and cares for us. Of all the religions in the world, the most unique feature of Christianity is that the Holy Spirit dwells in us. Because God in the person of the Holy dwells in us, we are blessed, sealed and assured of heaven.

- Henry Kong



In the
beginning,
God...
John
1:1-4



Death
Burial &
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of
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I Cor.
15:1-8

I will
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Behold,
I come
quickly!
Rev. 22:
12-21

Have you heard

the Good News

of Christianity?



Notes:

[illegible]

Genesis 1:1



The first four words of the Bible reveal that God existed right at the beginning.

Notes:

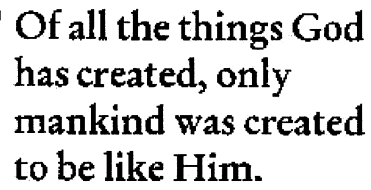
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Genesis 1:27

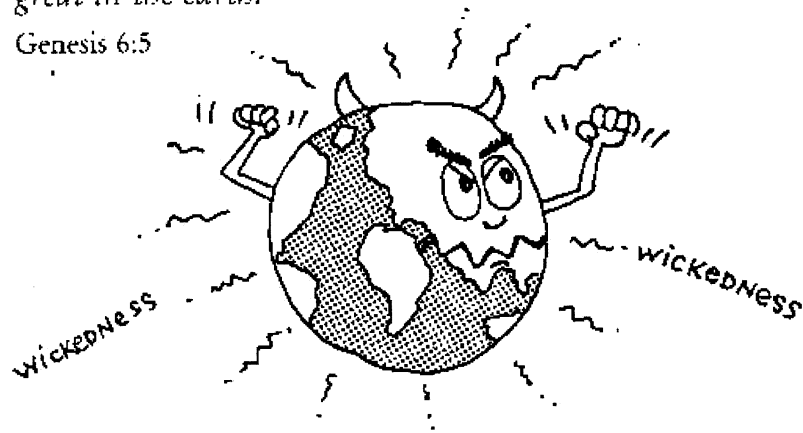


Notes:

Notes:

*"And God saw that the wickedness of man was
great in the earth."*

Genesis 6:5



Although mankind received every
good thing from God, he strayed from
Him and became full of wickedness.

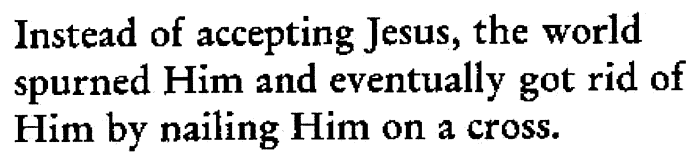
Notes:

John 3:16

Notes:

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John 1:11



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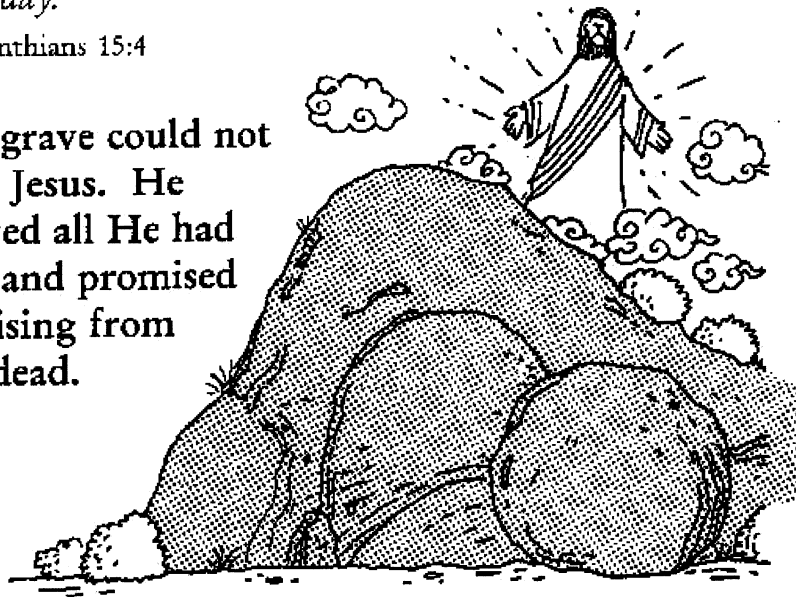
I Corinthians 15:3

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I Corinthians 15:4

The grave could not hold Jesus. He proved all He had said and promised by rising from the dead.



Notes:

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*"Ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is
come upon you..."*

Acts 1:8

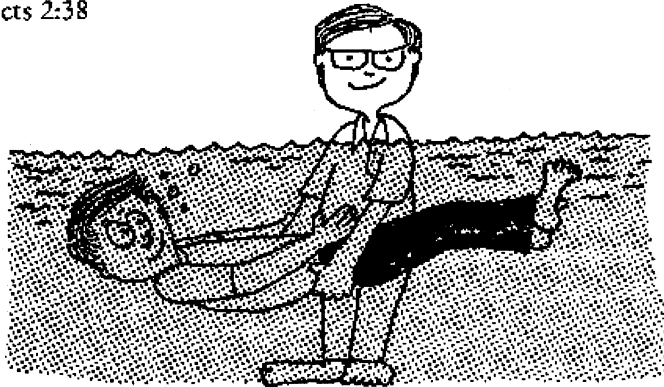
After Jesus died, was
buried and resurrected
from the dead, He
promised to send
His followers the
Holy Spirit.



Notes:

*"Repent ye, and be baptized ... and ye shall receive
the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

Acts 2:38



**Mankind can receive the abiding presence
of the Holy Spirit when he turns from his
wickedness and is baptized**

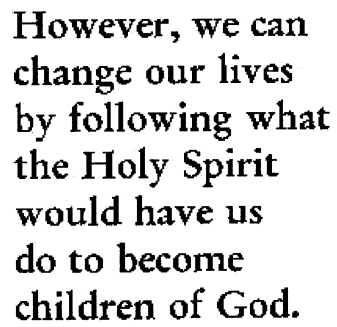
Notes:

Romans 8:13

Notes:

[illegible]

Romans 8:14



Notes:

"And the Spirit and the bride say, come."

Revelation 22:17

**The Holy Spirit,
together with
the bride invites you
to turn from your
present lifestyle
and come to God.**



Notes:

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Revelation 22:17

Notes:

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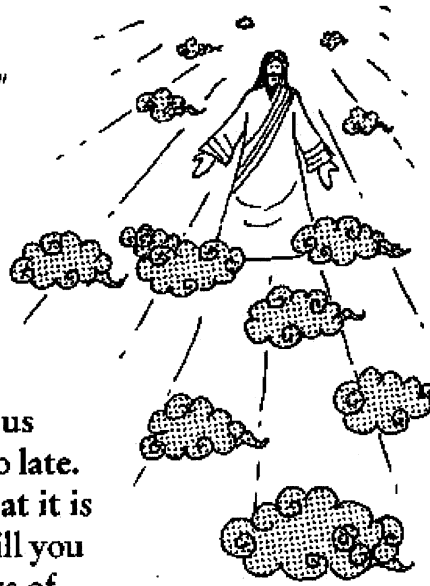
Revelation 3:20

A black and white line drawing of a hand knocking on a door. The hand is shown from the side, with the index finger extended and making contact with the door. The word "KNOCK" is written in a stylized, hand-drawn font twice: once above the hand and once below it. The door has a simple rectangular panel design.

Notes:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Revelation 22:20



On the day that Jesus returns, it will be too late. The good news is that it is not too late now. Will you accept the good news of Christianity today?

Notes:

[illegible]