

Lessons from an Austin Harvest

by Fred & Melissa Campbell

When we first met Ying Kai and Grace, Ying said: "Remember 3 things:

1. Pray
2. Keep it simple
3. Just do it

Don't forget these 3 things!"

Over 23 years in the local church we practiced and trained others in door to door evangelism using such Gospel tools as *Continuing Witness Training (CWT)*, *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, *Jesus* videos, *Got Life*, *Share Jesus Without Fear*, *Marketplace Evangelism*, and the *FAITH* evangelism strategy.

We joyfully experienced GOD as we shared the gospel. Now, using the tools in which Jeff Sundell has trained us, we are seeing GOD provide a re-producing entry strategy, re-producing gospel that new believers do right away, re-producing discipleship, re-producing gathering of new believers, and multiplication of leaders. This has changed much.

Now, the relationship with someone far from GOD does not end when their response is "I'm not ready." The "Seven Stories of Hope" facilitate continuing the relationship for weeks as the Word of GOD is heard and the discipling process begins with Pastoral Care, Loving Accountability, Vision Casting, Practice telling God's Word, Setting Goals, and Praying specifically that God would help us.

Now, within minutes of someone coming to Christ, the Word of GOD empowers them to share their story with their social network that are far from GOD. Within days, they are trained and practice telling their story with the Gospel inside their story.

New believers are trained to obey Jesus and know Him as LORD and Savior. They are then mentored for 9–18 months through the Word of GOD and Holy Spirit of GOD.

Lessons Learned

- We hold people back if we don't train them immediately until they are competent and confident.
- The harvest field contains laborers waiting for someone to share the Gospel with them and disciple them.
- New believers:
 - know many people who are "far from God," and
 - are willing to tell their story and Jesus' story if someone will teach them how.
- Tools exist for
 - a reproducing gospel presentation,
 - reproducing discipleship, and
 - leader multiplication.
- A U.S. "community of practice" exists to train you and others!

Practices we've developed along the way:

1. Pray every day:
 - GOD give us wisdom not to make good choices, but to choose what is best!
 - GOD increase our passion for people who are far from You!
 - Luke 10:2 and much of God's Word!
2. Look in the Gospels & Acts and ask:
 - What did Jesus actually do?
 - What did Jesus tell His disciples to do?
 - What did his disciples do before and after Jesus went back to heaven?
 - What did Jesus tell me to do?
3. Obey the Great Commission:
 - Go! (Do not invite to Church first—invite to Jesus in a reproducible gospel presentation.)
 - Disciple all nations (Go to everyone!)
 - Make disciples (Read 2 Cor. 5:17-21 to new believers—GOD has empowered them to be His ambassador. See "The Call.")
4. Keep time management simple:
 - Meet with church staff/pastors at lunch and early afternoon (seldom eat lunch alone).
 - Focus week nights and summer afternoons Gospeling and training in the harvest field.
 - Hold Great Commission Trainings frequently on Friday nights & Saturdays (9–10hrs).
 - Offer periodic mid-level training and Iron-on-Iron to get practitioners "unstuck."
5. Go into the harvest field:
 - Take believer(s) or a pastor with you.
 - Send believers with other practitioners.
 - Utilize a Saturday morning door to door strategy with a simple gift and prayer. (See the [Burrito Entry Strategy](#) at [T4Tusa.com](#).)
6. Look for the oikos/house of peace. (Willingness to receive prayer identifies a potential house of peace. Openness to a Gospel presentation identifies the House of Peace.)
 - Offer a simple gift of value to the person far from GOD. (Illustrates God's free gift.)
 - Ask, "If GOD could do a miracle for you right now, what would it be and could we pray that for you right now?"
 - Look for spiritual hunger, and where GOD is already working.
 - Ask their first name, pray for the person and leave. (When out of sight take careful notes.)
 - If prayer is welcomed, return *at least 2* weeks later to:
 - tell a story (Luke 7:36-50 in our own words) and ask, "Where are you in this story, and why?"
 - share your story with the Gospel inside it, and
 - invite them to accept Christ as their "boss." (Most understanding this better than "Lord.")
 - If they say, "I'm not ready," say, "Can we tell you another story next week?" The house of peace says, "Yes!" Schedule a time and urge them to invite others.
 - If they say, "Yes," ask them to confess privately to God—and turn from—anything they think displeases Him. Then
7. Teach them to obey in:
 - *Witness* (Train them within 2 days to tell in 3 minutes their story with the Gospel.)
Have them:
 - list everyone they know who is "far from God" (as many as God brings to their mind),
 - pick a few they think God wants them to share with first in their own household or family.
 - *Baptism* (Baptize them asap.)