

EXPRESS



Discover the **confidence** to talk about Jesus.

ACQUIRING THE NECESSARY TOOLS

INTRODUCTORY TOOLS

PRIMARY TOOL

SUPPORT TOOLS

FOLLOW-UP TOOLS

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Review of Introductory Tools

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Introduction to review

For many years Express Your Faith has been an essential offering for Perimeter members. It has served a twofold purpose: 1) to inspire our members to take part in the most exciting element of the Christian life, sharing the gospel and watching the Holy Spirit do the work of taking people from unbelief to belief; and 2) to give our members confidence that they too can be a part of the Great Commission, to make disciples.

It has long been known that the training that has been done through the years was less than ideal. Often it was said that, “the training was like taking a drink out of a firehose”. As a result, many repeated the training time and time again. As they did some were indeed inspired, but more importantly they set out on this adventure with confidence that they could be fruitful if only they were faithful.

We often speak of a concept that has been around Perimeter for many years, “Situational Leadership”. This concept was developed by Ken Blanchard, and it is a key part of our strategy for training leaders around the world on how to make and train disciples. We are now employing those same tools to our training for this Express Your Faith.

In addition to the excellent, time-proven content being delivered, each week following the teaching of the content, the next week we will coach and review that material. We will do this until the completion of this training, one week of content and one week of review. The review/coaching will be in a friendly, non-threatening environment with the expectation that you will begin to make the tools your own. Just as we would desire that we all become ambassadors of the gospel and share the good news in a winsome manner, this review and coaching will be conducted in a manner that will be enjoyable but also effective.

Now, let’s get started.

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Introductory Tools

1. S.H.A.R.E.

What does each letter represent in the acrostic **SHARE**?

1. **S** _____

What are some basic questions or comments that can be used to steer the conversation in a direction that would allow you to take a step toward a spiritual discussion?

2. **H** _____

You may find that some have no church experience, or they may have unpleasant memories or experiences with church.

How can you affirm their comments and continue to move the conversation toward a meaningful spiritual conversation?

3. **A** _____

Depending on how your answer #2 above, the goal now is to gain some insight into how prominent the spiritual interest is of the one with whom you are speaking.

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4. R _____

What is the most important responsibility of the church?

To help its people find:

P _____

F _____

A _____

Would you agree? (It is unlikely that you will have someone disagree. In essence this is an easy next step to the next and final letter.)

5. E _____

This next question can go in two directions – **Yes or No**.

What is the next question?

_____ do you feel the **c**_____ has helped you to find this kind of

p_____ and **f**_____ in life? Has the church helped you

find **a**_____ that when you die you will spend eternity in heaven?

If they answer **NO** respond by saying, “Can I show you a _____?”

If they answer **YES** ask how they came to this assurance. If they do not have a clear

understanding of the gospel ask, “Can I show you a _____ that has helped

me understand how to have purpose, freedom, and assurance.

This is the SHARE tool. The primary purpose of this tool is to launch a conversation that may be directed to spiritual topics and to share the introductory diagram.

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Introductory Tools (continued)

The following questions are questions that may allow you to open a conversation on spiritual topics. There is a presumption that some conversation has already taken place, and these questions are naturally arising as a continuation of that conversation.

For each question noted below can you come up with a natural transition statement that allows you to ask one of the questions.

Pick one and write out a transition statement. **

2. Spiritual Journey Questions

1. Where are you in your spiritual journey?
2. Do you have any spiritual interests?
3. How would you describe your spiritual journey so far?
4. To what degree would you say you are experiencing life satisfaction?

Depending on how your friend answers these questions, a possible next step and a good resource to provide is a copy of the book, [The Answer](#). Ideally, however, if you are prepared to help your friend to investigate Christianity, you would ask if they would allow you to show them the introductory diagram.

**Sample, *"You know, as long as we have been friends, I don't think I have ever asked you..."*

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Introductory Tools (continued)

The Answer is an intentionally brief book that was written to introduce the gospel in an engaging and enjoyable way. It does this by explaining the human quest for glory, grace, and truth.

Depending on how the questions were answered in Tool #2 above, The Answer is a great resource to give to your friend.

3. The Answer

1. Introducing The Answer. (see pages 20 – 22 for detailed outline)

As you listen to the answer(s) given to the questions in Tool #2 (Spiritual Journey Questions) one of the best ways to introduce The Answer is to share three key elements of a healthy and meaningful spiritual life:

G _____

G _____

T _____

Unless you are prepared to share the introductory diagram with your friend, offer a copy of The Answer to read and suggest that if they are not able to read the book in its entirety to at least read the first and last chapters.

2. Follow-up from giving The Answer

“Did you read it?”

“What did you think?”

“Do you recall the author mentioned, ‘Cliff-Notes’ called, L _____ I _____?”

“Would you be interested in trying the first booklet?”

The Answer, as a resource, allows an invitation to be extended to do a spiritual investigation once they have read the book. However, if they did not fully read the book, they may still be willing to enter into an investigation. If you feel that they have not fully understood what it means to investigate, you may want to walk them through the final introductory tool, The Introductory Diagram.

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Introductory Tools (continued)

The following section will ask you to answer key questions as you draw the diagram. Do not worry if you do not get everything right early in the process, the goal is as you practice it time and time again you will very quickly become quite comfortable with the drawing and the transitions. It may also be helpful to watch as Randy Pope walks through this diagram by following this link as he shows how he does the drawing with helpful commentary:

<https://www.perimeter.org/resources/randy-pope-recommends/>

4. The Introductory Diagram

1. How many boxes are in the diagram? _____
2. What is the progression for drawing the boxes? 1 - _____ - _____ - _____
3. What are three drives all humans shares? **S** _____, **I** _____, **P** _____
4. When these drives are balanced what is the outcome: **P** _____, **F** _____, **A** _____
5. What happened between Box 1 and Box 2?

We have **a** _____ disobeyed God. Or we could say, "We have all **g** _____ against God."

When this happens our **P** _____ drive becomes stronger than our **S** _____ drive.

We then lose our **P** _____, **F** _____, and **A** _____.

How do we compensate for this diminished spirituality? By creating a **p** _____ spirituality.

Draw Box 1 and Box 2 and insert the above information in the diagram.

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Introductory Tools (continued)

<https://www.perimeter.org/resources/andy-pope-recommends/>

4. The Introductory Diagram (continued)

6. We could continue the progression of boxes, but we will stop with the next box, Box3.
7. If this decline does not turnaround, the **S**_____ drive will disappear.
8. Which of the three drives becomes most dominate? **P**_____
9. What is that drive transformed into? **S**_____
10. Which Box is drawn next? _____
11. This box represents someone who has balance in their drives and therefore has Purpose, Freedom and Assurance.

Draw the boxes 1-4 below and insert the information in the diagram.

What is the key question from Box 3 to Box 4? How does one get from **h**_____ to **h**_____?

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Introductory Tools (continued)

<https://www.perimeter.org/resources/andy-pope-recommends/>

4. The Introductory Diagram (continued)

12. Next we want to help our friend to understand the answer to the Key Question above.

13. The wrong answer(s):

P _____ or having an **e** _____ experience

Walking down an aisle of a **c** _____.

However, there is no noticeable **L** _____ change and, even with the above experiences the whole of religion seems to be **i** _____.

The church, in many cases, has offered simplistic answers that have led us astray. There is a correct answer that leads to genuine purpose, freedom, and assurance

14. The correct answer:

The person of **J** _____ **C** _____.

The fifth box is drawn, and Christ is written in the box.

Draw the Boxes 1-4 and insert Box 5. Insert the information in each of the boxes.

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Introductory Tools (continued)

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4. The Introductory Diagram (continued)

15. The importance of investigation

C.S. Lewis came to realization that he had not properly investigated the claims of Christianity as it pertained to Jesus Christ. So he set about to investigate and he came to the following conclusion:

Jesus Christ was either a L_____ (intentionally misleading others) or He was a

L_____ (a mad man claiming to be God) or He was who He said he was

L_____ of the universe.

16. The wrong approach

The obvious answer of where one might start to investigate Christianity is the B_____

As with any book, we would begin at the beginning in Genesis and if we are diligent we might get to the second or third book before we would become disillusioned and abandon our investigation. It is too confusing, and it is not easily understood.

17. The correct approach

Begin with a “Cliff-Notes” version of the critical issues that deserve to be investigated. To that end the following four booklets address four issues that many have identified as the key issues to be answered. Extend the invitation, set a time and place and give them Book 1..

Life Issue 1: Is the Bible God’s Word?

Life Issue 2: Do non-Christians really deserve eternal punishment?

Life Issue 3: Is Jesus Christ the only way to God?

Life Issue 4: What is required to have eternal life?

For a concise review and outline of the introductory diagram please refer to pages 31-32 in this workbook.

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Introductory Tools (continued)

<https://www.perimeter.org/resources/andy-pope-recommends/>

5. The Introductory Diagram (continued)

In the space below draw the introductory diagram and insert the information in each box and include the information from C. S. Lewis.