



Introduction

If you've been a Christian or in church for any time at all, you probably know that we're 'supposed' to share the Gospel with others and help lead them to faith in Jesus. This is the command of Jesus in His famous Great Commission found in Matthew 28.

While we all know, as Christians, we're commanded to go and share our faith with others, and despite knowing the truth of the Gospel and having a relationship with Jesus ourselves, we can often struggle with the 'making disciples' aspect of following Him.

We find ourselves lacking in motivation, unsure of whom God is calling us to share the gospel with, distracted by all the other things going on in life, ill-equipped to know what to actually say, and daunted by the idea of saying anything or offering to pray for people who don't believe in God at all. When passionate evangelists tell their stories, we can be left thinking that sharing the gospel is one mountain-top experience after another, but like everything else, the key to evangelism is to simply take one small step after another. Like doing a Couch to 5k or learning the piano, growing in evangelism is a process of taking one small step at a time, and not moving onto the next step until we're ready.

This term we're going to use material from Relational Mission's Take a Step course, as well as some other materials, to do just that – to grow in our motivation and confidence in sharing our faith with others by taking manageable steps each week, being accountable to each other, and spurring one another on. Each week we'll focus on a different element of sharing our faith, choosing what would be a manageable step for us in the coming week, and sharing how we got on the next week.

Take the first step

The first step before we get on to actually sharing our faith with others is to ensure that we're properly motivated; what we do for God must flow out of who we are in God – our identity in Christ. So our small step this week is to spend 10-15 minutes each day dwelling on the truths of our identity in Christ listed below, and letting them sink in. Consider:

1. *Which of these resonate with you and why?*
2. *Which do you feel you have a good grasp of and are able to live in the good of?*
3. *Which do you find it harder to wrap your head around and why?*

I Am Accepted

John 1:12 I am God's child.

John 15:15 As a disciple, I am a friend of Jesus Christ.

Rom 5:1 I have been justified.

1 Cor 6:17 I am united with the Lord, and one with Him in spirit.

1 Cor 6:19-20 I have been bought with a price and I belong to God.

1 Cor 12:27 I am a member of Christ's body.

Eph 1:3-8 I have been chosen by God and adopted as His child.

Col 1:13-14 I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins.

Col 2:9-10 I am complete in Christ.

Heb 4:14-16 I have direct access to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ.

I Am Secure

Rom 8:1-2 I am free from condemnation.

Rom 8:28 I am assured that God works for my good in all circumstances.

Rom 8:31-39 I am free from any condemnation and cannot be separated from the love of God.

2 Cor 1:21-22 I have been established, anointed and sealed by God.

Col 3:1-4 I am hidden with Christ in God.

Phil 1:6 I am confident that God will complete the good work He started in me.

2 Tim 1:7 I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind.

1 John 5:18 I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.

I Am Significant

John 15:5 I am a branch of Jesus Christ, the true vine.

John 15:4-6 I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.

1 Cor 3:16 I am God's temple.

2 Cor 5:17-21 I am a minister of reconciliation for God.

Eph 2:6 I am seated with Jesus Christ in the heavenly realm.

Eph 3:12 I may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

1 John 5:18 I am born of God and He keeps me safe.