Memory Verse:

"Pray on my behalf, that speech may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel..."

Ephesians 6:19 (NASB)

"What is Apollos, really? Or what is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, and each of us in the ministry the Lord gave us. I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused it to grow. So neither the one who plants counts for anything, nor the one who waters, but God who causes the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters work as one, but each will receive his reward according to his work. We are coworkers belonging to God. You are God's field, God's building."

1 Corinthians 3:5–9 (NET)

Don't censor yourself. Be the same person at church that you are at work and in your neighborhood.

"You can't spell "bless" without that final 's'."

—Dave Ferguson

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel and, if necessary, use words."

-Francis of Assisi

At the end of the day, when it's time to share our story, we must

- 1. What was your life like before Christ?
- 2. How did you meet Christ?
- 3. Where are you now on your spiritual journey?

Read Paul's testimonies in Acts 22 and Acts 26.

^{*}See Engel Scale*

Three Suggestions:

- Don't ______ it.
 Don't ______ yourself.
- 3. Share your _____, not someone else's.

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life."

1 John 1:1 (NIV)

Be _____ in how you speak about the Gospel, not just this next week, but in the rest of your lives.

The Engel Scale

MICRO-DECISIONS OF FAITH

	MICRO-DECISIONS OF FAITH			
CYNIC SKEPTIC SPECTATOR SEEKER BELIEVER DISCIPLE	Choose to live by faith	+5	MULTIPLYING	Speaks to: The Whole Person Addresses: Social Barriers Overcomes: Isolation By: Participation in Body Goal: Growth Answers: Will live for Christ? Example: Jerusalem Church (Acts 2:41-47) & Samaritan Awakening (Acts 8:4-8)
	Chooses to share faith with others	+4		
	Makes Christ-like choices	+3		
	Joins in community life	+2		
	Assimilates God's Word	+1		
	Trusts in Christ	0	HARVESTING	Speaks to: The Will Addresses: Volitional Barriers Overcomes: Indecision, Unwillingness to Change By: Prayer & Persuasion Goal: Trust Christ Answers: Will I trust Christ? Example: Paul before Agrippa (Acts 26:1-29)
	Turns from self-trust	-1		
	Sees Christ as the answer	-2		
	Recognizes own need	-3		
	Considers the truth of the Gospel	-4	SOWING	Speaks to: The Mind Addresses: Intellectual Barriers Overcomes: Ignorance, Misconceptions & Error By: Presentation Goal: Understanding Answers: Who is Jesus? What does He want from me? Example: Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8)
	Understand the implications	-5		
	Aware of the Gospel	-6		
	Recognizes relevance of the Bible	-7		
	Looks positively at the Bible	-8	CULTIVATING	Speaks to: The Emotions Addresses: Emotional Barriers Overcomes: Indifference, Fear & Antagonism By: Presence Goal: Attractions, Trust You Answers: What's in it for me? Example: Nicodemus (John 3)
	Recognizes differences in the messenger	-9		
	Aware of the messenger	-10		
	Going own way	-11		
	Avoids the truth	-12		

Discussion Questions:

- Did you have a chance to share your story with anyone last week? If so, share how that went.
- What is the difference between responding to an opportunity and forcing your story on someone?
- What are examples of spiritual milestones that you have seen people reach? Examples might include: praying out loud, going to church, believing Jesus is real, changing habits, going on a mission trip, getting baptized, etc.
- What is a spiritual milestone that you would like to reach next?
- What does it look like for you to avoid censoring yourself when it comes to your faith?
- What has been your favorite part of being in this group these past few weeks?