Module 04

Attracting Spiritual Interests
Poll the audience

Go to menti.com and use the code 98 85 6
Sharing Christ drives a “virtuous cycle”

Experience → Heart Conversion → Experience Life Transformation

Attract Spiritual Interest → Study Together → Win Souls

→

Transformation

Interest

→
After decade of letting light shine, Adventist woman considers mentioning Jesus

By SDuhA May 31, 2016 Christianity, evangelism, letting light shine, living the sermon, ministry, religion, talking the walk, vegetarian, walking the walk
EAU CLAIRE, Mich. — Shyla DeMurr, a committed Seventh-day Adventist, has been practicing the “Living the Sermon” method of evangelism for well over a decade and thinks that she may have to talk the walk as well now.

After years of hearing about how Christians should behave, DeMurr decided to let her actions and deeds do the evangelizing for her. She prepared answers for the many questions she expected people to ask her when they noticed how peaceful, loving and non-addicted to drugs her lifestyle was. However, the flood of questions didn’t come.

“I always made sure to bring a vegetarian lunch with plenty of fruit to work,” said DeMurr. “But so many people are health-conscious nowadays that they hardly noticed. Actually, someone did say something about my Stripples the other day, but that was only to tell me that I should probably lay off on the overly processed, salty veggie meats.”

DeMurr also takes time each week to volunteer with organizations outside of her denomination. She makes sure she is kind, patient, loving and friendly. The only problem is that most of the volunteers are the same way.
“And some of them don’t even go to church!” said a very surprised DeMurr.

DeMurr lets all of her friends, family and acquaintances know that she won’t go out and do social activities from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset, but is flabbergasted that most people are respectful and quietly accepting of her decision. “They usually say, ‘Sure, no problem! Another time then!’” said DeMurr, sadly shaking her head.

Having spent most of her time steeling herself for insults, arguments and confrontations that might arise when people ask about her beliefs, DeMurr was wholly unprepared for the utter lack of curiosity.

“It’s come to the point where people think it’s impolite to ask others about their religion,” complained DeMurr. “I might actually have to make an effort. Like, I think I might actually have to talk about Jesus with people instead of waiting for them to come up to me. Bummer.”
Attracting spiritual interests
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This...
Attracting spiritual interests

Not this!
Attracting spiritual interests

This...
Attracting spiritual interests

Not this!
Attracting spiritual interests is an active, intentional process

01 **Excel in life & work**
- Get credibility
- Make God look awesome

02 **Establish relationships**
- Leverage mutual interests
- Extend invitations when you can’t

03 **Engage in conversations**
- Turn any conversation into a potential spiritual conversation

04 **Empathize**
- People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care

05 **Extend an invitation**
- Leave an open-ended offer for whenever he or she is ready
Excel in life and work

And whatever you do, **do it heartily**, as **to the Lord and not to men**.

Colossians 3:23

Let your **light so shine before men**, that they may see your good works and **glorify your Father in heaven**.

Matthew 5:16
Reaching W3s requires our best efforts to build credibility
But in order to do this all the workers will have to keep themselves up to a high level of intelligence. They cannot do this work and sink down to a low, common level, feeling that it does not much matter how they labor or what they say, since they are working for
Reaching W3s requires our best efforts to build credibility to the poor and ignorant classes. They will have to sharpen up, and be armed and equipped in order to present the truth intelligently and to reach the higher classes. Their minds must rise higher, and show greater strength and clearness.
10 things that require zero talent

- Being on time
- Work ethic
- Effort
- Body language
- Energy
- Attitude
- Passion
- Being coachable
- Doing extra
- Being prepared
Would your W3 friend want to be like you?

- Excellence in work/school
- Family life
- Health & fitness
- Hobbies & interests
- Temperament/personality
- Social/communication skills
- Spiritual/religious practice
- Other...
Would your W3 friend want to be like you?

Is your life a credible reflection of the transformative power of God
Establish relationships

[Jesus] said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.”

Luke 19:5
While He ministered to the poor, Jesus studied also to find ways of reaching the rich. He sought the acquaintance of the wealthy and cultured Pharisee, the Jewish nobleman, and the Roman ruler.
He accepted their invitations, attended their feasts, made Himself familiar with their interests and occupations, that He might gain access to their hearts, and reveal to them the imperishable riches.
Engage in spiritual conversations

Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

John 4:10
Engage in spiritual conversations

Some are especially fitted to work for the higher classes. These should seek wisdom from God to know how to reach these persons, to have not merely a casual acquaintance with them,
Engage in spiritual conversations

but by personal effort and living faith to awaken them to the needs of the soul, to lead them to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.
Have spiritual experiences regularly

- Personal devotional life
- Church attendance & related activities
- Bible studies
- Spiritual conversations with others
- Events and trips
- Media consumption
Offer a conversational menu of options to gauge spiritual interest

“Why don’t you wear makeup?”

1. I try to live a healthy lifestyle so that my skin doesn’t need a lot of makeup

2. I prefer saving my time in the morning for other things (e.g. working out, spiritual time)

3. I only wear makeup when I’m trying to look older/more professional or for special occasions like church
Turn any conversation into a spiritual conversation

- What’s up for/how was the weekend?
- Any vacation plans?
- What do you do for fun?
- Do you still play the cello?
- How do you shut off work while you’re on vacation?
- Do you have any advice on how to be successful at work?
Empathize with the individual

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.
Empathize with the individual

[Jesus] taught in a way that made them feel the completeness of His identification with their interests and happiness...
Extend an open-ended invitation

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Revelation 3:20
Extend an open-ended invitation

There are intelligent men and women whom we are afraid to work for, fearing repulse; but earnest efforts should be made for the higher classes, coming close to their hearts,
Extend an open-ended invitation

visiting them and using special wisdom to win them to the truth. There should be no pushing, no sharp contention, but leading their minds out to investigate.
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   - Extend invitations when you can’t

03 Engage in conversations
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Reflect
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In what ways is your life attractive to W3s? In what ways can you improve?
Reflect

Are you having enough spiritual experiences to fuel spiritual conversations?
Reflect

Will you commit to having spiritual conversations in your sphere of influence?
Stay Engaged—NicodemusSociety.org

Witnessing to the Wealthy, Worldly, & Well-Educated