

Accelerate The Talk- Session #4 Small Group Notes

Introduction:

Have you ever had an awkward conversation? What was it about? Why was it awkward? What was the result of the conversation, continued awkwardness or resolution?

In what ways have you seen “sharing our faith” seem to be like having an awkward conversation? Why do we often shy away from this type of conversation?

What are ways that we can have an incorrect perspective regarding evangelism?

Discuss: To begin, read Matthew 28:16-20

1. Imperfect people have always been used to having ‘The Talk’

- Starting the Engine of Discipleship involves:
 - Prayer always starts the disciple-making process
 - Invitation can open the door to disciple-making
 - Listening well always reveals “what’s missing?”
 - Learning to share your story will fuel the disciple-making process
 - The Word is the headlight of disciple-making
 - The growth steps can serve as a road map to discipleship.

Explain: Evangelism (sharing the good news of Jesus) is one of the church’s central responsibilities. Christ’s final command to the church, known as the Great Commission, makes this priority clear. Our Lord instructed the church, under His authority as the risen Son of God to **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Ask:

How does evangelism involve prayer, inviting, and listening?

What is something that you would say is a passion in your life? (Allow for different responses from participants). Why should we share the same attitude in telling our story as much as if not more than say a hobby, career, or thing?

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:8, What does this verse say about how love fuels evangelism (and discipleship)?

2. The Talk is a command, not a suggestion

- Jesus exercised authority over storms, spirits, sickness, sleep, and sin but does He have authority over you?
- Those who “go” know who has the authority in their lives.
- His authority sends us, His authority guides us, and His authority empowers us, but first it must save us!

Explain: The disciples had to believe deeply that the One standing resurrected before them was more than just a man. He truly was God in flesh, God in power, and God in authority. As Jesus’ disciples today, we have been given the same command of discipleship, and understanding and believing in the authority of Jesus must precede our obedience.

Ask:

How seriously did the earliest disciples take their call to go to the nations? How seriously have we taken this call today?

What are some ways we have misunderstood the Great Commission?

What responsibilities do we have, individually as well as corporately, to share the gospel in cooperation with one another?

3. We will never have “The Talk” alone!

- Read Matthew 28:20. The best way to see God work in your life is to join Him in His!
- Read Philemon 1:6. The Talk is for people that believe in the truth!

Explain: The task of reaching people with the good news about Jesus could be daunting. The encouragement that Jesus gave was that He will always

be present in the lives of those who trust in Him. He will go with us. We can always count on His presence until the work is finished and the end of the age comes.

Ask:

In what areas of your life have you seen God's presence and the impact it made? Why do we often forget His presence when we are sharing the gospel? How can it be affirmed?

Is there an area of your life that you are seeing God working in right now? What are ways that you can join in with what He is doing and use it to share the gospel? Are there some circles of friends or fellowship that could be used to share Jesus with?