

# **HARVEST ROCK CHURCH**

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## **OUT OF THE SALTSHAKER COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERIES**

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**TEXT: Colossians 4:2 Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; 3 meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, 4 that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.**

**Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time. 6 *Let* your speech always *be* with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.**

**INTRO: Acts 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.**

**PURPOSE STATEMENT: I WANT TO SHARE THE THREE KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL EVANGELISM, WHICH IS FOUNDATIONAL TO ALL COMMUNITY OUTREACHES.**

### **I. PRAYER**

**A. Colossians 4:2 Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; 3 meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, 4 that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.**

- 1. John 1:40 One of the two who heard John *speak*, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus.**
- 2. Operation Andrew and Billy Graham Crusades—the key to his success.**

### **B. HRC VIP PRAYER LIST**

- 1. Five names, primarily friends and family members, who live in LA (or wherever your campus is located), who you will be praying for daily and in your Connect Groups, for the purpose of sharing the gospel with them as well as inviting them to our Community Outreaches.**



2. Leading to my conversion, so many people prayed for me: Sue’s mom, Sue’s dad, Uncle Mark Kim, etc.
3. **Who is to be involved? EMI: Every Member Involvement.**
4. **We want everyone to fill out a VIP list.**

## II. WISDOM

A. Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time.

1. Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous *is a tree of life*, and he who wins souls *is wise*.
2. Matthew 5:13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor [the Greek word is *moraino*, which we get the word “moron” from], how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.”
3. The word is “being foolish,” the opposite of being wise.

B. What does wisdom look like when it comes to winning souls?

1. 1 Kings 3:3 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David... 5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?”
2. 1 Kings 3:6 And Solomon said: “You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day. 7 Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I *am* a little child; I do not know *how* to go out or come in. 8 And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. 9 Therefore give to Your servant an understanding [*shama*: a “hearing”] heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?”
3. 1 Kings 3:10 The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 Then God said to him: “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, 12 behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise

after you. 13 And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. 14 So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

4. It takes a hearing heart to win people to Christ.
5. John 10:27—You hear from God and you speak that word to unbelievers, and they will hear Jesus through you, resulting ultimately in conversion.
6. Story of Ann and Lois.

### III. LOVE

**A. Colossians 4:6** *Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.*

1. **Your speech has to be gracious. So, how are we to be gracious with our speech? By speaking the truth in love. Ephesians 4:15** “But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.”

2. **Our speech has to be like salt. What does that look like? Ask questions!**

**B. THE SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL (John 4:1-37):** Here is a basic and simple way to initiate and lead a person to Christ. I use the model of Jesus witnessing to the woman at the well in the fourth chapter of John as an outline to follow. Here are seven steps you may want to take in outline form:

1. **INITIATE: “Jesus said to her, ‘Will you give me a drink?’” (John 4:7).**

a) Initiate conversation with the non-Christian. Get their attention—use the natural occasion.

2. **INTEREST: “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (John 4:9)**

a) Take a genuine interest in them. Love and accept them.

b) Be an excellent listener.

c) “Readiness to hear or learn is the absolute precondition for change. Prior to any readiness to hear the good news... is the necessity of the outsider’s letting out those feelings that prevent a hearing of that message. Listening—honest, perceptive, non-judgmental, relational—which conveys trust and acceptance of the other, is the requisite element in the communication process. People can’t hear until they have been heard.” (Hunter, 1992: 98)

d) Ask them questions about their family, occupation, etc.

**3. INTRIGUE: “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” (John 4:10)**

- a) Arouse curiosity (e.g. “A few years ago I would have felt the same way, but since then my outlook on life has totally changed...”)
- b) Share your testimony.

**4. INQUIRE: In addition to the conversation turners, we must know how to ask questions that will lead to the presentation of the gospel. Here are some questions to ask:**

- a) “Do you have any type of religious background?”
- b) “Have your ideas about God changed since... (coming to college, getting married, having children, being in this job, the death of your friend, etc.)?”
- c) “By the way, are you interested in spiritual things?”
- d) “What do you think a real Christian is?”
- e) “Have you come to a place in your spiritual life where you know for certain that if you were to die today, you know where you’d spend eternity?”
- f) “Suppose that you were to die tonight and stand before God, and He were to say to you, ‘Why should I let you into heaven?’ What would you say to Jesus?”
- g) “What do you think is the greatest need that man has?”
- h) “What would you say a person needs to do to have eternal life?”

**5. INTRODUCE: “I who speak to you am he.” (John 4:26)**

- a) Introduce the matchless Jesus: who He is, that He died for our sins and rose again, and if we believe in Him, we too will have eternal life (John 3:16).
- b) This is the core of the Gospel.

**6. INVITE: “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” (John 4:29)**

- a) Use the prophetic. If you have a word for your friend, give it. E.g. Hubert Pralitz.
- b) Make sure you give an invitation (e.g. “Do you want to receive Jesus into your life?” “Is there any reason why you cannot give your life to Jesus?”)

**7. INCORPORATE: “One sows and another reaps” (John 4:37). What is biblical reaping? Discipleship. The most important part is to disciple the new convert. You have to take personal responsibility for them. This includes incorporating them into the local church. E.g. Henrick and Ernie.**

## CONCLUSION

