

LifeGroup Study
GOING VIRAL: Trustworthy
2022-03-13
Participant Notes

OVERVIEW:

Welcome back to our series, Going Viral. The goal of this series is to grow our passion for and engagement in evangelism – sharing our faith in Jesus with people in our lives. If you were to sketch out a step by step process for how people come to trust Jesus, the first step would be that they come to trust a follower of Jesus. This means we must be people who are worthy of trusting. As followers of Jesus, it's important we represent Him well as we do things like keeping our word, being a leader in our neighbourhood and loving sacrificially. The goal of today's study is that we would be trustworthy people, representing Jesus well to our world.

ICEBREAKER: My Trustworthy Friend

Think back to your days in elementary school or high school, to someone you would describe as a trustworthy friend. This is a friend you could trust with a secret, someone you could share anything with, a person you knew “had your back”. What about this person makes you remember them as trustworthy? **Describe your friend to the group.**

STUDY:

1. On Sunday Pete said for a person to trust Jesus, they must first be able to trust a follower of Jesus. **What about this have you been thinking about since?**

2. Think back to your journey to becoming a follower of Jesus. Who did God put in your life to influence your decision? **How did trusting that person factor into our decision to trust Jesus?**

I AM AN AMBASSADOR FOR JESUS

A key part of being trustworthy comes from my identity as an ambassador for Jesus. In 2 Corinthians 5: 20 we read, “So we are Christ’s ambassadors ...” NLT. What does God mean when He calls me His ambassador? How should this impact how I see myself and how I live? Let’s explore these questions.

3. The dictionary defines an ambassador as “a diplomatic official appointed as representative in residence by one sovereign or government to another – an authorized messenger or representative.” **How might this definition help us think about what it means to be an ambassador for Jesus?**

READ: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

4. In verse 11, Paul says his motive for sharing Jesus with others is a “fearful responsibility to the Lord” NLT. This fear is not a cringing dread but a healthy reverence for God’s authority and calling in our lives. **How does this idea help shape your identity as an ambassador for Jesus?**
5. In verse 11 we read how as ambassadors we are to “work hard to persuade others” about who Jesus is. **What might this look like today?**
6. In verses 14-15, Paul reminds us that as ambassadors for Jesus, we have been transformed by Him. We have died to our old life and been raised up to live for Him. **Why is this truth so important when it comes to our identity?**
7. In verse 18, Paul says that “ ... God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.” NLT. **What does it mean to be a reconciler for Jesus?**
8. In verse 20, Paul says, “We are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us.” NLT As ambassadors, we have an appeal to make to people He has in our lives. **How might God use your testimony to appeal to your friends?**

INVOLVE AND INVITE

In part 1 of this series we talked about a key action Creekside calls us take – INVOLVE AND INVITE. This action is a key strategy for how we can share our faith with others. First, we involve ourselves in the lives of our neighbours, people we work with or go to school with – people in our world. Then, as God opens doors, we can invite them to check out the claims of Jesus.

9. INVOLVE – Think about your circle of relationships these days, people you work with, play with, go to school with or live near. **Who is God giving you opportunity to be involved with these days?**

10. INVITE – As you think about those relationships, what doors might God be opening for you to invite them to check out the claims of Jesus?

PRAYER

This week let's pray for opportunities to share our faith with others.

- Pray for the people God has put in your life, people who are not yet followers of Jesus. Ask God to show you how you might be involved in their lives and, as He gives opportunity, invite them to check out the claims of Jesus.
- Pray for Creekside as we put together opportunities like our Sunday services and Alpha, places where you can invite your friends to hear about Jesus. Ask God to use these ministries to draw people to Him.
- Pray for the church in Ukraine. Ask God to strengthen His people and to give them many opportunities to point people to hope in Him.