

MY316 Conversations

3 Circles Life Conversation Guide Using John 3:16

Assumptions

1. Most people in Arizona are far from God.
2. We must depend upon the Holy Spirit's empowerment and prayer to reach them.
3. Our people need to move from non-sharers to sharers. Gospel Congregations are needed in every neighborhood and community in Arizona.
4. Jesus spent most of his time outside the local synagogues and the Temple in Kingdom conversations with people.
5. Pastors want to prepare their people for Gospel conversations.
6. The most important works in ministry will be those of evangelism and discipleship.

Imagine if every Arizona Southern Baptist had a mindset to cultivate gospel conversations. If each of our members had one monthly conversation, there would be approximately 960,000 gospel conversations in 2016.

The 3 Circles approach grew by talking with people far from God. A pastor hosted a community premarital class at his church and the couples attending were living together and not married. He realized that these couples were far from God and needed to understand God's Design for marriage and family. The conversations led to questions as to why people leave God's design and if there was any hope. By sharing Jesus with these couples, the idea of using 3 circles grew wings.

3 Circles is

- a framework or guide for conversations and not a prescriptive presentation model
- great way for people to get evangelism reps with people far from God
- a conversational model and not a monologue
- everyday conversations that can lead you to talk about Jesus
- not a cold call evangelism starter – "Have you heard of the 3 Circles?"
- sharing Jesus within a simple model
- a way to help pastors with preaching and member care
- an open source and not scripted
- good for a team approach, because your people know the framework and can help cultivate conversations

Training People in the 3 Circles with John 3:16 or the Roman Road or.....

There is no rule that says you have to use a tract or Bible when witnessing; in fact, you may find yourself in situations where that is not possible. But, if you have the MY316 tract, you can say something like, "I carry this verse with me as it explains the Christian view of good news." Some people are visual learners and this may help them, plus you can leave the tract with them. Once you get to the verse, you can use it phrase by phrase to share the story of salvation. Personalize it your own way, as the MY316 materials explain.

Transition to the Gospel

Remember that sharing Jesus must be Spirit led and intentional. That said, you are in conversations everyday and week inside your faith family and outside your faith family. So, whether you are in "church space" like a block party, worship, Bible study or community group; or, "life space" like the supermarket, barber/beauty shop; football/soccer/baseball games; mechanics garage, motor speedway or ____; people typically share how they are doing. Cultural and world topics, community and personal problems are all entry points to the 3 Circles.



Transition Questions:

[Connect to your own life. Don't tell them what to believe or they will turn you off.]

I have come to believe that/ Can I share with you what I have learned about raising children? What do you believe the perfect marriage and family looks like?

I have come to believe that

[Identify with brokenness] Can I share something that helps me navigate this myself?

We all want change, or everyone gets brokenness, and this is what helps me.

[Share Jesus] I have learned to think about this in a new way that helps me, may I share this with you? I have come to believe that the Bible does a good job of answering this one.

A Good Invitation Question: Is there any reason you would not want to trust in Jesus?

3 Responses we see in scripture [see Acts 17: 32-33]

- Red Light – No, I do not believe this
- Yellow Light – Not sure, but I'll hear more on this
- Green Light – Yes, I want to ask Jesus to save me

You can share John 3:16 with the 3 Circles or the Roman Road, or if you have a current way that works for you, consider attaching it to the 3 circles.

Charles Spurgeon, once said, "If sinners ... perish, let them perish with our arms around their knees. Let no one go [to hell] unwarned and unprayed for." Amen!

3 CIRCLES: LIFE CONVERSATION GUIDE TRAINING and *Leader Resources* from NAMB

