

## Share the Gospel (Bridge Illustration)

*Equipping You to Share Your Faith*

1. What are some ways you have attempted to share your faith in the past? How did it go?

### **Read these verses:**

- 1 Peter 3:15
- 1 Timothy 1:7
- Isaiah 55:10-11

2. How do these verses apply to sharing the Gospel?

There are many great ways to share the Gospel. The Bridge Illustration, using Romans 6:23, is an easy way to share the Gospel. Practice sharing the Bridge Illustration with one another.

*Step-by-step instructions are on the next page.*

### **Application:**

3. Who could we share the Bridge Illustration with this week together?

## The Bridge Illustration

You can share the illustration in three parts.

**PART 1:** a) Let them read Romans 6:23 as you write it at the top of the page. (Draw the two cliffs as shown).  
 b) Underline wages and write it as shown. Ask, "How would you define wages?" "That's right it is something we earn."  
 c) Underline sin and write it between cliffs. Ask, "What is sin?" "Do you think we have all sinned?" "That's right we all have." "What does it say we earn because of our sin?"  
 d) Underline death and write it. Explain that it's not a physical death but a spiritual death or separation from God. Write man on one cliff and God on the other and use it to show the separation because God is Holy and we are sinful. Ask if that makes sense or if they have questions.

**OBJECTIVE IN PART 1:** Is to help them understand that they are sinful and separated from God.

**PART 2:** a) Underline gift and write it as shown. Ask, "What's the difference between a wage and gift?" "That's right a gift isn't earned but a wage is." "What does it say the gift God gives us is?"  
 b) Underline Eternal life and write it. "What do you think of when you think of eternal life?" Explain that it is a relationship with God that will last forever. Contrast this gift with what we have earned for ourselves. Ask, "Who is this eternal life in?" "That's right in Christ."  
 c) Draw the cross as shown and explain that Jesus died the death that we earned for our sins and rose from the dead and took our place. (Cross through sin) He did this so we might have Eternal life because our sin was keeping us from God. Ask if that makes sense or if they have questions.

**OBJECTIVE IN PART 2:** Is to help them see that God offers us eternal life as a free gift because Christ paid the penalty for our sins.

**PART 3:** a) Explain that the Bible says it is not enough to believe intellectually but each person must make an individual decision.  
 b) Ask, "What do you think we must do in order to have this eternal life?" If they say good works, point out that it is a free gift and cannot be earned because we will never be perfect.  
 c) Ask, "If I wanted to give you this pen, when would it be yours? That's right, when you received it." In the same way each person must receive Christ.  
 d) Write Receive Christ. To receive Christ a person must Turn & Trust. Write it. They must decide to turn from their sin and Trust Christ. We must receive Christ for who He is: What is He called in this verse. That's right, Lord. Write both names. "What is a Lord?" That's right, someone in control. One must trust Christ to be their Savior, trust in His death & resurrection for salvation and trust in Him to be their Lord and let Him take control of their life. Give short testimony of how you specifically received Christ (i.e. through prayer). Ask, "Do you understand what it means to receive Christ?" Let them break the silence with their answer. If no, answer their questions until they understand what it means to receive Christ, and then ask them if they would like to receive Christ.

**OBJECTIVE IN PART 3:** Is to help them see that they need to individually receive Christ and to tell them how. You must close the deal by asking, "Would you like to receive Christ?"

