

GO GUIDE TO SHARING YOUR FAITH PERSONALLY WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING

Social Distancing is an opportunity to lead people closer to Jesus. Being intentional will make the most of this unique and difficult time. In order to decrease the percentage of those suffering, feeling afraid and without hope - we all need to increase our percentage of participation in the Great Commission.

This season of Christianity is not going to be measured in the attendance of services, but in how close we can get to *100% participation* in the lifestyle Jesus modeled. We can use social media to spend time with people personally. Taking the steps of Prayer-Care-Share we can connect people to Jesus.

Quick Start

- 1. Use your phone, tablet, or computer to reach out to your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors and check in on them. Ask how they are doing, if they have any needs, and how you can pray for them. Then pray with them.*
- 2. If you find out that someone you know, like a friend or neighbor, is running low on basic supplies or resources and can't or shouldn't leave their home, get creative: for example, get Instacart or Shipt to have a few supplies delivered to their front step.*
- 3. If you have a relationship with someone who isn't a Christ-follower, using your digital options, lovingly and appropriately care for them. Ask how you can pray for them and, if the opportunity arises, let them know your source of peace and hope. Share your faith story and express that they, too, can have a relationship with Jesus.*

GO Guide

Use the following 2-part guide designed to equip you to SHARE THE LOVE of JESUS in this critical time. Everyone can reach someone! Who is someone that needs Jesus right now?

Go Guide Part 1 - Personal Evangelism

How you can connect personally (while social distancing) with people you know that don't know Jesus through the simple steps of prayer, care, and share.

START with PRAYER

Who is someone in your neighborhood, your family, friends, workplace, school, sports, or people you see on a regular basis that does not know Jesus in a personal way?

- Write down the names of 5 or more and pray for them - "My 5".
- Join with others on a conference or video call to pray for others "My 5"
- Prayer walk your neighborhood. Leave a note on your neighbors' door.
- Make a plan to connect to each one personally by phone, text, or DM
- When you pray for them, send them your prayer. Include a Bible verse.

This resource can help you know how to pray: [How to pray for My 5](#)

Show you CARE

With limited access, we can be creative and innovative in showing others that we care. Be intentional in hearing their story, understand their needs, and be the love of God to them.

- Sharing a relevant article that speaks to their needs. www.EveryPerson.com
- Make a time to have a video call or a virtual coffee date.
- Offer a diversion from the crisis by playing an online game together (note: some online games can create stress, so choose wisely).
- Share an example of how the Bible has helped you in a challenging situation or is helping you now. [God's Promises in Scripture](#)
- Invite one or more to a YouVersion Bible plan. [Bible Reading Plans | Together in Scripture](#)

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Lovingly SHARE

One of the greatest barriers to sharing the Gospel is people don't feel equipped to do this effectively. This is a great time to build your understanding of the Gospel, write your testimony, and practice sharing it. As God leads, seek opportunities to share your faith. You can be a link between them and God. Simply share what Jesus means to you.

- Pray *Colossians 4:3-6*
- Write out your story in advance. [One Minute Witness Testimony Worksheet](#)
- Ask a friend if they would be willing to hear the faith story you are working on and ask for feedback.
- Get equipped to share. [Free Evangelism Training Options](#) or [Dare2Share Evangelism Crash Course](#)
- Invite them to an online church service.
- Invite them to a video or audio call. Focus on three stories. Start by asking to hear their story and ask questions about their life. Ask if you could share your story. As the Holy Spirit leads, share the one story that changed your story forever, the Gospel, and invite them to trust in Jesus.
- Here are some tools to help you share your faith online or through your phone: [Digital Tools for Evangelism](#)

Go Guide Part 2 - Social Media Evangelism

Ways you can pray, care, and share the love of Jesus to your social media friends. Social media is a “social” environment to build connections and dialogue.

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Instagram, and Snapchat: A media-sharing platform is perhaps one of the greatest tools for spreading the Gospel online. Video and audio content and sermons can be uploaded and shared along with podcasts and photos. Here, we can build relationships with people, both new friends and old. We can be both authentic and strategic in how to use these platforms, remember to use relationship evangelism principles when witnessing online. They are people, not a project.

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When making posts on social media:

- Consider the interests of others
- Celebrate others and be specific
- Ask your audience about their lives
- Share your life with them
- Know what NOT to do on social media platforms [Evangelism No-No's on Social Media](#)
- Share about your faith in Christ, and loving and appropriately share the Gospel

Here are some helpful articles you can share.

- Article: [Four practical things to do instead of worrying](#)
- Article: [Rescue is right around the corner](#)
- Article: [Coronavirus: How to deal with anxiety](#)
- Article: [The Power of Words: Coronavirus fears – reality or perceived reality?](#)
- Video: [Anxiety](#)
- Video: [Faith and Fear](#)

Tips:

- Create weekly prayer posts and personally respond to every person who requests prayer.
- Invest in online conversations as real conversations with people and respond in a meaningful way.
- Ask questions--seek to understand people and their needs.
- Think of ways to engage people with Gospel truths without bombarding them.
- Sharing a high quality, spiritually thought-provoking video can prompt a follow up conversation of eternal significance.
- Be authentic and transparent.
- When you post scripture, share how it is impacting your life that day.

Here are some video conversation starters: [Digital Tools for Evangelism](#)

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Practical Example

If we are not intentional, it probably won't happen. To make the most of this time, we need a simple plan. Start by assigning one person on your My 5 to a day of the week, then set a daily goal to pray and reach out to them.

Monday - Joe (co-worker) --pray, text about work situation and send encouraging verse on Facebook

Tuesday - Grandpa Mike --email a link to a worship song on YouTube, make phone call and pray

Wednesday - Molly (friend from college) --pray, send a prayer text, send a link to a sermon message on YouTube

Thursday - Mr & Mrs Peterson (neighbors) --pray, call and see if they need anything and how to be praying for them, send a followup text

Friday - Gretchen (sister) - pray, tag her in an Instagram post, send her a podcast from church, and video call her after dinner

Saturday - Pray for everyone in My 5 on my knees

Sunday - Write prayers out for each person on My 5 in my journal

Everyone can reach someone. Together we can reach the world!

LET'S GO!