INTRODUCTION 引言

We will do something really fun today. We will learn a simple way to share the gospel. We will practice it together at the end. You better pay good attention. Evangelism is a command Jesus gave to every Christian. But why is it not part of our habit? There may be a few reasons. Very often, we can be too <u>busy</u> with our own things. We excuse that we do not have time to do it. Sometimes, we may be <u>scary</u> too. We are afraid that people may reject us or laugh at us. We could also be plain <u>lazy</u>. We think God will rise up other gospel messengers. We show little concern that our relatives and friends will be lost forever if they do not receive Jesus. A forth reason is because we find it <u>fuzzy</u> to communicate the message. We do not know what to say. I hope that today's message will help you overcome the issues above. God can use you as a channel of His grace. God saves you first because He desires to save others through you. Nothing can bring us bigger joy than to see people receive Jesus.

EXPLANATION 解釋

1. Five Facts That Shape The Gospel 用五個重點解釋福音

Before we talk about the method, let us go over the message first. I call them the five facts that shape the gospel. Those are the basic elements of the Christian faith. I will use the five letters in the word FACTS to illustrate. Allow me to begin with a bad news. F stands for <u>failure</u>. We fail to live up to God's standard. Romans 3:23 describes our status: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By saying "all" it puts everyone on the same boat. Sin is anything that violates God's standard of holiness. We sin in our minds, in our speech and in our actions. We do the things God forbids and we do not do the things He commands. Sin has its consequence. That takes us to the letter A, which refers to accusation. God accuses us for our sins. Romans 6:23 tells us: For the wages of sin is death... Death is a punishment for sin. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin thus entered the world. God then declared that there will be an end to our earthly life. We will meet with God after we leave the world. He will judge us based on our sins. So far the picture is all sad. Here is the good news! C represents Christ. Jesus comes to our rescue. Listen to Romans 3:24 – ... (We) are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Jesus Christ died on the cross for the penalty we deserve. Paul uses two words to explain the result. We are "justified," meaning that God sees us as not guilty. We are also redeemed. Jesus used His life as a ransom to reclaim us back into God's family. How can we receive those benefits? T indicates trust. We have to put our trust in Jesus to be saved. Romans 10:9 tells us the two aspects of this trust: Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. The two steps are to "confess" and "believe." First, I must believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. In doing so, I admit that Jesus also died for my sins. He is my Savior. But Jesus came back to life three days after death because He is God. Not even death could hold Him in bondage.

Second, I must confess that Jesus is my Lord. I submit to Him and I follow Him. I obey everything written in the Bible, because those requirements are for my good. If we put our trust in Jesus, the result will be <u>salvation</u> (S). Jesus proclaims in John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." All who believe Jesus to be their Savior and Lord will be saved. They will not perish, meaning they will not face God's judgment and go to hell. Instead, they will have eternal life. We have a new life the moment we accept Jesus. Salvation is about beginning an eternal relationship with Him right now. Just like human relationships, our spiritual relationship with the Lord must continue to grow. We read the Bible and pray to God daily. We also attend church meetings every week. We study God's Word, we worship God and we enjoy fellowship with brothers and sisters. We pray for and encourage each other in our walk with the Lord. Then we will mature in our faith.

2. Five Fingers to Share the Gospel 用五根手指傳遞福音

After discussing the five facts that shape the gospel, now let us learn how to use five fingers to share the gospel. I learned this method about two months ago when I attended a local training. The name of the speaker is David Burton. He used to be a pastor at a few Baptist churches. Later he launched his own evangelism ministry. Pastor Burton said there are times when we want to share the gospel with someone, but we do not have any gospel track or a Bible. But we always have our hands. This technique is so simple that anyone can memorize. I will reuse some of the Bible verses I quoted earlier. We begin with the thumb. We show our thumb to signal something good. I have some good news to tell you. God loves you and He is willing to give you eternal life. Jesus says in John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." God can come into your life and be with you every moment. He promises to protect you and provide for all of your needs. Then He will receive you into heaven after you leave the world. But what prevents us from receiving this gift? Then you raise your index finger. We all have one serious problem. It is the sin problem. Romans 3:23 points out: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Sin divides us from God. We are sinful but God is holy. We cannot remove our sins by our own effort. Good works, accomplishments in the world, religions and nothing else will work. One day God will judge us due to our sins. The result will be hell and we will forever be separated from God. But here is the good news: God provides a solution for us. Next you will show all three fingers except the thumb and pinky. Jesus died for us. Romans 5:8 says: But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Jesus died 2,000 years ago to pay for the penalty of our sins. At that time, two other criminals were also nailed to a cross, one on each side of Jesus. They all died that day. But Jesus rose from the dead three days later because He is God. He has the power to overcome even death. He can forgive your sins and give you a new life. But how can we receive those blessings? We must confess our sins to God and commit our lives to Him. Then you point to your ring finger. We make a commitment to Jesus just like two persons making a commitment to each other at their wedding. Romans 10:9 states: Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Receiving Jesus means two things. First, we accept

Him as our Savior. We admit that we are sinners and we believe that Jesus died for our sins. Second, we accept Him as our Lord. From now on, He will be our Boss. We obey everything God says in the Bible. He will make you into a new person right away if you receive Jesus as your Savior and Lord today. All it takes is a little faith. You then display your pinky. Ephesians 2:8-9 tell us: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. Salvation is 100% God's grace and 0% our effort. God saves us not because we are good, but it is because He is good. He will give us faith when we ask Him. We say to God: "Have mercy on me, I'm a pitiful sinner." He will save us if we pray with a humble and sincere heart. The amazing thing is that your decision will be effective forever. At this time you open your palm. Jesus promises us in John 10:28 – "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand." Salvation is about building a permanent relationship with God. Once we are saved, we are saved forever. The devil cannot steal anyone away from God's hand. Christians will not lose their salvation even if they stumble in sin again. After you have finished the whole presentation, then you ask the person: "Would you be willing to receive Jesus as your Savior and Lord right now?" If the answer is a "yes," then you will lead the person in a simple prayer. The person has to make a commitment to Jesus sincerely through words. You say one sentence and let the person repeat it. The prayer should contain three sections. First, the person admits that he/she is a sinner and cannot be saved by own effort. Second, the person believes that Jesus is the one and only God, and He died for his/her sins. Third, the person commits his/her life to Jesus and makes Him Savior and Lord. That is the full gospel outline. You do not need to recite all the Bible verses word for word. You can summarize the content in your own words. Is it not a piece of cake?

CONCLUSION 結論

Nothing can bring us bigger joy than to see people receive Jesus. I am sure you know someone who is not a Christian. It can be your family members, relatives, classmates, coworkers, friends, or people you often meet in the gym. You know them by names. God is giving you opportunities to reach out to them. They may not hear the gospel if you keep it to yourself. There was a story about a famous composer and violinist named Fritz Kreisler. Though he made a lot of money through his work, he generously gave most of it away. Once he saw a great violin. Though he liked it very much, he did not enough money to buy it. After he finally had the money, he returned to the seller. Unfortunately, it was already sold. The new owner did not know how to play violin. He was only a collector. Kreisler went to see the man. But he refused to sell the instrument. Kreisler was surely disappointed. An idea came when he was about to leave. He asked politely: "May I play it once more before it becomes silent?" His permission was granted. Thus the room was filled with beautiful music. The collector was deeply moved. He then said "I have no right to keep it to myself. Take it into the world, and let people hear it." The gospel is the greatest news to mankind. God is telling you today: "You have no right to keep it to yourself. Take it into the world, and let people hear it."

INTRODUCTION 引言

我們今天要做一件非常有趣味的事情。我們要學習一個簡單的方法來分享福音。在學完之後,我們會一起練習。請大家要專心聆聽。傳福音是耶穌給每一位基督徒的命令。但是,為什麼這不是我們生活中的習慣呢?有幾個可能的原因。很多時候,我們太<u>忙碌</u>於自己的事情。我們為自己找藉口,說沒有時間去做。有時候,我們也會<u>膽怯</u>。我們害怕別人的拒絕或嘲笑。我們也可能只是<u>懶惰</u>。我們想,神會興起別的福音使者。我們不關心親友若不信耶穌就會永遠沉淪。第四個原因是,我們對福音的信息印象<u>模糊</u>,不知道怎麼說。我盼望今天的信息能幫助你克服以上的因素。神能夠使用你成為祂恩典的管道。神先拯救了你,是因為祂希望藉著你去拯救別人。沒有任何事情比看到別人接受耶穌能帶來更大的喜樂。

EXPLANATION 解釋

1. Five Facts That Shape The Gospel 用五個重點解釋福音

在我們談論方法之前,讓我們先來看看福音信息。我會用五個重點來解釋福音。這 五點是基督信仰的基本要素。我會用英文字 FACTS 的五個字母來說明。允許我先 從壞消息開始。F 代表失敗 (Failure)。我們沒有達到神的標準。羅馬書 3:23 描述了 我們的光景:因為世人都犯了罪,虧缺了神的榮耀。說到「世人」就把所有人都放 在同一條船上面。罪就是任何違反神聖潔標準的事情。我們在思想上、言語上、行 為上都會犯罪。我們做了神禁止的事,也沒有做祂所吩咐的事。罪必然帶來後果。 接著是字母A,代表指控(Accusation)。神因我們的罪而指控我們。羅馬書 6:23 告 訴我們:因為罪的工價乃是死...。死亡是罪的懲罰。亞當與夏娃違背了神,罪因此 進入世界。神就宣告,人類的地上生命必有終結。當我們離開這個世界之後,將要 面對神的審判,祂會按照我們的罪來判刑。到目前為止,這一切看起來都令人悲 傷。但好消息來了! C 代表基督 (Christ)。耶穌來拯救我們。請聽羅馬書 3:24:如 今卻蒙神的恩典,因基督耶穌的救贖,就白白的稱義。耶穌基督為了我們該受的刑 罰死在十字架上。保羅用兩個用詞來形容這個結果。「稱義」的意思是神看我們為 無罪。另一個字是「救贖」。耶穌用祂的生命作為贖價,把我們買贖回到神的家 中。那麼,我們如何才能得到這些好處呢?T 代表<u>信靠</u> (Trust)。我們必須信靠耶穌 才能得救。羅馬書 10:9 說明了信靠的兩個方面:你若口裡認耶穌為主,心裡信神 叫他從死裡復活,就必得救。這兩個步驟就是「承認」與「相信」。首先,我必須 相信神使耶穌從死裡復活。這表示我承認耶穌也是為我的罪而死,祂是我的救主。 但耶穌在死後三天復活,因為祂是神,連死亡都不能拘禁祂。其次,我必須要承認 耶穌是我生命的主宰。我願意順服祂,跟隨祂。我遵行聖經中的教導,因為這些命令都是為了我的益處。當我們信靠耶穌時,結果就是<u>得救</u>(Salvation,S)。耶穌在約翰福音 3:16 宣告說:「神愛世人,甚至將他的獨生子賜給他們,叫一切信他的,不至滅亡,反得永生。」凡相信耶穌是自己救主和生命主宰的人,都必得救。他們不會滅亡,意思是他們不會面對神的審判和下地獄;相反,他們將得到永生。當我們接受耶穌的那一刻,就開始了一個新的生命。得救意味著我們從此與神建立永恆的關係。就像人與人之間的關係一樣,我們與主的屬靈關係也需要不斷成長。我們每天讀聖經、禱告,每週參加教會聚會,一同學習神的話語,敬拜神,並享受弟兄姐妹間的交誼。我們在主裡彼此禱告、互相勉勵,這樣我們的信心就會漸漸成熟。

2. Five Fingers to Share the Gospel 用五根手指傳遞福音

當我們討論完福音的五個重點之後,現在讓我們學習如何用五根手指來傳遞福音。 大約兩個月前,我參加了一次本地的培訓課程,從那裡學到了這個方法。講員的名 字叫大衛·波頓 (David Burton)。他曾經在幾間浸信會教會擔任牧師,後來創立了 自己的傳福音事工。波頓牧師說,有時候我們想與人分享福音,但是卻沒有福音單 張或聖經。不過,我們都有一雙手。這個方法非常簡單,人人都可以記住。我會引 用一些剛才提到過的經文。我們從大拇指開始。大拇指通常代表好事。我們說: 「我有一個好消息要告訴你。那就是神愛你,祂願意賜給你永生。」耶穌在約翰福 音 3:16 說:「神愛世人,甚至將他的獨生子賜給他們,叫一切信他的,不至滅亡, 反得永生。」神願意進入你的生命,時刻與你同在。祂應許保護你、供應你一切的 需要;當你離開世界時,祂會迎接你進入天堂。那麼,有什麼因素攔阳我們接受這 份禮物呢?這時你舉起食指。我們都有一個嚴重的問題,那就是罪的問題。羅馬書 3:23 說:因為世人都犯了罪,虧缺了神的榮耀。罪使我們與神隔絕。我們有罪, 但神是聖潔的。我們無法靠自己的努力除去罪。好行為、世上的成就、宗教儀式, 任何方法都不能救我們。有一天,神必然因著我們的罪審判我們,結局就是下地 獄,永遠與神分離。但是有一個好消息!神為我們預備了解決的方法。接著你伸出 三根手指(除了拇指與小指)。耶穌為我們而死。羅馬書 5:8 說:惟有基督在我們 還作罪人的時候為我們死,神的愛就在此向我們顯明了。耶穌在兩千年前為了償還 我們罪的代價被釘在十字架上。當時有兩個強盜被釘在祂兩邊,他們三人在那天都 死了。但耶穌在三天後從死裡復活,因為祂是神。祂勝過死亡,祂也能赦免你的 罪,並賜給你新生命。那麼我們該怎樣做才能得到這個祝福呢?這時你伸出無名 指。我們要向耶穌作出承諾,就像新人在婚禮上向對方承諾一樣。羅馬書 10:9 說:你若口裡認耶穌為主,心裡信神叫他從死裡復活,就必得救。接受耶穌包括兩 重含義:第一,我們接受祂作救主。我們承認自己是罪人,相信耶穌為我們的罪而 死。第二,我們接受祂作生命的主。從現在開始,祂成為我們的主人,我們遵行聖 經中的教導。若是你今天願意接受耶穌為救主與生命的主,祂將馬上使你成為新造 的人。這一切只需要一點點信心。接下來你伸出小指。以弗所書 2:8-9 說: 8 你們

得救是本乎恩,也因著信;這並不是出於自己,乃是神所賜的;9也不是出於行為,免得有人自誇。救恩是百分之百出於神的恩典,百分之零出於我們的努力。神拯救我們不是因為我們好,而是因為祂本為善。我們向神說:「神啊,求祢憐憫我這個可憐的罪人。」如果我們以謙卑、真誠的心禱告,祂必拯救我們。更奇妙的是,這個決定將永遠有效。這時你張開手掌。耶穌在約翰福音 10:28 應許說:「我又賜給他們永生;他們永不滅亡,誰也不能從我手裡把他們奪去。」救恩是與神建立永恆的關係。一旦我們得救,就是永遠得救。魔鬼不能把屬神的人奪走。縱然基督徒有時再次跌倒犯罪,但是不會失去救恩。當你完成整個分享之後,可以問對方:「你願意現在就接受耶穌成為你的救主和生命的主嗎?」如果對方回答「願意」,你就可以帶領他作一個簡單的禱告。他們必須真誠地向耶穌承諾。你說一句,讓他跟著說一句。這個禱告應該包括三個部分:他承認自己是罪人,不能靠自己的努力得救;相信耶穌是唯一的真神,耶穌為他的罪而死;他願意將自己的生命交託給耶穌,接受祂作救主與生命的主。這就是整個福音的內容。你不必逐字背誦所有的經文,你可以用自己的話歸納重點。這個方法是不是非常簡單呢?

CONCLUSION 結論

沒有任何事情比看到別人接受耶穌能帶來更大的喜樂。我相信你一定認識一些非信徒。他們可能是你的家人、親戚、同學、同事、朋友,或是你在健身房常見的人。你知道他們的名字。神給你機會去接觸他們。如果你把福音留在心裡,他們或許沒有機會聽見。有一個關於著名作曲家兼小提琴家弗里茨·克萊斯勒 (Fritz Kreisler)的故事。雖然他憑著音樂賺了許多錢,但他慷慨地把大部分都捐了出去。有一次,他看到一把很好的小提琴。他十分喜歡,可惜他手頭上沒有足夠的錢購買。等他終於湊足了錢再回去時,這把琴已經被賣掉了。新主人並不會拉琴,他只是一位收藏家。克萊斯勒特地去拜訪那個人,但是那人不願意出售那個樂器。克萊斯勒心中十分失望,正要離開時,忽然他有一個想法。他禮貌地問道:「在這把琴不再發出聲音之前,能否讓我再拉奏一次?」那個人同意了。於是,整個房間充滿了優美動人的音樂。那位收藏家深受感動。於是他對克萊斯勒說:「我沒有權利把它據為己有。請你把它帶到世上去,讓人們都能聽見它的聲音!」弟兄姐妹們,福音是人類有史以來最偉大的好消息。今天,神也在對你說:「你沒有權利把這個好消息藏在心裡。你要把它帶到世界去,讓人們都能聽見吧!」