

CPR

CALL PROBLEM RESOLUTION



BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Process of Conversion

Giving People Back Their Breath

*When [the Holy Spirit] comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because people do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. **John 16.8-11***

You perform CPR when someone has stopped breathing and their heart isn't beating. You are trying to give them back their breath. Interestingly, the word the Bible uses for Spirit, both in Greek and Hebrew, ("*pneuma*" and "*ruach*" respectively), can also mean "breath." So, just as in physical CPR, we are trying to bring someone back to life by giving them their *breath* or *spirit* back. Cool, right?

If we're going to perform Spiritual CPR we can't do it by ourselves. Conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit. End of story. Our job, when we study the Bible with people, is to put people in contact with the Holy Spirit. It isn't a series of well thought questions, or clever illustrations, although those may very well put people in contact with the Holy Spirit, it is the Holy Spirit that brings people to Jesus. Our job is to help people come in contact with Holy Spirit and let him do the resurrecting.

But don't take my word for it, it works like this in the Bible. Let's look at John 16 and compare that with Acts 2.

John 16	Acts 2	Purpose
Righteousness (v.10)	Jesus the Christ & His Righteousness (v. 14-35)	Call to Righteousness
Sin (v.9)	The Sin of the People (v. 36-37)	Convict Sin
Judgement (v. 11)	How to Avoid Judgement (v.38-41)	Cure the Problem

It seems as though this is the pattern: Sin, righteousness and judgement. Now it does seem that the order is different at times. The pattern of a call to righteousness, a conviction of sin and then offering the cure to avoid judgement appears clearly in Acts 2, John 4, Acts 13, Acts 17 and it seems to be present in Acts 8, Acts 7, and Acts 26. So, following the example in the Bible, we have crafted the CPR Study Series into three studies that aim to bring people into contact with the Holy Spirit with regard to sin, righteousness, and judgement.

CPR Study Series Overview

Call

Call People to Righteousness
(Jesus/Word/Discipleship)

2 Timothy 3.16-17
James 1.22-25/1 Timothy 4.15-16
Acts 11.25-26
Luke 9.23-25
Matthew 28.18-20

Problem

Convict People of Sin
(Sin/Repentance)

Isaiah 59.1-2/Romans 6.23/Genesis 6.5-6
Luke 7.36-50
Mark 7.20-23/Galatians 5.19-21/Ephesians 5.3-11/2 Timothy 3.1-4/Revelation 21.8
Luke 13.1-5
2 Corinthians 7.8-11

Resolution

Cure People from Judgement
(Cross/Repentance/Baptism)

Romans 5.6-10
Mark 14.32-15.41
2 Corinthians 5.14-21
Acts 2.36-41
Romans 6.1-4
1 Peter 3.18-21

First Aid

Every Scripture we study with people must be done intentionally. We need to know why we are going there, and what that Scripture teaches, rebukes, corrects, and train us to do.

Teach

Scriptures can be used to teach all sorts of things, but if you don't know what the main thing that scripture is teaching, who knows what you'll end up teaching. With every Scripture you read you must be clear at the main point that the passage is teaching. For example...

- Luke 9.23-26—Basics of Discipleship
- Isaiah 59.1-2—What Sin does to you and God
- Acts 26.18-21—Jesus' definition of Repentance
- Acts 2.36-41—How to Get Saved

See "First Aid Scriptures" on the next page, for some basic main points for the CPR studies. Again, some passages have a few things to teach. But the point is to read a passage not because "it's the next one" but because it serves a purpose – to teach something that a person needs not because "it's next." You can't address the needs if you don't know what the passage teaches.

Reprove/Correct

We all have things in our worldview and Kingdom-view that are wrong. We have attitudes and thoughts that we don't even know we have that need to be exposed and corrected. Scriptures must be used to teach. But Scriptures also must be used to expose the things that are drastically wrong in how we think and how we act. It's important to know what common attitudes are associated with the teaching you are teaching. For example...

Matthew 28:18-20 Common Attitudes

- "My pastor definitely does that, but I don't think that's for everyone."
- "I make disciples in my own way, by shining my light."
- "I don't think evangelism is my gift."
- "Well, my grandma is definitely a Christian"

These attitudes will change based on where you live, what kind of people you are studying with, their socio-economic background, their spiritual upbringing, etc which is why it is important to "Take the Pulse" each time you study the Bible with someone. If we don't address these attitudes specifically, those attitudes will continue to cut off the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts.

Train

Once we have taught, reproved, and corrected it's time to train. Training basically means to become something you are not. This is the practical application of the scripture you're studying. Very often this is the, "So how could you start [insert correct Scripture teaching] instead of [insert incorrect attitude] even starting today?" These practicals are meant to place the seeker in a position where the Holy Spirit could work on their heart and in fact seal the biblical teaching on their heart. It's important to be flexible with these practicals because different practicals will be helpful for different people. Person A maybe very quiet and sharing their faith with two people may take tremendous faith, whereas Person B who is incredibly social would share their faith with 50 people and it would require no faith, for Person B the challenge may be to share their faith people they are afraid to talk to about Jesus, like their very atheist friends.

First Aid Scriptures

Call

2 Timothy 3.16-17 – Bible has the authority/What Bible is useful for
James 1.22-25 – Do What it Says!
1 Timothy 4.15-16 – Life & Doctrine (Another way to say, “Do What it Says!”)
Hebrews 4.12-23 – Bible is applicable, Exposes THOUGHTS & ATTITUDES, Bible Cuts!
2 Peter 1.20-21 – Interpretations of Scripture
John 7.17 – Is the Bible really from God?
John 8.31-32 – Is the Bible really from God part 2
Acts 11.25-26 – Disciples are the same as Christians, same standards
Luke 9.23-26 – Jesus calls the shots in your life
Luke 9.57-62 – No excuses, Jesus comes before family
Luke 14.25-33 – Must give up everything!, Jesus comes before family, Universal Negative to Discipleship
Mark 1.16-20 – Evangelism, Following Jesus = Evangelism, Fisher of Men, Jesus Comes Before Family
Matthew 28.18-20 – Disciples make disciples, Teach to OBEY, Has your family made you into a disciple?
Matthew 22.34-40 – Greatest Commandment, Love God with everything and Love people
Matthew 10.34-38 – Jesus will cause tension in families
Mark 10.29-30 – Jesus’ promise to those who give up everything for him

Problem

Isaiah 59.1-2 – Sin separates us from God, Separation means he can’t hear you (prayers?)
Romans 6.23 – Sin Kills you! Consequence of sin
Genesis 6.5-6 – Sin grieves God, the effect of your sin on God, like you’re dead.
Luke 7.36-50 – The need to see your sin, pride about sin, magnitude of sin for the gratitude of forgiveness
Mark 7.20-23 – Sin comes from you and your heart, sin list from Jesus, sin at your core
Galatians 5.19-21 – External sin, will not inherit the Kingdom of God
2 Timothy 3.1-4 – More internal sin
Revelation 21:8 – connects serious sin and more common sin
Ephesians 5.3-11 – Sexual immorality, impurity, coarse joking, “Let no one deceive you...”
Luke 13.1-5 – Repent or Perish, without repentance you go to hell
2 Corinthians 7:8-11 – Godly & Worldly Sorrow, If no repentance like this you’re not ok with God
James 4.17 – Sin of Omission, Know the good you ought to do and not do it
Proverbs 16:5 – Pride is Sin, abomination to God, you not your sin
1 Samuel 15.1-25 – Pride, rebellion
1 Peter 5.5 – God opposes the proud
Proverbs 28:9 – Sin = God does not hear your prayers

Resolution

Romans 5.6-10 – You are God’s enemy and powerless to do anything about it, Jesus died because HE LOVES YOU!
Mark 14.32-42 – The weight of your sin, Jesus felt it – do you?
Mark 15.1-15 – You are Barabbas
Mark 15.33-39 – Your sin killed Jesus, God turned his back on him
2 Corinthians 5.14-21 – Compelled by Christ’s Love, Live for him not you, See people the way God does, ambassador
Acts 26.18-21 – Jesus’ definition of repentance, repentance by your deeds
Luke 3.3-14 – bear fruit in keeping with repentance, general v. specific repentance, STOP and START
Acts 3.19 – Promise for those who repent
Acts 2:36-40 – Path of Forgiveness, gift of Holy Spirit
Romans 6.1-4 – United with Jesus in baptism
Galatians 3:23-26 – Faith = Baptism
Colossians 2.10-12 – Baptism is not a work! Faith makes baptism valid
1 Peter 3.18-21 – Pledge of a good conscience, anything else? Not as a baby
Acts 8:26-40 – Water Baptism
Acts 22.16 – What are you waiting for? Baptism = Calling On his name
John 3:5 – Universal negative of Baptism (i.e. You must get baptized to be saved)
Mark 16:16 – believe and is baptized
Luke 14.25-33 – Count the Cost