

# How To Lead a Person to Christ – Session Three

## The Engel Scale

This diagram was developed by James Engel and Wilber Norton in their book, “What’s Gone Wrong with the Harvest”, published in 1974.

The author helps us to understand God’s role. The churches’ role. And where people might be along this continuum. St Paul said it this way:

### 1 Corinthians 3: 4-5

*For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.*

*So, neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.*

In other words, there is a process involving God (His role) and the Church (our role).

Engel helps us understand this process by this diagram.

There are people ignorant, uninformed, and hostile to the message of the gospel. These are the ones where we are planting the seed or watering the seeds that have been planted.

Also, there are people who are seeking, interested, and attracted to the gospel and are ripe for harvest.

I have observed that it is often those who are in great need, pain, adversity, discomfort, lonely, isolated, desperate, suffering sickness of mind, body, or spirit that are often more receptive to God.

Those that have abundance, ease, comfort, health, and are without difficulties are often less interested in God.

### Revelation 3: 17

*For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.*

Examples – Homeland Security Agent, Ed McCreary, Robbie Lyons, Millie (Jacksonville)

## **Five Words That Plant, Water, and Harvest.**

I encourage all of us to be active listeners with “spiritual ears and eyes.”

- My son is struggling with pornography
- My husband is drinking too much.
- My daughter is in a toxic marriage.
- We just learned my dad has cancer.
- My husband just lost his job.
- We are getting a divorce.

What can we say? I suggest these five words as a starting point.

### **CAN I PRAY FOR YOU?**

This opens a spiritual conversation that is not offensive but helpful. It allows you to offer comfort, support, empathy and genuine concern for their situation with a “spiritual dimension.”

It also can lead to follow up conversations. You might exchange contact information. You might invite them to an appropriate gathering of Christians (church, mid week service, prayer meeting, healing ministry, etc.).

These are what John Wimber described as “divine appointments.”

## **Satan’s Work Against Us.**

- Father of lies (John 8:44)
  - God does not love you
  - Satan is not real
  - There is no hell
  - Everybody goes to heaven
  - Good people get into heaven
  - The bible is written by man
  - All religions are basically the same
  - Jesus was just a good person, not God.
- The accuser (Revelation 12:10)
- Blinds the minds of the unbeliever (2 Cor 4:4)
- Deceiver (Revelation 12:9)
- Brings condemnation (Romans 8:1)
- Comes to kill, steal and destroy (John 10: 9-10)
- The whole world lies in the power of the evil one (1 John 5:19)
- Ephesians 6:12 – we do not wrestle against flesh and blood...

## **Proclamation and Demonstration/ Word and Works**

- Sending out the Twelve (Luke 9:1-6)
  - Power to heal
  - Power to deliver
  - Preach the Gospel
  - Declare the Kingdom of God has come upon you
- Sending out the Seventy (Luke 10)
- Jesus in John 14:12 – what I do you will do
- Jesus in Mark 16:15-18 – these signs will follow those who believe
- Jesus in Matthew 28 – the Great Commission
- Jesus in Luke 22 – wait in the city until you are clothed with power from on high
- Jesus in Acts 1:8 – you shall receive power
- Paul in Athens (Acts 17: 16-34)
- Paul in Corinth (1 Corinthians 2: 1-6)
- 1 Corinthians 4:20 – kingdom does not consist of words, but of power.
- Acts 2:43 – signs and wonders
- Acts 3:8 – lame beggar healed
- Acts 4:30, 33 – power, signs, wonders
- Acts 5: 12-16 – miracles, signs, wonders
- Acts 8 - Philip in Samaria – healings and deliverance, infilling of the Holy Spirit
- Acts 8 – Philip baptizes the Ethiopian Eunuch
- Acts 9 – conversion of St. Paul
- Acts 9 – Peter heals a paralyzed man
- Acts 10 – Gentile Pentecost

## Spiritual-Decisions Process

