

## Lost for Words

### Week 1

#### Practical tips to help you speak about Jesus

The aim of the course.

There are other things we do to promote the gospel. Pray. Serve. Give. I am not minimising these at all. The focus over the next few weeks will be to help us speak more confidently about Jesus in daily conversations.

*Why should we want people to hear about Jesus?*

- Good news
- Great danger
- God's glory. Acts 17:16.

*How can people hear the good news about Jesus?*

- Someone else tells them
- We tell them

*How can people hear the gospel from someone else?*

- Time Out, After 8
- Evangelistic course
- Regular church service
- Gospel
- Book
- CD
- Give away DVD

*Hearing the gospel from us*

1 Peter 3:15, "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

- *Christ is boss.*

Live for him and speak for him.

- *Always be prepared.*

**Do your home work.**

So often Christians don't prepare. We fear our ignorance being exposed so we keep silent. There is only one solution to this. It is to prepare.

**The Google Generation.**

We can answer when God has spoken.

Deuteronomy 29:29, "The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children for ever."

- *Answer in a certain way*

There is a horizontal and a vertical aspect to our speaking. Be gentle to others and have reverence for what God has said.

**Diagram of uploading and wise downloading.**

What do we need to upload? We need to know how to answer questions and statements. We also need to know what it is we want to tell people about Jesus. This is what we mean by the gospel.

**What is the gospel? Discuss this in pairs.**

The gospel is a message. It is really important good news.

The Christian gospel is the really important and really good news we have to share about the identity and mission of Jesus.

**What exactly should we say?** Not simply that God is love. Not simply that Jesus died on the cross. How is the gospel defined in the NT?

- 1 Corinthians 15:1-5
- Romans 1:1-4
- The four Gospels

**What do we want to say about the identity of Jesus?** He is the divine Son who is the promised Saviour-King predicted in the Old Testament.

The ultimate proof of this is the resurrection of Jesus. Yes the resurrection shows that the cross was a success but it also shows that he was the promised Messiah.

What do we want to say about the mission of Jesus? To prepare people for eternity.

- His death – paying the penalty for sin
- His life – his perfect life

The robes are exchanged.

The response to the gospel. Repent and believe. Become a follower of Jesus.

### Learning the gospel

Trinity TWTL diagram.

We don't have to say everything in one conversation and we don't always have to start with box 1.

*Have a healthy trust in the sovereignty of God.*

### Illustrations when explaining the gospel

- Sinking ship.
- In the ocean. Instructions to swim to shore or being picked up by a rescue boat.
- Fire only burns once.
- Bee sting.

Be prepared to speak the gospel. Also be prepared to answer questions.