



Small Group Curriculum

Week 4: Care





Week 4: **Care**

Video Notes

DEVELOPING A RHYTHM OF KEY HABITS: PRAYER-CARE-SHARE

1. **Payer:** daily praying for those far from God but close to you (My 5)
2. **Care:** asking God to direct ways you can show you care
3. **Share:** lovingly and appropriately sharing the Gospel

"People don't **CARE** how much you know until they **KNOW** how much you care."

HOW DO WE LOVE LIKE JESUS?

Jesus was present with the people around Him. He sacrificed sleep for, went to places with, and spent time with people who most probably thought were a foolish waste of His time.

1. Be intentional and willing to make sacrifices so that we can be **PRESENT** in the lives of people who are far from God.
2. We want to develop good, loving communication skills.

SIX KEYS TO BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP THAT CARES

(Adapted from *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie)

- Take a genuine **INTEREST** in others. (John 13:34)
 - **SMILE** and look them in the eye. (Proverbs 15:13)
 - Be a good **LISTENER**. Ask questions and encourage others to talk about themselves, (James 1:19)
 - Remember and use their **NAME**. A person's name is the sweetest and most important sound in any language. (Proverbs 22:1)
 - Talk in terms of the other person's **INTERESTS**. (Philippians 2:3-4)
 - Show **APPRECIATION**, and do it sincerely. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
3. The most caring thing we can do is to **SHARE** the Gospel with someone, so we want to initiate Gospel conversations.

SHARE PROCESS:

Secular Questions

- What kind of work do you do?
- Do you like movies?

Home Questions

- Are you married?
- Tell me about your kids.

Attitude Questions

- Is it all you hoped it would be?
- If you could change one thing, what would it be?

Religious Questions

- Do you go to church?
- What is your religious background?

Eternal Questions

- Where are you on your spiritual journey?
- If God asked, "Why should I let you into heaven?", what would you say?

Possible Follow-Up Questions

- Do you mind if I share with you my story (your testimony)?
- Can I share with you the story that was shared with me (the Gospel)?



Week 4 - Group Discussion

Check in

PRACTICE

Share with your partner the 500-word testimony you wrote and your memory verses.

ACTION

How did you do with your action step?

HOW DO WE CARE?

1. **God has made us each in unique ways. How do you love to show love?**

Examples:

- Acting as a sounding board
- Spending quality time with others
- Making people laugh
- Giving gifts
- Doing chores for others
- Offering advice
- Giving hugs
- Praying for others
- Offering a shoulder to cry on
- Pointing out the strengths in others

2. **What are some things others have done for you that made you feel cared for or loved?**

3. **What are some simple, practical ways you can show you care to those on your My 5?**

(e.g., send an encouraging email or handwritten letter; grabbing coffee; picking up their kids; having them over for a meal)

4. Ultimately, sharing Jesus is the most loving thing we can do for people. It is like giving them a cure for cancer, a shot at life. **Review the SHARE process with your partner.**

5. Using the SHARE process, the key to the conversation getting to spiritual are the heart “attitude” questions. These are more personal and often reveal their source for life and contentment.

What are questions you could ask at the “attitude” point in the conversation? *(e.g., Is it all you ever hoped it would be? If you could change one thing, what would it be? Are you satisfied with your job? What’s been the most meaningful part of being a parent? What was it like emotionally going through that difficult time?)*

6. **Role play a Gospel conversation by using the SHARE process.** Your partner can pretend to be a person on your My 5. Begin a conversation and move to eternal.

Week 4 Application

Start – Day 1

PREPARE

Pray daily for your My 5 and for opportunities to show Christ's love to them.

Suggestion: use habit forming techniques such as marking your calendar, setting a daily alarm, praying while doing regular daily activities.

Continue – Days 2-4

PRACTICE

2. Refine your 500-word testimony, and have a friend give feedback. (See Appendix B.)
3. GOSPEL – Memorize the sixth statement and verse of the GOSPEL acronym:
 - **Life** with Jesus starts now and last forever. (John 5:24)

Complete – Days 5 and 6

ACTION

4. **Care:** Make a plan to reach out to one of your My 5 this week in a tangible way. (For example: Grab coffee, send a gift, or write a letter.)
5. Use the SHARE process to start a conversation this week with one person (or more). See how far the conversation goes.
6. Pick a Friday this month to be an observer or prayer partner on a Friday Go Team. (See Appendix C for details.) Connect with our Friday Go Team coordinator the week of so that we can recruit the proper number of leaders. grace.church/friday-go-teams

Watch Week 5 video, and complete discussion questions before the next meeting.

Optional Additional Application

Pick a meal this week to fast and pray for the lost.

Throughout scripture we see the importance of fasting. Kings fell to their knees in the face of overwhelming odds (2 Chronicles 20:3), our Lord molded fasting (Matthew 4:2), and He instructed it (Matthew 6:16). Fasting is a heart cry for God himself and for Him to move. It is a trying of our faith; do we long for an answer more than even the basic necessities of life?