

SIGN >> Daily Journal



Week 3 >> Model Your Witness off some Stellar Signs

Week 3 – Day 1: The Woman by the Well

Read: John 4:1-42

Key Scripture: John 4:39-42

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to Him, they urged Him to stay with them, and He stayed two days. And because of His words many more became believers. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world."

Question 3.1: What makes Jesus' witness so effective in this encounter? Who are the "Samaritans" in our culture or everyday life that we can point to Jesus by accepting them? What are some ways you could demonstrate Christ's acceptance and love for them?

◀◀ **Recapping:** Well written Signs always get read. No matter how simple or ill-equipped you are, God can powerfully use you, bringing you joy, and Him glory. But the best Sign Writers are always intentional, making sure their message gets out. Read over pp. 45-46 "Setting the Scene."

Week 3 – Day 2: Healing a Man with Demons

Read: Mark 5:1-20

Key Scripture: Mark 5:19-20

Jesus said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how He has had mercy on you." So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

Question 3.2: What makes Jesus' witness so effective in this encounter? Jesus restored and transformed this man's life by setting him free; how would your closest non-Christian friend's life look different if Christ set them "free"? With the help of the Holy Spirit, how can you demonstrate to them the freedom and mercy God offers?

◀◀ **Recapping:** What's your next learning step to becoming a better Sign? Which five people will you regularly pray for, and how will you practically and sacrificially serve them out of love? Read over pp. 46-47 (Steps 1-3, Learn, Pray, Serve) and prayerfully fill out your "Sign Strategy" pp. 70-71.

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Week 3 – Day 3: Peter Addresses the Crowd

Read: Acts 2:14-41

Key Scripture: Acts 2:38-41

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Question 3.3: What stands out in how Peter approaches the crowd, and why do you think he is so effective in witnessing to them? What are some principles you can adopt in light of Peter’s boldness and clarity, as you tell others the truth of Jesus?

◀◀ **Recapping:** How will you evacuate the Christian bubble and reach those unlike yourself? How can you build a bridge for an intentional witness with each of your five friends, and share some of your own story? *Read over pp. 48-49 (Steps 4-6, Extend, Bridge, Share) and prayerfully fill out your “Sign Strategy” pp.70-71.*

Week 3 – Day 4: Paul Addresses the Culture

Read: Acts 17:16-31

Key Scripture: Acts 17:22-23

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.”

Question 3.4: Paul toured Athens (the “marketplace”) before engaging the Areopagus. How can you get a finger on the pulse for our society, in search of bridges and barriers to the Gospel? What are the “unknown gods” that are worshipped in our culture? What do your friends live for, and how does the Gospel address their deepest concerns in a relevant way?

◀◀ **Recapping:** How can you better connect your friends into genuine Christian community? And how might you lovingly challenge each one to respond to the Gospel? *Read over pp. 49-51 (Steps 7-8, Connect, Challenge) and prayerfully fill out your “Sign Strategy” pp. 70-71.*

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Week 3 – Day 5: Eating with the Sinners

Read: Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 19:1-10

Key Scripture: Matthew 9:9-13

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and 'sinners' came and ate with Him and His disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Question 3.5: Jesus' radical love and inclusion paved the way for people to respond to God's grace in the Gospel; "tax collectors and sinners" were drawn to Jesus. Are people on the margins drawn to you, and could you truly be called a friend of sinners? Why or why not? What one step will you take to love and embrace those who may never set foot in a Church Building?

◀◀ **Recapping:** Who are you inviting to "Church in the Park," and what's your first step in applying all you've learned? What Seed will you sow, and what Signs will you construct? Read over pp. 43-44 "Where to from here?" and "Some Closing Thoughts," print off your Sign Strategy, and start prayerfully putting it into practice. (Also, don't forget to check out the appendices, pp. 55-66.)

