



TAKING THAT NEXT STEP!

Regular Meetings with Your 1-1-1 Friend

“PRACTICAL TIPS FOR INTENTIONAL OUTREACH-BASED DISCIPLESHIP”

Building Bridges with your 1-1-1 Friend can take on many forms. You can find ways to bless your friend with a gift, you may spend time with them participating in a similar hobby, you may have a meal together, and the list can go on and on! But there should come a time when you need to take that next step in your conversations to engage your friend in spiritual conversations. The Great Commission calls us to “make disciples of all nations” and that the disciple-making process begins with telling others about Jesus! Being intentional with our conversations with the goal of bringing your 1-1-1 Friend to Christ is the first step in a discipleship relationship. And as you come to a place in your relationship where you feel they are open to receiving words of what you believe in, one practical next step is to invite them to meet with you regularly. God will show you how to shape your times together and conversations with your 1-1-1 Friend, but below are a few tips and ideas of what you could say while you’re together. (Even if your 1-1-1 Friend isn’t local, find opportunities to have more regular conversations through either phone or video chats.)

HOW TO INVITE YOUR 1-1-1 FRIEND TO MEET

As you pray about the right opportunity to ask your friend to meet with you regularly, it could be helpful to have a few initiating questions in your “tool belt” ready to use when the time is right. Here are a couple of links that can get your conversation started in a direction about God and spiritual things:

[EVANGELISM QUESTIONS TO START A CONVERSATION](#)

[WONDERING QUESTIONS](#)

The timing of how and when you would like to invite your friend to meet with you regularly will depend on the Holy Spirit leading you to take that next step. Here are a few examples of ways you can invite them:

- I enjoyed our brief chat together right now about this! Would you like to meet more regularly to go deeper into this topic?
- We could talk for hours about this! I would love to hear more about what you believe, and I could also share with you more about what I think about God, too. Can we get together about this again over the next couple of days?
- I would love to share with you what I believe the Bible says about life after death. Would you like to meet for a couple of weeks to chat more about this?
- Are you up for a meeting each week? It would be great to chat more about some of these questions you have. I would love to hear more of your thoughts and see if there are some answers that I can help find for you.

WHAT TO DO BEFORE YOU MEET

Before you meet with your 1-1-1 Friend, make sure you have done your personal spiritual preparation.

1 DAILY PRAYER

- Pray for your friend
- Pray for your upcoming time together
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance

2 DAILY DEVOTIONALS: S.O.W.I.N.G.

SCRIPTURE: Read scripture daily. Each day we read one chapter out of the Gospels and systematically make your way through all four gospels. Since the Holy Spirit is our teacher, we prayerfully ask God to speak to us through at least one specific verse. Once we have identified this verse, we write it down.

OBSERVATION: Make observations about that verse. Now that you have a verse go back through the chapter making observations that bring light to your focused verse. Make a list of those observations related to your one scripture. Your observation aims to answer the question, "What is Jesus saying to me through the Scripture?"

WALK: The focus of our reading is on following Jesus. When we see Him at work, hear His voice, discern His ways, and obey Him, we are following Him.

INVITE: Invite Jesus into your day. Our goal isn't to be hearers only of the word but to be doers of the word. Once we know what Jesus is saying, we are ready to invite Him into our day. Our goal is to follow Jesus. This leads us to the question, "What are we going to do about it?"

NUTURE: Nurture relationships. Who is God calling you to nurture relationships with today?

GOOD NEWS: Share Good News. Our mission is to share the good news of Jesus. And Jesus is inviting you to share Good News with your 1-1-1 Friend.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU MEET

When you begin meeting with your 1-1-1 Friend, continue to ask questions that challenge what they believe in and then compare that to Scripture. Each time you meet may bring up new topics, and that's ok! However, it could be better to present your friend with the idea of reading through a specific book together OR read through the Book of John together and discuss that reading.

Here are a variety of books that could be helpful depending on your specific conversations with your 1-1-1 Friend:

- “THE CASE FOR CHRIST,” BY LEE STROBEL
- “BY THIS NAME,” BY JOHN R. CROSS
- “CREATION TO CHRIST” (*available in the Global Missions stairwell*)
- “THIS IS GOOD NEWS” (*available in the Home Center*)
- “MAY I ASK A QUESTION”

And if you decide to read through the Book of John together, reading through one chapter at a time would be a good pace. You can incorporate the same principles of reading scripture with your 1-1-1 Friend as you do in your own personal devotional time of “S.O.W.I.N.G.” Allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you as you read through the verses. Pause at times, and allow for any questions to be raised.

Your regular times with your 1-1-1 Friend may vary in how long each meeting lasts. But no matter how long or how short your time together is, here are the “6 C’s” that can help assist you while you meet:

CONNECT: Do a little life together before jumping into any agenda.

CELEBRATE: Take a moment to celebrate. Review your week and celebrate what God has done in your life.

CHECK-IN: Ask questions like “How did your week go last week?” or “What was the best thing that happened to you last week?”

COACH: Your role can be like a facilitator - try to keep your conversations on track as you study together. A primary tool for coaching is asking three strategic questions:

1. What have you learned about God after reading this?
2. Do you have any questions?
3. How can I pray for you?

CARE: Spend time in specific prayer for one another. Make sure your 1-1-1 Friend has time to share anything where they may need prayer.

COMMUNICATE: Stay in touch with your 1-1-1 Friend during the week when you're not meeting in person. And share about yourself, as well! Tell your friend how you see God working in your life.