

M3 – SHARING JESUS WORKSHOP

The Hand Illustration

Below is a method of sharing Jesus called “The Hand Illustration”. To illustrate, there is an example of it being used written below. The parts in parentheses are things that you physically do during the course of this Gospel presentation to help the listener better understand what Jesus has done for us.

For any person to be saved, they need to understand two things:

1. The seriousness of their sins
2. The way God takes away their sins

Here is the presentation:

“The problem of every human being is sin. People are sinful, and God is holy. Romans 3:23 says, ‘for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God’. Now, God has a record of every sin you’ve ever committed. The Bible in Revelation 20:12 says, ‘And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.’ That means that every sin we’ve ever committed and ever will commit is recorded in a book. Suppose this book is that record. *(To illustrate, hold up a book, preferably a Bible.)*

It’s safe to say that any person will commit at least 3 sins a day, because even losing your temper while driving is sin. This would total over 1,000 sins per year. So, if you were 20 years old, that would mean there are over 20,000 sins recorded in this book. Suppose you had 20,000 traffic violations and went before the judge. He wouldn’t put you *in* jail but rather *under* the jail. It’s more than you could possibly pay for. This is our problem.

But God has solved this problem for us. Let me show you how. *(Stretch out your left hand exposing your palm.)* Suppose my left hand is your soul. *(Now lay the book on the palm of your left hand.)* Every sin you have ever committed is on your soul. You cannot have a relationship with God in this life because of these sins, and, if you die, you cannot go to live with Him in heaven but must be separated in hell forever. But God has done for us what we could not do for ourselves and made a way for *ALL* these sins to be paid for. *(Now stretch out your right hand.)* Suppose my right hand is Jesus. There are many verses of Scripture that show how He died for every one of your sins and how you can transfer your guilt because of sin to Him because He died on the cross and paid for every sin that you ever committed. Isaiah 53:6 says, ‘We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.’ *(As you speak the words ‘the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all’ move the book in your left hand over to cover your right hand, specifically as you say “laid”, thus showing how Jesus takes every sin off our guilty soul and forgives and washes it clean by His blood shed on the cross.)* Where does that leave your soul now?”

They will reply, "Clean."

"And where are your sins now?"

They will reply, "They are on Jesus."

"Does this make sense to you?"

They will reply, "Yes."

"Concerning how to transfer your sins, there are a few things you need to do:

- Admit to God that you are a sinner, and that sin separates you from Him because He is holy.
- Acknowledge that you cannot save yourself and want to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord.
- Be willing to die to the life of sin and live for Jesus by obeying Him as Lord of your life.
- Ask Jesus to forgive you and invite Him to come in and be Lord of your life.
- Trust Jesus and Jesus alone for your forgiveness and salvation!!"

At this point, say something like, "Do you want to do this?" If they reply, "Yes," the best thing to do now is to ask them to pray and tell God the things above in their own words and out of their own heart. If they do, congratulate them, and inform them that they are now born again, a child of God, that their eternal destiny is secure, and that the Holy Spirit now lives inside of them to help them obey Jesus. Feel free to share John 10:27-30 for assurance:

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

If they say, "No," ask them what is keeping them from praying that prayer. Do not push. Tell them that this is the biggest decision they will ever make and that they should not take it lightly and that they should only do so when they have decided to, and not because you have pushed or persuaded them. If their objection is something you can go back and clarify, do so, and then ask again. If not, inform them that you will be praying for them to be willing to give their life to Jesus, since Jesus gave His for them, and ask if you can meet with them again sometime soon.