This week Oct 14 Ask everyone how they are doing, **Then Share the Vision** of Why we are GOing the T4T **Read** Ying Kia's Story

The Ying Kai Story

So what is T4T? Well, first we should point out that T4T is not a Western invention. T4T grew out of the ministry of a Chinese American missionary working in Asia named Ying Kai.

In the year 2000, Ying was pastoring a church in Asia when God began to burden his heart to see the countless millions of Chinese outside his church come to faith in Christ. In addition to pastoring, Ying had already been starting a new church every year for several years, but his restless heart knew that this was simply not enough to reach the millions of lost people living and dying all around him every day.

One day, as Ying was praying, the Holy Spirit seemed to say to him, "Ying, what is better than planting a church?" Ying could not imagine, until the Spirit seemed to whisper, "Training others to plant churches." Ying was immediately encouraged, he knew he could train 10-20 new church planters each year, and each of them could start a new church. Before he finished his prayer, though, the Holy Spirit seemed to pose a second question, "Ying, what is better than training others to plant churches?" Ying was at a loss. What could be better? Then the Spirit replied, "Training others to train others to plant churches!" Ying left this time of prayer filled with a desire to obey the Spirit's leading, and to begin what he called "Training for Trainers," or T4T.

Ying began with about 30 men and women, laypersons in a local church, sharing with them what he thought was an ambitious vision to see 200 churches planted over the next 3 years.

As Ying attempted to teach them how to win lost persons to Christ and plant new churches, he kept hearing the same pattern of objections. Ying realized that these typical Christian men and women had four questions or challenges that kept them from being effective partners in winning the lost to Christ and planting new, reproducing churches.

As Ying began addressing these four questions, he watched as God began transforming these average Christian men and women into confident and competent partners in multiplying new believers and churches across the province.

In a moment we will look at those four questions, and the answers that Ying provided, but first let's see what God did with Ying's band of training trainers.

Within a few short weeks, Ying's trainees had started 20 small groups that were already becoming new churches. Seven months later, Ying could count 327 small groups formed with 4,000 newly baptized believers. In only 7 months, God had already surpassed Ying's vision of 200 churches in 3 yrs!

By the end of the first year, the movement counted 908 house churches with more than 12,000 newly baptized members. The following year saw 3,535 new churches formed with more than 50,000 baptisms.

You can imagine the skepticism that accompanied numbers like these. So, the next year a research assessment team investigated what was rapidly becoming the fastest growing Church Planting Movement in the world. They discovered that, rather than exaggerating, Ying had actually been under-reporting his numbers by as much as 40%. Some churches reproduced 17 times in one and a half years!

By the end of that year, the movement had added another 104,000 baptisms and more than 9,000 new churches. *Session 1 Documents Training for Trainers page 42*

Despite persecution, disease epidemics, and many spiritual attacks, the movement has continued its remarkable growth. By 2008, researchers report nearly 2 million baptisms have taken place in less than a decade, and more than 80,000 new churches have been started.

This movement has not taken place in a vacuum. It is happening in a part of the world that has had more than a century of missionary activity, and yet this region of Asia has been more characterized by its unresponsiveness and hard soil than by its openness to the Gospel.

What changed? How did God turn this challenging field into one of the most fruitful on earth?

To understand how the Gospel spread so rapidly through this movement, we need to look more closely at the four questions.

T4T 4 Questions + Sharing Your Story,

The Four Questions

Four challenges, four questions stood between Ying's trainees and the great work that God desired to perform through them. These questions are fundamental to every Christian and to the beginning of every movement:

#1 What do I say?#2 Who do I say it to?#3 Why should I do this?#4 What do I do if they say "yes"?

The first question Ying discovered among the Christian men and women he was training was simply, "What do I say?" What do I say to a lost person that might lead them to faith in Christ? Ying's answer:

Tell them your story.

Your story is unique. It consists of 3 parts:

- 1) Your life before Jesus,
- 2) how you met Jesus, and
- 3) your life since Jesus.

Ying instructed his trainees to keep their story short (1-2 minutes), try to avoid religious vocabulary (lost don't understand it), and write their story out on a single sheet of paper. If you've been a Christian since childhood, you may want to adapt your story to a more recent experience of how Jesus brought wonderful change to your life.

The great thing about your story is that no one can refute it.

It fits into your own culture perfectly, it doesn't require any props e.g. tracts or videos, and it can be started and stopped as circumstances demand, i.e. security concerns, etc. **Give 10 minutes for each to write. Empahasize its their Story, Before, How they Met Jesus, life after. Everyone has a story- we just don't know how the Holy Spirit will use it! so hand out writing tools and go to next sheetAfter** you've written down your story, you need to

Write Your Story

1. Take out a sheet of paper and write your story with three parts: 1) Your life before Jesus, 2) How you met Jesus, and 3) Your life since Jesus.

2. Try to remove or avoid religious vocabulary that your non-Christian friend might have trouble understanding.

3. Remember to keep your story short, no more than 1-2 minutes in length.

4. Now, practice three times, reading your story out loud. Then, close your eyes and recite your story from memory.

5. Ask three Christian friends to listen to your story. Invite them to give you feedback on how to improve. See if you can do it better each time.

practice it.

Stand up and read it out loud! Read it to the ceiling, then read it to the floor. Close your eyes and try to recite it out loud for memory. The room will be noisy.

Now, get into groups of three and practice telling your story. Or Quickly go around the circle and have everyone share THEIR story, Give encouraging feedback to help you improve by clarifying any confusing points and helping you remove any distracting habits. *After you finish this exercise*, we'll move on to the 2nd question.

The second question Ying found among his trainees was,

"Who do I tell my story to?"

Though tempted to tell his trainees to tell everyone, Ying, instead, asked them a question: "What does the Bible say?" What does the Bible say about who you should tell your story to? Ying then led his trainees to selected stories throughout the Bible, stories of times when God saved one person and then used that person to win his family and friends.

Ying directed them to the **story of Noah**, where God saved not just Noah, but his whole family.

He showed them how God saved Lot from **Sodom and Gomorrah** and his family along with him.

They read the **story of Rahab in Jericho** and saw that her family was saved along with her.

They looked into the New Testament where the Philippian jailer was baptized along with his whole family. The same was true for **Cornelius**, the Gadarene demoniac, **the Samaritan woman**, and others.

What does the Bible say about who you should tell your story to?

Genesis 6:17-18 – God saved not just Noah but his whole family. Genesis 19: 12-16 – God saved Lot and his family along with him. Joshua 6:17-25 – Rahab in Jericho, along with her family. Mark 5 – the Gadarene demoniac (especially verses 18-20) John 4:7-42 – the Samaritan woman (especially verse 39) Acts 2:38-39 – the promise is for them and their children. Acts 10 – Cornelius along with his family and friends (see verse 24). See Peter's report of the event in Acts 11, especially verse 14. Act 16:14-15 – Lydia and her household Acts 16:27-34 – Philippian jailer and his whole family. Acts 18: 8 – Crispus and his household. Then Ying rephrased their question: "Who does God want you to tell your story to?"

The answer: It is God's will for you to win your family and friends to Christ.

Immediately someone said, "Brother Ying, you don't know my Uncle Wong. He will kill me if I tell him my story."

Seeing how many of the men and women nodded in agreement, Ying realized that everyone has an "Uncle Wong" in their family, and unless he acted quickly, this fearful relative would prevent the trainees from telling anyone their story.

"Turn over the sheet of paper on which you wrote your story," Ying said. "And write down the names of everyone in your family or circle of relationships who needs to know Jesus." Ying waited as the trainees wrote down the names of 10, 20 and even 30 people who needed to know Jesus. Okay Get the Group to Do the Same Below:

the names of 5, 10, 20 and even 30 people who needed to know Jesus.

First, Circle the names of those five persons. Second, by having them pray over their list and circle those names God placed on their hearts Third, Share Your Story

"Now, I want you to pray. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you which 5 persons He wants you to tell your story to this week. Circle the names of those five persons."

Ying was doing something very significant. **First**, by having the trainees see that winning their family and friends was the biblical pattern, he was putting the responsibility on the trainees to obey the Bible rather than him. **Second**, by having them pray over their list and circle those names God placed on their hearts, he was putting the Holy Spirit in charge of directing their next steps rather than himself.

Now the trainees knew what to say, and who to say it to. Only two more questions separated them from the preparation they needed to launch a movement.

Questions Three and Four

The third question is the human nature question. **The 3rd question is: "What will enable me to be faithful to do this?"** Sadly, many Christians learn to be "hearers of the word" but not "doers of the word."

Jesus understood this challenge, and that's why He instilled in his disciples a community with peer accountability. In Luke 10, after sending out the 72, Jesus called them back to report on what they had seen and done.

Ying did the same: "Next week, my friends, we will come back here, sit in a circle and each of us will report on how we obeyed the Holy Spirit and shared our story this week."

Now we've answered three of the four questions.

Before we hit number four, let's review those three questions.

Question 1: What do I say? The answer: Tell them your story.

Question 2: "Who do I say it to?" *The answer:* "What does the Bible say? Win your family and friends!" Make a list of the five that God wants you to tell your story to this week.

Question 3: "What makes you think I will do this?" *The answer:* "Peer accountability. We're going to get back together next week and report to one another about those we shared our story with this week."

One question remained. It was a question Ying could see in their eyes.

What if I do tell my friend my story, **and what if he says, "Yes.** I would like to have Jesus in my life." *What do I do if they say "yes" to Jesus?*

*if S*ome on says YES then Give out and Go Over The First Lesson of 5

God's Plan Of Salvation

in order for the person who's has Just said **Yes**, You must be prepared to share 6 Crucial lessons with them in the following weeks. This is vital for their grounding in their relationship **with Jesus** and the christain community. Yea this is discipling! (have it and the other 5 lessons on a PDF to Share on Your Phone)

Ying said, "You need to be prepared for this. So we will teach you 6 simple lessons that you can use to lead someone to a new life in Jesus Christ, and set them on a lifelong path of growing in their relationship to God."

In order to stay one step ahead of your trainees, though, go ahead and download Lesson One: God's Plan of Salvation, and study through it in preparation for next week. its on the churches web page:

WE are working to get the first couple of lessons on the web page this week, Not sure of the order

- 1 Gods Plan of Salvation or
- 2- Baptism Largely What Pastor Larry Shared on Sunday Both are ready to go but

Assign Home work and let them know we will be practising these each week for the next few weeks- We need to knoe whow to use the tools so we are ready to use them ANY TIME The Holy Spirit Promts US!

Close in Prayer, - That God will help each to prep their story and maybe get an oppurtunity to Share it.

if Some on says YES then Give out and Go Over

(Or have it and the other 5 lessons on a PDF to Share on Your Phone)

Lesson 1 – God's Plan of Salvation

God created us because He wanted a special relationship with us. Every day He provides for us so many things that we take for granted, like the air we breathe, our daily food and drink, our loved ones, and much more. We take these things for granted because we don't really know God. God is calling you right now to stop living in ignorance of Him, to come close to Him and know Him. Jesus has changed my life. Now you also can have a new relationship with God and receive all of the blessings He has for you. (Acts 17:28-29)

I. Here is how we can receive God's gift of Life through Jesus.

- A. What does sin do in our life? (Isaiah 59:2)
- B. People try many different ways to find God, yet they fail. Why? (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- C . How does God bring us into relationship with Himself? (1 Peter 3:18)

II. The way of salvation is simple

- A. Jesus' saving work for us + trusting Him + turning from our ways to Him = salvation
- Has God done His part (Jesus' death and resurrection)? _____Yes _____No Have you done what you need to do (believe and repent)? _____Yes _____No

If you have "believed," then you are saved (Romans 10:9-10)!

- B. What does Jesus promise to those who follow Him? (John 10:28)
- C. Eternal life means more than just living forever with God. It also means that God's Spirit now lives within us, teaching us about Him and enabling us to live a life of holiness, love, peace and joy. Revelation 3:20; Galatians 5:22-23.
- D. *The Prayer of salvation* There's nothing magical in the words to this prayer, but if you believe it in your heart, God will hear your prayer and welcome you into His family.

"Dear God, I know that I have sinned, and that my sin has separated me from You. I am truly sorry, and now I want to turn away from my way of life toward You. Please forgive me, and save me. I believe that Your Son, Jesus Christ, died for my sins, was raised from the dead, is alive today, and hears my prayer. Jesus, I invite you to become the Lord of my life from this day forward. Please send your Holy Spirit to help me do Your will for the rest of my life. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen."

III. Your response.

Do you know	you have been saved? _	Yes	No	
Do you know	you have received eteri	nal life?	Yes	_No
Conclusion: _	I have been saved	_I have not	: been saved	lI still don't know

IV. If anyone is in Christ, he is a _____, the old ______ the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Here are some of the changes you can expect to experience in your new life.

- ____inner peace _____awareness of sin
- _____awareness of God's love _____ability to overcome sin
- _____desire to read the Bible _____concern for others
- _____feeling that my life is moving in the right direction

V. When you sin in the future, what should you do? (1 John 1:9)

VI. Please joyfully fill in your spiritual "birth certificate."

On _____(year) _____(month) ____(day), I received Jesus into my heart to be my Savior and Lord. He forgave my sin, and gave me a completely new direction for my life. Now I have become a child of God and a new creation. I have begun a new life. Signature:

VII. Memorize Bible verse.

"He who has the Son has life, he who does not have the Son, does not have life," 1 John 5:12.

VIII. When you receive this great salvation, your life is full of joy and peace! The first thing that you should do is to share this good news with those you care most about. Ask God to show you five people with whom you can share all that you have learned today. Then train those five to share and train others. In the following weeks we can meet together to encourage one another as we share what Jesus has done in our lives.

Session 2—Baptism

- □ BEGIN BY PRAYING TOGE THER
- □ LIST A HIGHLIGHT FROM LAST WEEK & CHALLENGE YOU ARE FACING

Highlight

Challenge

- HOW ARE YOU DOING READING THE GOSPEL OF JOHN?
 What is something you learned about the Lord?
 What questions do you have from what you have read?
- □ DID YOU MEMORIZE ROMANS 10:9? IF SO, CAN YOU SHARE IT?



The next step after trusting in Jesus for a new believer is to be baptized just like Jesus. This Session will explain the reasons and benefits of believers' baptism.

- □ READ THE FOLLOWING BIBLE VERSES & ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:
- Acts 2:36–41 (NLT) "So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!" ³⁷ Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apost les, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins... Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God." ⁴⁰ Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!" ⁴¹ Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.

Who was baptized?	
When were they baptized?	
Who performed the baptism?	

2) Acts 8:36–38 (NLT) As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?" ³⁸ He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

Who was baptized?	
When were they baptized?	
Who performed the baptism?	

3) Acts 9:11, 17–18 (NLT) The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul...¹⁷ So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized.

Who was baptized?	
When were they baptized?	
Who performed the baptism?	

4) Acts 10:24, 44-48 (NLT) They arrived in Caesarea the following day. Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends...⁴⁴ Even as Peter was saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message...⁴⁷ "Can anyone object to their being baptized, now that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we did?" ⁴⁸ So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Who was baptized?	
When were they baptized?	
Who performed the baptism?	

What can you conclude from this study about baptism?

- □ JESUS' BAPTISM:
- 5) Matthew 3:13–17 (NLT) Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him. ¹⁶ After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

Why did Jesus say He wanted to be baptized?

What did the Father say after Jesus was baptized?

□ 3 REASONS FOR BEING BAPTIZED

OBEY-we are baptized after believing in Jesus out of obedience

6) Acts 22:16 (NLT) "What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord."

What is the question in this verse and how might it apply to you?

DISPLAY—baptism is a way to display your faith similar to the way a wedding ring displays that you are married.

7) Galatians 3:27 (NLT) And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes.

What is baptism likened to in this passage?

PORTRAY-baptism pictures what happens when we are saved

8) Romans 6:4 (NLT) For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

What picture is portrayed by baptism?



Baptism does not "save" you—only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring. It's the outward symbol of the commitment you made in your heart.

When did you ask Jesus to be the Lord of your life?

Why should you be baptized? (check all that apply)

- □ Jesus was baptized.
- $\hfill\square$ Jesus commanded us to be baptized.
- $\hfill\square$ It gives me the opportunity to let people know I believe in Jesus.
- □ It illustrates what it means to die to my old life , and to live a new life with Jesus

When were you baptized? (check one)

- $\hfill\square$ I have never been baptized
- $\hfill\square$ I was baptized as a child
- $\hfill\square$ I was baptized after asking Jesus to be the Lord of my life
- □ Other: Explain _

Are you willing to be baptized the way Jesus was?

I have already Yes I am No I'm Not Sure

If you are hesitating about being baptized, why? (check all that apply)

- $\hfill\square$ I don't understand baptism.
- $\hfill\square$ I feel I would be dishonoring my parents.
- $\hfill\square$ I don't want to get wet in front of people.
- $\hfill\square$ I'm simply afraid or embarrassed.



- A SSIGNMENTFOR N EXT TIME :
- 1. Continuing reading the Gospel of John. Read it more than once.
- 2. Schedule your baptism.



Acts 22:16 (NLT) 'What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord.'

□ CLOSE IN PRAYER TOGETHER

The 3 Circles is more than a simple gospel presentation, it's an interactive tactic for:

guiding a conversation to include the gospel telling God's story within your own story inviting a response training new believers to do the same.

A Sample Conversation

Let's join Chris and Larry mid-conversation, as Larry mentions a disappointment.

L: "It's been a rough day, starting with a fight with my wife."

C: "Yeah, I've had days like that. A good friend shared something with me that gave me hope and helped me change. You are a good friend, and I'd like to share it with you."

C draws a circle and writes Brokenness inside: "We live in a world of brokenness, full of hurting people hurting each other. I used to be so full of anger that I took it out on those around me. I could see myself doing it, but I didn't know how to stop."

C draws squiggly arrows out from and looping back to Brokenness: "We try escaping brokenness in relationships, career, pleasure or dulling our pain, but this just leads to greater brokenness. I used to get drunk frequently, and had a long string of relationships. But in the end I just felt more pain."

L: "Yeah, I know what you mean. I've focused on my career, but it seems to be tearing my marriage apart. So what did you learn?"

C draws a second circle, to the left of the first, and writes God's Design inside. "I learned that our brokenness was not God's original design! We see evidence of His design when we see the beauty of a newborn baby or an incredible sunrise or sunset."

C draws an arrow from God's Design to Brokenness and writes sin above it. "But each of us have rebelled against God and walked away from His design. The Bible calls this sin, and this leaves us in brokenness."

C draws a third circle below and between the first two (forming an upside-down triangle of circles), and writes Jesus inside the top half. "God saw we could not escape our brokenness on our own, so God demonstrated his love towards us!"

C draws a down-arrow below Jesus's name inside the circle. "He sent Jesus to the earth and Jesus lived a perfect life."

C draws a cross next to the down-arrow. "He suffered a horrible death on a cross to take our brokenness upon Himself."

C draws an up-arrow next to the cross. "Then Jesus rose again. He has power over death! He's alive!"

C draws a line from Brokenness to Jesus, labels it with a king's crown, and writes restored. "Jesus said if you will turn from your brokenness, believe that God raised Him from the dead, and confess Jesus as king of your life, you will be restored back to God's design! SO I DID THAT! And now..."

C draws a line from Jesus to God's Design and labels it grow. "I'm growing in God's design ..."

C draws an arrow from God's design back to brokenness. "And I go tell others in brokenness about this GOOD NEWS!"

L: "That's powerful!"

C: "Where do you see yourself in this picture?"

L points to Brokenness.

C: "And where would you like to be?"

L: "In God's design."

C: "You can get there right now. Larry, do you believe God raised Jesus from the dead?"

L: "Yes."

C: "Larry, do you want to turn now from your brokenness?"

L: "Yes."

C: "Would you confess to Jesus, not me, that you choose to follow Him as your king? Just tell him that!"

L: "Okay. Jesus, I turn from my brokenness and choose to follow you. Be the king of my life, Jesus!"

C: "Way to go Larry! Now let me show you some verses in the Bible!"

C opens to Matt. 28:18. "Jesus said, 'all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.' Do you believe Jesus has all authority in heaven and earth?"

L: "Yes."

C: "Are you giving Jesus authority over your life?"

L: "Yes."

C: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations." Larry, do you know what a 'disciple' is?"

L: "No,"

C: "It's like an apprentice, following and becoming like Jesus! Do you want to be a disciple of Jesus?"

L: "Yes, but I don't know how."

C: "We will care for you and help you! Jesus continued, 'baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' Baptism is a symbol of what Jesus did for us—He died, was buried, and three days later rose from the dead! Baptism is also a picture of the miracle that happens inside us when we follow Him—we die to our old self and are raised up to walk a new life with Jesus! Will you obey Jesus' example and command to be baptized now?"

L: "Yes, let's do it!"

C: "Great. Now let me continue, 'teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.' Larry, can we come back and continue teaching you how to obey everything Jesus commanded?"

L: "Sure. When?"

C: "How about this same time next week?"

L: "Great!"

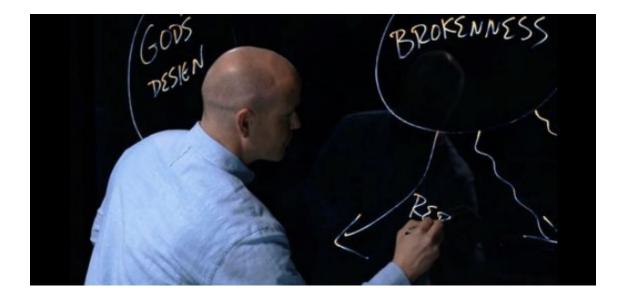
C: "Look at this last part, Larry. Jesus promised, 'And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.' Larry, how does that make you feel?"

L: "Really Good. Really Good."

C: "Never forget Jesus' promise to you, Larry! Now let's go find water so you can obey Jesus' command and be baptized!"

L: "Let's Go!"

Ten-year old Malachi models the adaption below in http://noplaceleft.net/three-circles/ http://noplaceleft.net/



3 Circles

We live in a broken world, surrounded by broken lives, broken relationships, and broken systems. This brokenness is seen in the suffering, violence, poverty, pain, and death around us. Brokenness leads us to search for a way to make life work.

In contrast to this brokenness, we also see beauty, purpose, and evidence of God's perfect design around us. The Bible tells us that God originally planned a world that worked perfectly-where everything and everyone t together in harmony. God made each of us with a purpose-to worship Him and walk with Him. (See Gen. 1:31; Ps. 19:1.)

Life doesn't work when we ignore God and His original design for our lives. We sel shly insist on doing things our own way. The Bible calls this sin. We all sin and distort the original design. The consequence of our sin is separation from God-in this life and for all eternity. (See Rom. 3:23; 6:23.)

Sin leads to brokenness. We see this all around us and in our own lives as well. When we realize life isn't working, we begin to look for a way out. We tend to go in many directions and do many different things to gure it out on our own. Brokenness leads to a realization of our need for something greater. (See Prov. 14:12; Rom. 1:25.)

At this point we need a remedy-some good news. Because of His love, God didn't leave us in our brokenness. Jesus, God in human esh, came to us and lived perfectly according to God's design. Jesus came to rescue us-to do for us what we couldn't do for ourselves. He took our sin and shame to the cross, paying the penalty of our sin by His death. Jesus was then raised from the dead to provide the only way for us to be rescued and restored to a relationship with God. (See John 3:16; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Col. 2:14.)

Simply hearing this good news isn't enough. We must admit our sinful brokenness and stop trusting in ourselves. We don't have the power to escape this brokenness on our own. We need to be rescued. We must ask God to forgive us, turning from sin to trust in Jesus. This is what it means to repent and believe. Believing, we receive new life through Jesus, and God turns our lives in a new direction. (See Mark 1:15; Rom. 10:9; Eph. 2:8-9.)

When God restores our relationship with Him, we begin to discover meaning and purpose in a broken world. Now we can pursue God's design in all areas of our lives. Even when we fail, we understand God's pathway to be restored-this same good news of Jesus. God's Spirit empowers us to recover His design and assures us of His presence in this life and for all eternity. (See Eph. 2:10; Phil. 2:13.)

https://player.vimeo.com/video/96082853 https://vimeo.com/97258323 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5W8ynRMr59k