

# APPENDIX C: APPLYING GOSPEL ANSWERS

**These two exercises** introduce ways to speak the good news of Jesus into everyday lives, stories, and situations. As you practice applying gospel answers to hypothetical situations, it becomes easier to apply similar answers to your group members' real-life situations.

## *EXERCISE #1: JESUS IS THE BETTER* \_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup>

Pick some characters/roles from the list below. In the middle column, write a few words about how he/she did/didn't/does/doesn't fulfill his/her role. In the right column describe how Jesus perfectly fulfilled the person's role, in a way they never could, to the glory of God.

## *EXERCISE #2: GOD'S STORY*<sup>2</sup>

If we don't view life through the lens of God's story, we view it in light of a lesser story.

The first column below lists dominant questions asked by each movement of God's story. The second column lists objective, biblical answers to those questions that come when God's story is our dominant story. In the third column, write a few areas of disbelief you struggle with. In the final column, consider alternative narratives that reinforce this area of unbelief. What story are you believing instead of the story of God?

# EXERCISE #1: JESUS IS THE BETTER \_\_\_\_\_

JESUS IS THE BETTER . . .	HUMAN IN THAT ROLE	JESUS IN THAT ROLE
Adam	Adam failed the test in the garden and gave into temptation.	Jesus passed the test by overcoming the tempter and submitting himself in the garden of Gethsemane.
Abel		
Abraham		
Isaac		
Jacob		
Joseph		
Moses		
Job		
David		
Esther		
Jonah		
<p><i>For further development in this skill, compare Jesus to inanimate objects too: the rock of Moses, manna, the temple, light, water, and more.</i></p>		

## EXERCISE #2: GOD'S STORY

	QUESTION	OBJECTIVE/BIBLICAL ANSWER
<b>CREATION</b>	Where is my identity? What do I look to, trust in, depend on, for my worth?	Child of God, created in His image; my identity is in Christ alone; I am reliant/dependent on Him
<b>FALL</b>	What is wrong? What is the real problem/issue?	Sin Rejection of God Brokenness that's part of living in a fallen world
<b>REDEMPTION</b>	What can fix this?	Jesus
<b>NEW CREATION</b>	Where is hope? In what is my confidence found?	God's promises shown through history Eternity/Jesus' return

**AREA OF DISBELIEF****POSSIBLE "FALSE"  
ANSWERS/STORY**

After you've tried this for yourself, pick a few other hypothetical scenarios and write potential answers for each: perhaps a new spouse, a parent of a rebellious teen, an environmental activist, someone who can't stop dwelling on their rough past, an older single woman/man, or someone you actually know, in a real struggle/issue they're having.

For more resources on speaking the truth in love  
and printable versions of these pages,  
visit [saturatetheworld.com/gf](http://saturatetheworld.com/gf).

# NOTES

## START HERE: “Y’ALL”

1. “US Becoming Less Religious: Modest Drop in Overall Rates of Belief and Practice, but Religiously Affiliated Americans Are as Observant as Before,” Pew Research Center, November 3, 2015, <https://www.pewforum.org/2015/11/03/u-s-public-becoming-less-religious/>.
2. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together* (London: SCM Press, 2015), 11–12, italics added.
3. “2842. Koinónia,” Bible Hub, <https://biblehub.com/greek/2842.htm>.
4. Darryl Eyb, email to author, August 12, 2020.
5. See Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 2; 1 Peter 2; 1 Cor. 3.
6. See Eph. 5 and Rev. 19.
7. See 2 Cor. 6 and 1 Tim. 5.
8. See Matt. 12 and 1 Tim. 5.
9. See Gal. 6 and Eph. 2.

## WEEK ONE: WHY SHOULD I EVEN CARE?

1. Facebook Groups. (2020). *Found by the Hounds* [Television commercial]. Retrieved from <https://youtu.be/cTRR92URXpo>.
2. The training I attended is called “Soma School,” and now occurs in churches across the world. If you want to experience this kind of church family in action today, see [wearesoma.com/soma-school/](http://wearesoma.com/soma-school/).
3. Aaron Sorkin et al., *The West Wing*, 1x19, “Let Bartlet Be Bartlet,” aired April 26, 2000, on NBC.
4. Soong-Chan Rah, *The Next Evangelicalism: Freeing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2009), 95.
5. *Ibid.*, 96.
6. *Ibid.*, 92.
7. Bill Hendricks, “The Origin of Executive Pastors,” XPastor, April 7, 2018, <https://www.xpastor.org/new-xp/essentials/the-origin-of-executive-pastors/>.
8. Eph. 4:12.
9. Elliot Grudem, personal conversation, Leaders Collective Church Planters Gathering, April 2019.
10. David Foster Wallace, “This Is Water,” speech given at Kenyon College, May 21, 2005. Learn more: <http://bulletin-archive.kenyon.edu/x4280.html>.
11. Russ Rainey, “Willow Creek Reveal Study – A Summary,” The Christian Coaching Center, <http://www.christiancoachingcenter.org/index.php/russ-rainey/coachingchurch2/>.

12. John Mark Comer, *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: How to Stay Emotionally Healthy and Spiritually Alive in the Chaos of the Modern World* (Colorado Springs: WaterBrook: 2019), 265.
13. Jack Haywood, ed., *NKJV, Spirit-Filled Life Bible*, 3rd ed. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2018).
14. See Ps. 103:13; 1 John 3:1; James 1:17; Prov. 3:11; Matt. 6:26; John. 12:26; Matt. 6:6.
15. The most common examples of addressing God individually are when Jesus addresses His Father in prayer.
16. WeAreSoma, “Soma School Notes” (Tacoma, WA: unpublished, 2014), 11. <https://wearesoma.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Soma-School-Final.pdf>.
17. “Our DNA,” Blueprint Church, <https://www.blueprintchurch.org/our-dna>, accessed May 6, 2020.
18. WeAreSoma, “Soma School Notes,” 11.
19. Rabbi Jonathan Gross, “How Much Would the Mishkan Cost Today?,” Orthodox Union, February 16, 2016, <https://www.ou.org/life/torah/how-much-would-the-mishkan-cost-today/>. Other authors calculate the total cost at over double that.

## WEEK TWO: WHO IS MY SPIRITUAL FAMILY?

1. Suzanne Degges-White, “How Many Friends Do You Really Need in Adulthood?,” *Psychology Today*, August 9, 2019, <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/lifetime-connections/201908/how-many-friends-do-you-really-need-in-adulthood>.
2. Ibid.
3. Maria Konnikova, “The Limits of Friendship,” *New Yorker*, October 7, 2014 <https://www.newyorker.com/science/maria-konnikova/social-media-affect-math-dunbar-number-friendships>.
4. See studies like Aaron Earls, “The Church Growth Gap: The Big Get Bigger While the Small Get Smaller,” *Christianity Today*, March 6, 2019: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2019/march/lifeway-research-church-growth-attendance-size.html>.
5. Ed Stetzer, “Do You Know What Keeps Your Church from Growing?,” EdStetzer.com, <https://edstetzer.com/breaking-200>.
6. Jeffrey Kranz, “All the ‘One Another’ Commands in the NT [Infographic],” Overview Bible, March 9, 2014, <https://overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic/>. Carl F. George, *Prepare Your Church for the Future* (Tarrytown: Revell, 1991), 129–31.
7. Mark 12:28–34, 9:50; Rom. 15:14; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 5:21; James 5:16; Eph. 4:15.
8. Rom. 12:10; 1 Cor. 12:25; Gal. 5:13; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 4:32; Rom. 12:16; 1 Peter 4:9; 1 John 3:11 (all NIV).
9. Michael Finkel, “Into the Woods: How One Man Survived Lone in the Wilderness for 27 Years,” *Guardian*, March 15, 2017, <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2017/mar/15/stranger-in-the-woods-christopher-knight-hermit-maine>.
10. Ibid.
11. Michael Finkel, *The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit* (New York: Knopf, 2017), 90.
12. Ibid., 143.
13. Ron Hall and Denver Moore, *Same Kind of Different As Me* (Colorado Springs: Thomas Nelson, 2006), 132.

14. Martin Luther King Jr., Interview on *Meet the Press*, aired April 17, 1960, on CBS.
15. See Ps. 127:3; Mark 10:13–15; James 1:27, among many other examples.
16. Dave Wright, “A Brief History of Youth Ministry,” The Gospel Coalition, April 2, 2012, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/a-brief-history-of-youth-ministry/>.
17. *Ibid.*
18. Aaron Earls, “Most Teenagers Drop Out of Church as Young Adults,” LifeWay Research, January 15, 2019. <https://lifewayresearch.com/2019/01/15/most-teenagers-drop-out-of-church-as-young-adults/>.
19. Dave Wright, “A Brief History.”
20. See, e.g., Neh. 12:43; Matt. 14:21; 15:38.
21. See, e.g., Acts 16:31–34; 18:8.

### WEEK THREE: WHAT DOES A SPIRITUAL FAMILY DO?

1. Ray Ortlund, “Tenderhearted,” The Gospel Coalition, October 5, 2011, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/ray-ortlund/tenderhearted/>.
2. Jeffrey Kranz, “All the ‘One Another’ Commands in the NT [Infographic]” Overview Bible, March 9, 2014, <https://overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic/>.
3. All the names in this sentence have been changed.
4. Cameron Crowe, *Jerry Maguire* (Culver City, CA: Columbia TriStar Home Video, 1999).
5. Wendy Harris: “Friends Help Each Other,” *Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood*, ep. 107. The Fred Rogers Company: first aired on PBS September 10, 2012.
6. Think, for example, of everything from James Taylor’s classic “You’ve Got a Friend” to Bruno Mars’s catchy “Count on Me” to Kasey Musgraves’s cheeky “Family Is Family”; from Josh Groban’s crooning “You’ll Never Walk Alone” to Israel Houghton’s soulful “Others” to *High School Musical*’s “We’re All in This Together.”
7. See for example, Rosaria Butterfield’s *The Gospel Comes with a House Key: Practicing Radically Ordinary Hospitality in Our Post-Christian World* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018).
8. Arthur C. Brooks, *Love Your Enemies: How Decent People Can Save America from the Culture of Contempt* (New York: Broadside Books, 2019), 33–34, italics added.
9. Ps. 23:1; 1 Peter 5:4, 1:19; John 21:17; Acts 20:28; Matt. 25:33.
10. “4166. poimén,” Bible Hub, <https://biblehub.com/greek/4166.htm>.
11. “4165. poimainó” Bible Hub, <https://biblehub.com/str/greek/4165.htm>. Italics and bracketed phrase mine.
12. See 1 Peter 5:4. Most overtly, Paul charges elders in Ephesus, “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you *overseers* [ἐπισκόπους, title], to *care for* [ποιμαίνειν, verb; literally ‘to shepherd’] the church of God” (Acts 20:28, italics mine). Peter writes to “the *elders* [πρεσβυτέρους, title] among you, as a *fellow elder* [συνπρεσβύτερος, title] and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: *shepherd* [ποιμάνατε, verb] the flock of God that is among you” (1 Peter 5:1–2).
13. Harold Sinkbeil, “Pastor as Sheepdog: Working Hard but Wagging His Tail”: Logos, June 14, 2019, <https://blog.logos.com/2019/06/pastor-as-sheepdog-working-hard-but-wagging-his-tail/>.
14. Phil. 4:7; Heb. 3:13; Titus 1:9.

15. Matt. 7:15.
16. Prov. 27:6.

#### WEEK FOUR: WHEN AND WHERE DOES A SPIRITUAL FAMILY INTERACT?

1. “Values, Vision, and Mission,” Doxa Church, <https://www.doxa-church.com/valuesvisionmission>.
2. See for example most of Jesus’ public teaching, as well as the apostles’ open-air proclamations of Jesus as Lord throughout Acts.
3. See as one example, Ather Fawaz, “‘The Most Precious Resource We All Have Is Time,’ Tweets Tim Cook in Memory of Steve Jobs,” Neowin, October 5, 2019, <https://www.neowin.net/news/the-most-precious-resource-we-all-have-is-time-tweets-tim-cook-in-memory-of-steve-jobs/>.
4. Francis Chan, *Letters to the Church* (Colorado Springs: David C Cook, 2018), 53.
5. Peter Ocko et al., *The Office*, 7x7, “Christening,” aired November 4, 2010, on NBC.
6. Francis Schaeffer, “The Mark of the Christian,” *Christianity Today*, September 11, 1970, 7.
7. Marvin Olasky, “A Wave Came In,” *World Magazine*, April 23, 2010, [https://world.wng.org/2010/04/a\\_wave\\_came\\_in](https://world.wng.org/2010/04/a_wave_came_in).
8. Shakespeare, Billy: *Romeo & Juliet*: Act II, Scene II.
9. C. H. Spurgeon, *The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit Sermons*, vol. 54 (London: Passmore & Alabaster, 1908), 476–77.

#### WEEK FIVE: HOW DO WE START?

1. I first heard this term from Dr. Michael Goheen in a private lecture: “Probing a Missional Hermeneutic: Mission as a Central Interest and Goal of Biblical Story” (Vancouver, B.C., Canada), <https://slideplayer.com/slide/7293006/>.
2. John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2009). I.11.8
3. Jeff Christopherson, “The Road Ahead: 10 Characteristics of a Future Church Planter, Part 1,” The Exchange (blog), *Christianity Today*, October 28, 2019, <https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2019/october/road-ahead-10-characteristics-future-church-planter-1.html>.
4. See Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4.
5. See 1 Tim. 2.
6. Much of Jesus’ ministry displays this, as do passages like Deut. 6, Acts 2, and Acts 4.
7. C. John Miller, *The Heart of a Servant Leader: Letters from Jack Miller* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2004), 51.
8. See for more on this, Donald Sweeting, “The Humor of Christ.” National Association of Evangelicals, Fall 2013, <https://www.nae.net/the-humor-of-christ/>.

#### AFTERWORD: TO CHURCH LEADERS

1. See 1 Peter 5:4; 1 Cor. 3:5–8; Matt. 16:18.

2. Summarized from JR Woodward, *Creating a Missional Culture*, (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2012), 35–39.

#### APPENDIX A: SHARING YOUR STORY

1. Here are two resources to help you go deeper in sharing your story: “God’s Story: Our Dominant Story,” Saturate, 2017, [https://saturatetheworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/saturate-gfhandbook-dominant\\_story.pdf](https://saturatetheworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/saturate-gfhandbook-dominant_story.pdf) and “How to Share Your Story,” Saturate, 2016, <https://saturatetheworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/How-to-Share-Your-Story-V1.pdf>.
2. The printable template is available at [saturatetheworld.com/gf/week-6-instagram/](https://saturatetheworld.com/gf/week-6-instagram/).
3. A printable template is available at <https://saturatetheworld.com/gf/week-6-three-pillars/>.

#### APPENDIX B: ASKING GOOD QUESTIONS

1. “Gospel Shepherding: Asking Good Questions,” Saturate, 2017, <https://saturatetheworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Gospel-Shepherding-Ask-Good-Questions.pdf>.
2. Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2002), 170–78.
3. David Powlison, *Seeing with New Eyes: Counseling and the Human Condition through the Lens of Scripture* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2003), 129–44.

#### APPENDIX C: APPLYING GOSPEL ANSWERS

1. “Jesus is the Better \_\_\_\_,” Saturate, 2017, <https://saturatetheworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/saturate-gfhandbook-jesus-is-the-better.pdf>
2. “God’s Story: Our Dominant Story,” Saturate.



## FREE RESOURCES TO GO DEEPER GENUINECOMMUNITY.NET

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