## Full Circle: Prayer, Care, Share

### Scope and Sequence

Christian Basics: Evangelism

### Lesson Objective

Students will understand that Jesus is calling them to share His Gospel message with others.

### Sticky Statement

Join the Cause!

### Key Verses


### Checklist

1. A PowerPoint is available for this lesson.
2. Video projection equipment (Lesson Content)
3. Video: Full Circle (3:31) [https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS18/43-1/](https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS18/43-1/) (Lesson Content)
4. Bibles (Lesson Content)
5. Whiteboard or flip chart and markers (Lesson Content)
6. Two copies of the “My Cause Circle” cards per student (Decision)
7. Pens/pencils/markers (Decision)
8. Dare 2 Share mobile app – Download the app ahead of time and get familiar with it. During the lesson, you’ll be encouraging your students to download the app. (Connection)
9. LOW TECH OPTION: For students who do not have a smartphone, make them aware that many of the same faith-sharing resources on the app are available via [www.lifein6words.com](http://www.lifein6words.com) and [www.dare2share.org/worldviews](http://www.dare2share.org/worldviews) (Connection)

### Resources

1. Full Circle: Make Disciples Who Make Disciples – Dare 2 Share – Used by permission of Dare 2 Share. The content has been adapted for Word of Life Fellowship.
2. © 2018 Dare 2 Share Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved. A D2S Publishing resource. PO Box 745323, Arvada, CO 80006. [www.dare2share.org](http://www.dare2share.org). “Prayer, Care, Share” is adapted from Mission America Coalition.
Making disciples who make disciples is the ultimate cause.

The Cause Circle of “Prayer, Care, Share” is the way Jesus engaged with those who didn’t have a personal relationship with God.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Motives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jesus</td>
<td>Cared about people, taught truth about God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crowds</td>
<td>Maybe looking for entertainment/spiritual truth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharisees and religious teachers</td>
<td>Skeptical, questioning, challenging Jesus’ claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralyzed man</td>
<td>Needed physical help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>Determined to bring their friend to Jesus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faith-sharing resources are available via [www.lifein6words.com](http://www.lifein6words.com) and [www.dare2share.org/worldviews](http://www.dare2share.org/worldviews).

Join the cause!

**Teacher’s Note:** Gather your group’s attention and ask the following “Would You Rather” questions. Students must quickly decide which of the two options they prefer. Have them indicate their choices by moving to opposite sides of the room. (i.e., those who’d rather donate money to buy mosquito nets go to the left side of the room vs. those who’d rather donate to stop human trafficking go to the right side of the room.) The only rule is that everyone has to pick one or the other choice – “both” or “neither” aren’t options!

1. If you had $100 to donate, would you rather donate the money to buy mosquito nets for needy families in Africa or to help stop human trafficking in Southeast Asia?
2. Would you rather volunteer to go dig a well for safe drinking water in Nepal or volunteer to hold high-need babies born to drug-addicted mothers at a hospital in Guatemala?
3. Would you rather try to save a friend from a rattlesnake on a desert hike or try to save a friend by sharing the Gospel with them in the school cafeteria?
4. Would you rather spend a month volunteering at an orphanage in India or volunteer to serve meals at a local homeless shelter?
5. Would you rather share the Gospel with an unreached friend or with a stranger?

That was an interesting activity. It was fun to see some of your choices.

- Were you surprised by some of the choices you saw others making? [Allow the students to respond.]
- Was it sometimes hard to decide which thing you would rather do? [Allow the students to respond.] Why or why not?
Perhaps you noticed that there was a theme to these choices. What was it? [Allow the students to respond.] Anybody want to try to summarize it for us? [Allow a student to summarize the theme.]

The choices I gave you had to do with sharing the love of God with others. Some of the choices involved various kinds of “causes”—like helping the homeless, stopping human trafficking or helping orphans. “Causes” are a big deal in our culture.

What are some other examples of popular “causes” you’re familiar with? [Allow the students to respond. Possible answers: Save the Planet, Eat Local, Save the Black Rhino, etc.]

There are all kinds of causes we can choose to get involved with and invest our time and money in. How do you go about deciding whether or not to get involved with a cause? [Allow the students to respond.]

**Lesson Content**

**Teacher's Note:** Prior to beginning the lesson, ask three students to read the following passages at the beginning of the Lesson Content Section: Luke 19:10, John 20:21, and Matthew 28:19-20.


This week, we’re launching into a four-week series about a very particular cause that Jesus was all about. Before we dive in, let’s open in prayer.

“Dear God, in our better moments we really do want to share Your love with others and live lives that make a difference for You and for Your kingdom. We want to know You and make You known. Help us take a step in that direction now as we unpack Your Word and explore Your call on our lives. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

We have three volunteers who are going to each read a verse for us. In each of these verses, Luke 19:10, John 20:21, and Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus is speaking. As you listen, see if you can spot the “cause” that was near and dear to His heart. [Allow each student to read.]

How would you describe, in your own words, this cause Jesus is talking about? [Allow the students to respond. Possible answers: reaching the lost with the Gospel, making disciples who make disciples, a.k.a. The Great Commission.]

Was this cause just something that Jesus was into, or did He pass it along to His followers with the expectation that they would be all about it too? [Allow the students to respond.]

In many respects, this cause of making disciples who make disciples is the ultimate cause, because this cause has the potential to change everything. When someone puts his trust in Christ and becomes a follower of Jesus, it not only changes the eternal destiny of his soul, it also changes how he lives his life.
Truly devoted followers of Jesus will do the kinds of things Jesus did. They’ll heal. They’ll help. They’ll serve. In short, they’ll make the world a better place to live. And then, in turn, the disciple making process will multiply out as they introduce others to Jesus, too, who will do the same. Devoted followers will do this until everyone, everywhere not only hears the good news that Jesus died for them, but feels the good news poured out on them by the love of those of us who want to be like Jesus.

How many of you think that what I’m talking about here sounds like something we hire pastors and missionaries to do? [Allow the students to respond by raising hands.]

Is it reasonable to expect ordinary people, including teenagers, to do this? [Allow the students to respond.] Why or why not? [Allow the students to respond.]

As a youth group, do you think we’re currently doing a very good job living this out? [Allow the students to evaluate themselves.] Why or why not? [Allow the students to respond.]

This calling to spread Jesus’ message is something that He asked all of His followers to do; that includes you and me. It’s not just for a select few who are willing to be pastors or missionaries. It’s for every one of us who calls ourselves a Christian. It’s for here and now, right where God has you and I planted now: in your current circle of friends, at your school, on your team, in your neighborhood, in your family. Because it’s THE CAUSE Jesus has invited all of us to join Him in. **Join the cause!**

You have an important part to play in seeing His “kingdom come,” His “will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10) by sharing His message. Yet many of us don’t actively share our faith. Why is that, do you think? [Allow the students to respond.]

For some of us, it’s because we’re apathetic. We just don’t care. If that describes you, a first step for you would be to pray that God would move your heart to a different place and that your compassion for those who don’t know Jesus would grow. But for many of us, we don’t talk to others about Jesus because we think it feels awkward to try to talk about spiritual things with others. So how might we more naturally and effectively go about engaging our friends about spiritual things? Let’s start by taking our cue from Jesus Himself as we watch this short video.

**Teacher’s Note:** Play the Full Circle Video: [https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS18/43-1/](https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/SBS18/43-1/) (3:31)

The Cause Circle of “Prayer, Care, Share” is the way **Jesus** engaged with those who didn’t have a personal relationship with God.

Over these next few weeks, we’re going to be focusing on each of these three elements of the faith-sharing process. We’ll be using a story about Jesus found in Luke 5 to do this. We’re going to start this week by reading the whole passage to get the bigger context of the story. In the coming weeks, we’ll drill down into it further. So, let’s all turn in our Bibles or Bible apps to Luke 5:15-26. I have asked three of you to read a portion of this passage for us. Listen to this event in the life of Jesus. [Allow each student to read four verses each.]

This is such an amazing event! Let’s talk a bit about the cast of characters we find here. Who are some of the characters?
Ok, let’s talk a little about some of the possible motives each of these characters bring to their actions. Why do you think they’re here in this crowded room on this particular day?

Teacher’s Note: Use a whiteboard or flip chart to list the responses of the students. Possible answers: Jesus, the crowd, Pharisees and religious teachers, the paralyzed man, his friends.

Which character do you most identify with? [Allow the students to respond.]

Many of us can identify with the friends. Don’t you just love the audacity of those guys? They were so determined to do whatever it took to get their disabled friend to Jesus to be healed. So, when they realized they couldn’t get inside because of the crowd, they climbed up to the roof, ripped off some roof tiles and lowered their friend down for some face time with Jesus. It’s a great picture of the kind of determination and outside-of-the-box thinking that’s sometimes necessary when it comes to bringing our own friends to Jesus.

Now that we know the specifics of the event, let’s go in a little bit of a different direction. Let’s zero in on Jesus and what the Bible tells us about His actions. What do you see happening here that fits the “Prayer, Care, Share” breakout we saw in the video we just watched? [Allow the students to respond.]

We get a glimpse here of how Jesus wove a continuous cycle of Prayer, Care, and Share into His interactions with those He was trying to reach. We can also see how people responded to Him. Many were open and interested; some were doubtful and challenging.
So what does Jesus’ “Prayer, Care, Share” approach mean for us? In the coming weeks, we’ll unpack the Cause Circle step-by-step and spend a week on each step: Prayer, Care, and Share. Right now, I’m guessing that some of you are thinking to yourselves, “I don’t know how to talk to people about Jesus or the Gospel” or “I don’t know the first thing about how to do that.”

Well, we’ll be talking about that some in future weeks, but I want to introduce you to an app that is a very practical training and faith-sharing tool to have in your pocket. This app will really help you if you don’t feel very confident about the “how-to” of sharing your faith.

So, if you have one, pull out your smartphone, go to the app store, and download the free Dare 2 Share app right now. In just a few moments, we’ll briefly walk through the app together.

Teacher’s Note: If you have students who don’t have smartphones, pair them up with someone who does, so they can look on during this process and make them aware that many of the same faith-sharing resources on the app are available via www.lifein6words.com and www.dare2share.org/worldviews. At this point, do a high-level walkthrough of the general structure of the app with your students.

- Why 2 Share: The videos in this section provide an overview of the app and explain why a conversation about the Gospel is “The Conversation That Matters Most.”
- What 2 Share: These videos teach you how to explain the Gospel.
- How 2 Share: This section is packed with tools and tips that will help you maneuver through a Gospel conversation from takeoff to touchdown.
- Plan 2 Share: Here’s where you’ll find a graphic and a video explaining the Cause Circle.
- Share Now: This section features tools you can use during your Gospel conversations. In fact, we’re going to use one of them right now, because before we close, with all this focus on sharing the Gospel, I realize there may be some here who have never put their faith in Jesus.

So, please navigate to the “Share Now” tab of the app and click on the 6 Words option in the navigation panel. Let’s walk through those 6 Words together right now.

Teacher’s Note: Walk through the 6 Words of the GOSPEL acrostic.

Decision

If you’re here today and have never accepted this free gift of eternal life, I invite you to do that right now. If you would like to put your faith in Jesus Christ, I invite you to pray this prayer silently along with me right now.

With every head bowed and every eye closed, let’s pray:
Dear God,  
I know that my sins have broken my relationship with You and that nothing I could do could ever change that. But right now, I believe that Jesus died in my place and rose again from the dead. I trust Him to forgive me for my sins. Through faith in Him, I am entering an eternal relationship with You. Thank You for this free gift! In Jesus’ name, amen.

Teacher’s Note: Invite anyone who trusted Christ to come see you after the meeting so you can follow up with them.

Today, we’ve just brushed the surface of “The Cause” and the Cause Circle, and we’ll be going deeper into each element of it over the next three weeks, but I want to give you some time right now to think seriously about who it is in your life that should be in your Cause Circle.

Who has God put in your life that doesn’t know Jesus? That is the person He wants you to reach out to and share your faith. Who is God putting on your heart?

I’m handing out some Cause Circle cards so you can fill in the names of people in your life who you would love to see come to faith in Jesus. Tonight, we want you to join the cause!

Teacher’s Note: Begin passing out the Cause Circle cards. Cards are located on Teacher Source.

I want each of you to take two cards to fill in – one to keep for yourself, and one that you can give to me or your small group leader before you leave so we can be praying for you and with you about your friends you are trying to reach.

There’s also a spot on the card for you to put your name. Please fill that in so we know who we’re praying for. In the center of the circle there are three blanks for you to put the names of people you sense God wants you to be praying for, caring for, and sharing with. Take a moment right now to pray and ask God to show you whose names you should write down on your cards.

Teacher’s Note: Give your students a minute or two to pray and fill in both cards, but don’t collect the second copy of the card from them until after small group time.

As you wrap up filling out your two cards, I want to challenge each of you to spend some personal time this week praying and asking God to give you an increased passion for reaching the lost. Ask Him to break your heart for your lost friends. Ask Him to begin to use you in these coming weeks to help your friends bump into Jesus and put their faith in Him. Ask Him to help you become more intentional about the “Prayer, Care, Share” process that Jesus modeled so well.
Join the Cause!

1. Place an empty chair in the center of your small group and ask, “What names did you write on our Cause Circle Card?” (Have the students share the names that they placed on their card. Be sure to share the names that you placed on your card. Explain that the empty chair in the center of your group represents the desire and potential we have as a small group to see our friends come to Christ. Our hearts and our room are big enough to welcome many, many more teenagers into our midst.)

2. Which one of the people can you visualize sitting in that chair? (Pay special attention to the name that each student lists. It could be a clue as to who they would most like to see come to Jesus. After each student has listed a name, take the time to pray for each of those names specifically. You could have each person pray for their own person or for the name of someone else in the group.)

3. Take the time right now to place one of your Cause Circle cards on the empty chair. (Explain to the students that the reason you want them to leave a copy of their Cause Circle cards is because you want to be praying for each person by name. Be sure that you pray for both these names and for each student who wrote the names. Send a couple texts to each student during the week to let them know that you are praying for them and with them about their friends who need Jesus. You could close in prayer this way: “Lord God, we beg You for the salvation of our friends. Please give us the compassion, clarity, and courage we need to reach out to them with Your Gospel message. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”)