

The Start

Why use Start?

A strong spiritual movement is a movement with strong discipleship. Start is a six-part small group program specially designed to align and strengthen local movements.

	Subject	Goal	Duration
1st Meeting	Our DNA	Learn what's involved: Win, Build and Send	60-90 min.
2nd Meeting	Evangelism	No study, the group should do some kind of outreach together	60-90 min.
3rd Meeting	First steps	The group will study the "Assurance" lesson from First Steps and take a look at the overall picture of the series to prepare to build a new Christian.	60-90 min.
4th Meeting	Our relationship with God	Study on the priority of our relationship with the Lord	60-90 min.
5th Meeting	Fellowship	No study, the group should do something fun together	60-120 min.
6th Meeting	Spiritual Multiplication	Study the biblical model for spiritual multiplication and the characteristics of a multiplier	60-90 min.

1st Meeting: our DNA

What is God's calling for us?

"A loving community
of students,
passionate about
connecting people
to Jesus Christ."

Just as DNA contains the genetic information of each organism and gives that being its own identity, the same is true of Cru. Whatever the ministry, we will always find the elements Win, Build and Send in every movement of spiritual multiplication.

What, then, is involved in Winning, Building and Sending?

Win

We want every student to have the opportunity to know God, as well as to understand and experience the Gospel by faith.

For this to happen, our "Win" needs to have some essential elements:

- _____ [Colossians 2:2-4; Acts 4:29]
- _____ [Matthew 9:36; 2Co 5:14,15]
- _____ [Col 4:5,6; John 4:4-26; 1Co 9:22-23]
- _____ [1 Peter 3:15; Acts 22:1-21]
- _____ [Luke 8:38, 39; John 4:39]
- _____ [Acts 2:42-47; John 17:22-23]
- _____ [Lk 9:1-6; 10.1-17, Acts 5:41-42; Mark 1:38, 39]

Success in witnessing is simply taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, leaving the results to God.

Build

Let's check out some uses of the word "Build" in the Bible:

Acts 20:32; Romans 10:14-15; Romans 14:15-19; 2 Corinthians 13:10; 1 Corinthians 14:1-5

We want every Christian student to experience genuine life transformation by having his/her faith firmly established so that he/she can grow in his relationship with God and empower others to experience the same.

For this to happen, we need to model life with Christ. We need to communicate and teach the fundamental concepts of the Christian life so that others can understand, experience and pass the concepts on to others.

On the most basic level, we want to build Christians in these essential areas:

- _____ [1 John 5:11-13]
- _____ [1 John 1:5-2.2]
- _____ [Ephesians 3:16,17; 5:18]
- _____ [Galatians 5:16-26]
- _____ [Luke 11:1-13]
- _____ [2 Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 4:12]
- _____ [Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:24-25]
- _____ [Acts 1:8; Colossians 4:2-6]
- _____ [Mark 8:34-38; Romans 12:1-2]
- _____ [Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 24:45-49]

Send

We want every Christian to have the opportunity and privilege of reaching others for Christ. We also want to see God send an increasing number of harvest workers to university campuses, communities, and the world.

For this to happen, we send Christ-centered laborers to reach and disciple people.

How do we send students? _____ [Matthew 9:35-38]

- _____ [Luke 10:1-12]
- _____ [2 Timothy 2:2]
- _____ [Ephesians 2:10]
- _____ [2 Timothy 4:1-2,5]

Application

Are these three elements (win, build, send) characteristics of the movement on my campus?

In which of these areas is my campus weakest? Strongest? Why?

How would I like to see my movement grow in this weak area during this semester?

What can we do this semester to develop the weak areas?

2nd Meeting: Evangelism

Share the Gospel

It is important that your small group know how to help a student begin a relationship with Jesus. There are several students who would start a relationship with God today if someone simply told them how. You might say something like this: "Has anyone ever explained to you how you can have a personal relationship with God?" And after the answer: "Can I explain?"

We have found it helpful to literally read the gospel message to a student word for word. At the end, if he/she is open, lead him/her in prayer to receive Christ. (Ask the student if he or she wants you read the sentences for him or her to repeat after you.)

But let's face it, evangelism is not something we do so naturally. There is a lot of fear involved. Especially the fear of being rejected. Therefore, it is important to know how to share the gospel and also how to teach others to do the same so that they will feel more comfortable. Teaching others how to share the gospel is also a practical way to ensure that other students are committed to reaching the campus.

A simple way to teach someone is to: 1. Bring someone with you so he/she can see how you sharing the gospel. 2. Then "change roles." That is, you observe him/her sharing. 3. Comment on the positives you have observed and give tips on how it can improve. 4. Encourage him/her to continue sharing on his/her own, and perhaps to invite a new Christian to join him or her.

Knowing God Personally: You can use "Knowing God Personally" which is available in a few formats:

1. Printed booklet
2. On the app *GodTools*
3. On the website <https://www.everystudent.com/features/know-God.html>

Although you can send a message to a friend with this link, we stress that it is important that the message of this booklet be read to the person whenever possible.

Solarium Cards: Conecta was developed to help you connect with this sensory and visual generation through 50 images that open a dialogue about life and our spiritual journey. You can use this tool for individual or group approaches, or simply display the images somewhere on your campus.

Perspective: Perspective is an engaging way for us to approach people's spiritual journeys through life's most significant questions: Who is God to you? What is the purpose of life? What is the nature of man? What do you think about Jesus? Where can we find spiritual truth? The material consists of a deck of cards outlining five themes (Nature of God, Purpose of Life, Human Nature, Jesus, Source of Spiritual Truth) and allowing the person to choose the card that most closely resonates with their beliefs. The cards can be used to help a friend clarify their religious beliefs and present the gospel in an interactive way. You can watch the tutorial video on YouTube "Perspective, a spiritual conversation"

Life's Choices: A set of questions and interactive cards. Items are displayed in pairs where "players" choose only 1 or none of them. Through the answers, we can learn the values, beliefs, fears and opinions of the people we talk to. At the end, it is possible to reflect on our choices in real life.

On Campus situations: Suppose you are in a restaurant on your campus, in a line somewhere, at the library or on the bus arriving on campus, and your partner is a stranger nearby. Start a conversation with trivial questions and make a transition to a spiritual conversation, sharing your personal testimony.

Remember, success in witnessing is simply taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit leaving the results to God.

Following Up: It is possible that someone will not want to meet with you again, even though they prayed to receive Christ. Perhaps the person is afraid that having another meeting means making a big commitment, or maybe someone is very shy, or maybe someone does not have time. In this case, ask if you can send a series of seven emails to help them start growing in the Christian life. This series of emails is called Spiritual Kit for New Christians. Click on this site to register the person (After you receive permission from them, of course! You will need their email):
www.startingwithgod.com

If you keep in touch with the person, ask them if they are receiving the emails and if they would like to ask any questions. It is possible that as they begin to feel more comfortable they will want to meet regularly with you.

Jesus used culturally relevant, personal and attractive questions, in a context the lost understood, to connect with them. His goal was to preach God's kingdom in a way they could understand. We want to touch people's hearts by learning from Jesus.

3rd Meeting: First Steps

First Steps is basic follow-up material to help new believers grow in their faith and give first steps to their relationship with God.

To access First Steps, download the app "First Steps" at Google Play or the App Store.



2 Assurance

First Steps is a resource to help you understand and grow in what it means to be a follower of Christ. These sessions will help us to discover together and apply a few of the basic principles of what it means to follow Christ and share him with others.

Look Back

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What are you struggling with and how can we help?
- What needs have you noticed in our community/campus/school?
- ✚ It would be good to pray for each other around these needs.

How did you apply the lesson from last week?
Who did you

4th Meeting: The Priority of Your Relationship with God (facilitator)

Everyone has certain priorities that determine the use of their time, talent, and resources. Although we might state our priorities, the truth is revealed by how we use our time and other resources. A disciple of Jesus must seek God as their number-one priority in life. Let's study some reasons why it should be our top priority.

I. God has already initiated and wants a relationship with you.

Read Romans 8:28-39. In this Scripture we see that:

- A. He called you to be part of His family (vv. 28-30).
- B. Your relationship with Him is His work from beginning to end (v.30).
- C. He loved you despite your sin and gave His Son to bring you to Himself (v. 31-32).
- D. He assures you that nothing can ever change this relationship (Romans 8:31-39).

II. Experiencing God's love will make you seek Him. Every Christian has an inner need to seek the Lord.

- A. Your love for God is a response to His love for you.

1 John 4:19: "We love because He first loved us."

- B. The more you realize how much God loves you, the more you will love and seek Him. **Read Luke 7:36-47.**

III. God desires your relationship with Him to be your greatest priority.

- A. God commands you to love Him above all else. **Read Mark 12:28-30.**

- 1. This is not only a suggestion and it's not only for mature Christians.
- 2. God wants your love more than He wants your good works.

B. Your relationship with God is the greatest treasure in life. **Read: Philippians 3:7-14.**

1. Knowing Him is the most important thing in life. (vv.7,8).
2. Knowing Him is how we become like Christ. (vv.9-11).
3. Knowing Him is a worthy lifetime pursuit. (vv.12-14).

C. Knowing and abiding in Him is the source of true life. Read John 15:1-11. The word "abide" suggests a deep, personal relationship with God as the source of our daily strength. Abiding in Christ produces the following results:

1. A fruitful life (vv.1-5).
2. A life that experiences His love (vv.9,10).
3. A life of joy (v.11).

IV. Practical steps to make your relationship with God your number-one priority.

A. Understand that knowing Christ is a joyful privilege, not an unpleasant task.

1. Seek to know Him and walk with Him throughout the day. Enjoy His presence.
2. Praise and worship God. Accept and enjoy His love for you, and tell Him of your love for Him (Revelation 4: 1-11; 5: 6-14; John 15:9).
3. Set aside time to meet with God daily. Your time in prayer and reading the Bible is a time of intimate and personal communication and should not be done with a sense of duty or obligation.

B. Choose to make your relationship with God your number-one priority and highest value. **Read Philippians 3: 7-14.**

C. Ask God to give you new awe for His love and all that He does for you. Meditate on verses that emphasize these things. (See Action Point).

D. Repent of anything in your life God reveals to you as being unpleasant. Repentance means changing your attitudes and actions by the power of the Holy Spirit.

1. Repent of indifference to Him (Revelation 2:1-5).
2. Repent of dependence on yourself. (1 Peter 5:6-7, Romans 12:1).
3. Repent of the lack of time spent with God (Luke 5:16).

E. Express your love for God by ministering to others.

1. Tell non-believers about His love (2 Cor. 5: 11-21).
2. Look for opportunities to show your love to other Christians (Galatians 6:10).

V. Application

During this coming week, use the following passages to meditate on God's love for you and what He has done for you. Evaluate your personal priorities in light of what God says about your relationship with Him.

Ephesians 1:2, 3:14-21

Philippians 3:7-14

Romans 8:28-39

Revelation 2:1-5

John 15:1-17

4th Meeting: The Priority of Your Relationship with God (student)

Everyone has certain priorities that determine the use of their time, talent, and resources. Although we might state our priorities, the truth is revealed by how we use our time and other resources. A disciple of Jesus must seek God as their number-one priority in life. Let's study some reasons why we should have it as the number-one priority in our lives.

I. God has already initiated and wants a relationship with you.

Read Romans 8:28-39. In this scripture we see that:

- A. _____ (vv. 28-30).
- B. _____ (v. 30).
- C. _____ (v. 31-32).
- D. _____ (Romans 8:31-39).

II. Experiencing God's love will make you seek Him. Every Christian has an inner need to seek the Lord.

- A. Your love for God is a response to His love for you.

1 John 4:19: "We love because He first loved us."

- B. The more you realize how much God loves you, the more you will love and seek Him. **Read Luke 7:36-47.**

III. God desires your relationship with Him to be your greatest priority.

- A. God commands you to love Him above all else. **Read Mark 12:28-30.**
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____

A. Your relationship with God is the greatest treasure in life. **Read Philippians 3:7-14.**

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B. Knowing and abiding in Him is the source of true life. Read John 15:1-11.

The word "abide" suggests a deep, personal relationship with God as the source of our daily strength. Abiding in Christ produces the following results:

1. _____
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Philippians 3:7-14

Romans 8:28-39

Revelation 2:1-5

John 15: 1-17

5th Meeting: Fellowship

Have fun together

The joy of the Christian life is often found in friends who share the same love for God. Many times they become friends for life. While making friends is not the only goal here, it is definitely a part. You are part of a community - a family - with those who want to reach your campus. Take some time of fellowship with your small group.

Ideas

1. Call your group for an indoor game marathon. Video game tournaments, cards and even old board games guarantee the fun and cost nothing.
2. You can get your group together to catch up on TV shows or movies. You will only spend money on popcorn, some snacks and soda.
3. Group dinners don't need to be expensive either. You can meet at someone's home to prepare food or even split the bill for a delivery.
4. A day in the park can be the ideal setting for a potluck picnic pot-luck so no one person has to cover the budget.
5. You and your small group can also meet on a city or campus field/court to play sports and hold a competition of your favorite activity.
6. Those who live near beaches or mountains can meet around a campfire to talk, play and sing songs accompanied by a simple guitar.
7. If you and your group have a great physical conditioning, you can combine fun and health without spending anything by going on bike rides and stopping at free tourist sites to rest.
8. You may be surprised to find out that your city has a wide variety of concerts, plays and exhibitions for free. Take the cultural guide and, with your small group, write down the programs that would work for you and have fun without spending anything.

6th Meeting: Spiritual Multiplication

The Challenge For Spiritual Multiplication

I. The biblical model for spiritual multiplication explained

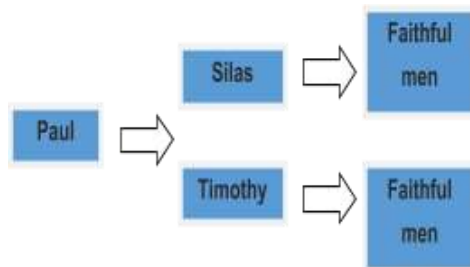
Read 2 Timothy 2:1-10

A. The power of spiritual multiplication (V.1)

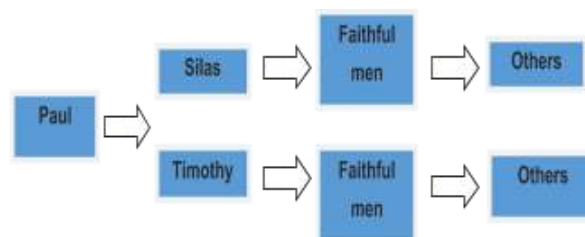
1. "be strengthened..."
2. "... by the grace that is in Christ Jesus..."

B. The multiplication model

1. Be teachable. "...and what you have heard from me..."
2. "... entrust to faithful men..."



3. Find faithful disciples who are qualified to teach others.



- a. Faithful. We convey (entrust) things of value only to trustworthy people who will treat what we trust with proper care.

- b. Qualified. Also translated as "capable." We are looking for men and women who are ready, willing and able to pass on what is taught to others.
- c. Teach others. These people must pass everything they have learned to others. It is not enough to be qualified to teach, they have to do it.

II. **Characteristics of a multiplier**

Read 2 Timothy 2:3-7

Paul uses three professions - the soldier, the athlete, and the farmer to illustrate the kind of perspective and commitment required of a spiritual multiplier.

A. The soldier

- 1. A good soldier is determined in his purpose.
- 2. A good soldier is willing to suffer.

B. The victorious athlete

- 1. The victorious athlete is disciplined to compete.
- 2. An athlete knows and follows the rules.

C. The farmer who works

- 1. The farmer is not afraid of hard work.
- 2. He enjoys a fruitful harvest.

All ministries are significant; and some because of their emphasis on world evangelism are especially strategic. The purpose of our discipleship is to establish a network of multiplying disciples in a certain target area audience to ensure that everyone will hear the gospel.

The principle of exponential progress

If three people multiply into another three, in just 17 years you will have 4 billion people in small groups - Spiritual Multiplication. On the other hand, it would take 13,000 years to talk to 4 billion people, even if you spoke to 1,000 people a day - Spiritual Addition.

The point here is not the numbers - none of us will have a chain of 4 billion people. But we would be foolish to ignore the potential of spiritual multiplication to fulfill the Great Commission.

God is calling all of us to invest our lives strategically to expand the Kingdom. God wants many of us to invest our lives strategically in a ministry of spiritual multiplication.

Summary

A ministry of spiritual multiplication is a wise stewardship application in light of our call to help reach the world for Christ.

The strategy of spiritual multiplication involves teaching people to obey everything Jesus taught so that they can do the same with others.

Spiritual multiplication requires a vision characterized by the uniqueness of purpose, discipline, and patient work.

Questions for application:

1. What are the benefits of becoming a spiritual multiplier?
2. What are your greatest barriers to respond to this challenge? What makes you hesitate?
3. What difficulties will you probably face?
4. What is your decision? Why?