



The **ROOFTOP**
Joining Jesus in *His* Mission

THE ROOFTOP CARE & SHARE EQUIPPING COURSE

AN ENGAGE RESOURCE
PERSONAL JOURNAL

NAME:

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Care and Share is a resource that has been created by The Rooftop International
www.therooftop.org

The Rooftop is a global movement that is envisioning and equipping Christians and Churches across the world to Join Jesus in His Mission as they follow a three-step process of:

» Encounter » Engage » Expand

Care and Share is an **Engage** resource.

Written by Rev Dennis Pethers, International Pioneer The Rooftop
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PART ONE:

1. TELL ME

TEACHING FROM THE WORD OF GOD

INTRODUCTION

Annet Birungi is the sister of Richard Tumwesigye, the National Pioneer of The Rooftop in Uganda, she is a nurse in Kampala. Dennis Pethers, the International Pioneer of The Rooftop met her on arrival at Entebbe airport in May 2017.

As Annet drove Dennis to the city of Kampala she told him of her experience in the hospital where she is nursing, she said:

“In my ward there are around 50 patients with acute spinal problems, many of them can’t walk and are unable to wash or take themselves to the toilet. Only about 10 of the patients have attendants. Attendants are often family members, who come into the hospital and wash them and take care of them. It is impossible for me as the nurse to attend all of the other patients so many have bed-sores and often lie in their own urine.

Pastors come into the hospital and preach to the patients and tell them that God loves them, then they leave. If God loves the patients then why is the church just preaching about God’s love but not demonstrating it?”

On hearing this story Dennis, in consultation with a number of The Rooftop National Pioneers, created The Rooftop ‘Care and Share Initiative’ because this one story is like so many that could be told around the world.

Across the world there are countless churches that are engaging in caring ministries. Unfortunately, many of those who offer care never share the gospel.

Also:

Across the world there are countless churches that share the gospel. Unfortunately, many of those who share the gospel never care for the persons’ needs.

In the gospel that Jesus lived and preached these two things were not separated!

Caring for people and expressing God’s unconditional love through acts of service and kindness AND sharing the message of Jesus are two parts of the same thing and we must do both if we are to join Jesus in His Mission.

The relationship between care and share:

1. Care is a genuine expression of love towards people that God loves.
2. When genuine care is expressed it frequently leads to the person cared for expressing gratitude and curiosity, they genuinely want to know ‘why are you being so kind and loving?’



3. This presents an opportunity for a follower of Jesus to talk about how they have experienced God's love and how they want to share this love with others because God loves every person.
4. This leads to conversations that can either over a period of time or even immediately, provide the Christian with the opportunity to present the gospel.
5. The gospel can be presented and a person invited to become a disciple of Jesus Christ.

This is clearly seen in Scripture.

In small groups, look at the following scripture and then discuss the questions below.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPASSION

Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

Questions:

1. What are the things that Jesus stated are included in the gospel that He would communicate?

2. How is this seen in the ministry that he delivered? What are some examples of this that you see in the gospels?

Feedback: Take some time for each group to feedback the key things that have been discussed.

To engage in a ministry of genuine care among people who are beyond the walls of the church requires that we take time and effort to do things that will probably bring very little reward financially and say things that people may find offensive. It is much easier to ignore the needs of others and to do and say nothing.

This is how most of us will react naturally, but if we allow Jesus to work in us then we will see people as He sees them. Throughout the gospels it is clear that Jesus was filled with compassion.

Compassion is the basis for both Caring and Sharing:



CARE

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. **Matthew 14:14**

Jesus saw the crowds and had compassion on them. The compassion that Jesus felt caused him to express care.

The kinds of people that Jesus had compassion on are often not the people that we would often choose to spend our time with:

On your own, take some time to read through the scripture verses below and then consider the question that follows.

...and people brought to Jesus all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. **Matthew 4:24**

When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. **Matthew 8:1-3**

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" **Matthew 9:27**

Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven." **Mark 2:3-5**

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. **Mark 7:31-32**

Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. **John 5:1-8**

These scriptures provide a clear picture of the kinds of people that Jesus saw as a priority, what words are used to describe them?



Now, **in small groups**, consider the following:

As a follower of Jesus who wants to 'Join Him In His Mission':

In what ways are you expressing care to the people around you?

What are some of the things that prevent you from joining Jesus in His Mission and offering care to people around you?

Who are some of the people around you to whom you could express practical care?

Care can be expressed through specific caring projects or through our day-to-day lives in the community. We are all surrounded by people with needs.

These needs may take many forms:

- Sickness
- Homelessness
- Orphaned
- Hungry
- Imprisoned
- Poor
- Emotionally distressed
- Bereaved
- Unhappy
- Lonely
- Afraid
- Discontented

All around us are people with needs that Jesus can meet but we cannot wait for them to come to church to find this out, as with Jesus and His first followers, we must connect with the people that we are among and 'care' for them where they are.

These expressions of genuine care will then lead to many opportunities to 'share' the gospel.



SHARE

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had **compassion** on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began **teaching** them many things. **Mark 6:34**

Jesus' compassion led to Him teaching the truth of the gospel.

As with the caring aspect of His ministry, the sharing of the gospel took place in the outdoors, where the people were.

Jesus did not build a church building and invite people to come. His preaching was not delivered from a pulpit, behind the walls of a church building.

He shared as he went.

He spoke to:

- Large crowds
- Individuals, one-on-one, men, women and children
- The religious leaders
- The disciples

He taught by:

- Telling Parables
- Quoting scripture
- Asking questions
- Entering into conversation

We often think of 'preaching' as being a message delivered by a pastor/evangelist/prophet/apostle/bishop to a crowd of people. This crowd is usually in a building or temporary gathering place.

This is a real contrast to the ways that the gospel was preached in the gospels and the book of Acts. Almost all of the teaching of Jesus and His first disciples took place among people, where they were, as opposed to in a religious building!

Having been equipped by Jesus to make disciples, it is interesting to see the different ways that the gospel was shared by those that followed Him closely.

The Book of Acts tells the story of how the gospel spread after Jesus ascended into heaven. In the book of Acts there are seven words that are used to describe the activity of sharing the good news. These words, when translated into English, mean:

- Sharing good news
- Declaring
- Engaging in dialogue and debate
- Having discussion
- Explanation of things that people had seen but could not understand or explain
- Lecturing in the way that teaching often takes place in a church building
- Persuading people to respond to and act upon what is being shared.

Look at the three bible passages below and consider the following questions in relation to each:



WHO WAS LISTENING? WHO SHARED THE GOSPEL? HOW WAS IT SHARED?

ACTS 2:5-16 – In Jerusalem

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: 'Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!' Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?'

Some, however, made fun of them and said, 'They have had too much wine.'

Peter addresses the crowd

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel.

- Who was listening?
- Who shared the gospel?
- How was it shared?

ACTS 11: 19-21 – In Antioch

Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

- Who was listening?
- Who shared the gospel?
- How was it shared?

ACTS 17:16-21 – In Athens

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the market-place day by day with those who happened to be there. A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, 'What is this babbler trying to say?' Others remarked, 'He seems to be advocating foreign gods.' They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, 'May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean.' (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: 'People of Athens!



- Who was listening?
- Who shared the gospel?
- How was it shared?

Having considered these different ways that the gospel was shared, now take a moment to write down the ways in which you feel you could be most effective in sharing the gospel with people that you know or come into contact with:

Now share what you have written in a small group of three people.

Caring for people and sharing the gospel were combined in the ministry of Jesus. As we seek to Join Him in His Mission, it is critical that we both care and share with people who are in the community where we live.

Now that we have spent some time looking at what the word of God teaches we will now spend some time learning by looking at examples of how we may do this most effectively.

We will now have the opportunity to learn as we watch others demonstrate how to 'care and share'.



2. SHOW ME LEARNING BY OBSERVATION

If we are going to learn how to do something then we need 'more than words'. Jesus 'taught' His disciples by using words but also, by showing them how to do the things that He was sending them to do.

In this part of Care and Share we will seek to learn by observing how others do the things that we are being asked to do, then we will begin to do what we have observed.

A key focus of this part of Care and Share will be:

How do we share the truth about Jesus with those that we are expressing care to?

We will begin by observing the example of Jesus:

In small groups read the following scripture passage and then consider the questions below:

John 4 – Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman

Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

Now he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

"I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."



"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

"Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

Questions:

1. What are the things that Jesus stated that are included in the gospel that He communicated?
2. How is this seen in the ministry that he delivered? What are some examples of this that you see in the gospels?

As Jesus engaged in a ministry that incorporated both 'care' and 'share' Jesus sent his disciples out to do the same.

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Luke 9:1-2

Jesus engaged in ministry and equipped others to engage in ministry. We must follow this example as we join Jesus in His Mission.

PRACTICAL 'ROLE PLAY' IN GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS

Moving from caring for a person's physical or emotional needs to a conversation about Jesus can seem quite a daunting prospect. The only way to truly learn how to do this is BY DOING IT!

To help you gain the confidence (in God) to do this, we have included some role-play as part of this Care and Share course.

You will first watch a role-play being demonstrated and then, in pairs, engage in role play. You will do this twice, beginning with 'The First Conversation' and then, a little later, with 'a Later Conversation'.



THE FIRST CONVERSATION

As you observe the role play being demonstrated please use the space below to make any notes that may be helpful when you engage in a similar role-play.

Notes re Role-Play conversation.

In pairs, engage in 'The First Conversation' role-play

Imagine that the Christian has been engaging in Care for the other person and the recipient of the care is grateful for the care that has been expressed.

The recipient of the care will begin the Role-Play by expressing their gratitude for the care that the Christian has been showing. This will lead to the First Conversation which should include:

The Christian expressing:

- Why they are pleased to help
- How the care is simply an expression of how Jesus told His followers to live
- Simple questions as to what the recipient of the care knows or believes about God

The recipient of the care expressing:

- Their gratitude
- Answers to the questions that are raised about their knowledge or beliefs about God
- Some questions to the Christian about their faith.

Feedback: Take some time for each group to feedback the key things that have been discussed.



A LATER CONVERSATION

As you observe the role play being demonstrated please use the space below to make any notes that may be helpful when you engage in a similar role-play.

Notes re Role-Play conversation.

In pairs, engage in 'A Later Conversation' role-play

Imagine that the Christian and the recipient of the care have now been in contact for a while and their relationship has now reached the stage where the Christian is being asked a question that may cause them to feel a mixture of excitement and terror!

The recipient of the care will begin this conversation by asking the question: 'So what is Christian, and how does a person become one?'

This will lead to the Later Conversation which should include:

The Christian expressing:

- What a Christian is
- How a person can become a Christian
- An invitation to the person to become a follower of Jesus

The recipient of the care expressing:

- Their interest
- Genuine questions based on what the Christian has shared
- Some questions to the Christian about their faith
- Their response to the invitation to become a follower of Christ

Feedback: Take some time for each group to feedback the key things that have been discussed.



PART TWO:

LET ME

Having spent some time being 'told' and 'shown' how to engage in 'Care and Share', you have now reached the place where you will really begin to learn!

You will now 'do' what you have been learning—it is at this stage that true learning takes place.

THE 'CARE AND SHARE' ACTIVITY SHEET

What you are going to 'do' will be outlined in the Activity sheet that you will receive. You can add this to your Participants Journal.

The purpose of this activity is to provide you with an opportunity to learn things that you will be able to apply to your real-life situation and daily life.

Specific details regarding the activity that you will engage in are included on the Activity Sheet. In general terms you will:

- Go out into the community to 'care' and 'share' as you begin and develop conversations.
- Potentially have opportunities to share the gospel.

FEEDBACK AND REFLECTION

Once you have completed the activity the group will come back together and each tell what happened and what was learned during the time on the streets.

It is possible that as you engage in conversation with people as part of your Activity that a person may ask you 'How do I become a Christian?' To help you to provide a biblical answer to this question we have included Appendix 1: Presenting the Gospel.

You will see that this does not provide you with a set of words that should simply be learned and repeated. Rather it suggests an outline that can be used but requires that you consider how you will explain this using your own words, stories and bible verses.



APPENDIX 1:

PRESENTING THE GOSPEL

There are many gospel tracts that have been produced that contain an outline of the gospel and how a person may respond. As you present the gospel you may use a gospel tract or, if not, it is helpful to have an easy-to-remember outline that will ensure that you communicate the content of the gospel.

Whether you use a gospel tract or the easy-to-remember outline below it is important that the gospel you present must not just be a formula that you simply repeat and expect people to accept. You must be prepared to use our own words, stories and other scripture verses to help a person understand the gospel before they make a decision to follow Jesus.

In the outline below, you will see that there is space for you to add a further bible verse(s) and a story(ies) that will help a person to understand the gospel clearly.

THE EASY-TO-REMEMBER GOSPEL OUTLINE:

Admit that you cannot live the life that God intends because you are a sinner. The result of this sin is death and eternity without God.

Bible Verse: Romans 3:23

Bible Verse: _____ *Story*

Believe that Jesus Christ died to pay the price for your sin and to give you the gift of a relationship with God in this life and life forever with God in eternity.

Bible Verse: Romans 6:23

Bible Verse: _____

Confess your sins to God and ask him to forgive you and make you His child.

Bible Verse: 1 John 1:9

Bible Verse: _____ *Story*

Decide to follow Jesus and be transformed by Him so that you can be transformed and Join Him in His Mission.

Bible Verse: Matthew 16:24

Bible Verse: _____ *Story*





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