

Answer Key

Do you really CARE about other people?

- Common
- hang out

- Accept

EYES OPEN

- lifestyles
- choices
- creation / caring
- love

- Risk

It's Your Story

- before
- received
- after

- Expect
- faithful
- results

FOCUS

Part 4

“CARE”

1 Thessalonians 2:8 CEV

We cared so much for you, and you became so dear to us, that we were willing to give our lives for you when we gave you God’s message.

Introductory Statement

Our contemporary culture is filled with distractions, whether it be technology, work, or busyness in general. Sometimes people are just passing faces we say hello to but don’t really have time for. Showing a caring spirit can seem like a daunting task that we are not always sure we can take on with all our other commitments. For most people in the world, regardless of what they say, life is about getting as much as you can and doing or being as much as you can. The motto we see is “ME FIRST.”

Do you really CARE about other people?

Today's Challenge

- *I want to challenge you to really care about somebody's spiritual condition.*

- *I want you to learn to care about their connection with God.*

- *I want you to care that they understand God's love and God's forgiveness and God's commitment to invade their life and redirect the course of their life.*

To care about that!

John 4:1-44 NLT

³So He [Jesus] left Judea to return to Galilee. ⁴He had to go through Samaria on the way. ⁶... Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. ⁷Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." ⁸He was alone at the time because His disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. ⁹The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are You asking me for a drink?" ¹³Jesus replied, "People soon become thirsty again after drinking this water. ¹⁴But the water I give them

takes away thirst altogether. It becomes a perpetual spring within them, giving them eternal life." ¹⁶"Go and get your husband," Jesus told her. ¹⁷"I don't have a husband," the woman replied. Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband— ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now." ¹⁹"Sir," the woman said, "You must be a prophet. ²⁰So tell me, why is it that You Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim, where our ancestors worshiped?" ²⁵The woman said, "I know the Messiah will come—the one who is called Christ. When He comes, He will explain everything to us." ²⁶Then Jesus told her, "I am the Messiah"! ...²⁸The woman left her water jar beside the well and went back to the village and told everyone, ²⁹"Come and meet a man who told me everything I ever did! Can this be the Messiah?" ³¹Meanwhile, the disciples were urging Jesus to eat. ³²"No," He said, "I have food you don't know about." ³³"Who brought it to Him?" the disciples asked each other. ³⁴Then Jesus explained: "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God... Look around you! Vast fields are ripening all around us and are ready now for the harvest... the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike!"

Thirsty...

- power
- money
- value
- recognition
- relationship
- fame
- respect

Common Ground Places:

- school
- marketplace
- work
- sport complex
- Walmart
- Outback

Common Ground :

1. Drop the stereotypes.
2. Don't try to "win" the argument.
3. Speak for yourself.
4. Highlight the diversity among Christians.
5. Acknowledge privilege and don't try to force others to live by a certain moral code.
6. Talk—and listen—to people about more than just their salvation status.

Do you really CARE about other people?

C _____ ground!

- Your common ground is where you _____
_____ with people regularly.

Mark 12:31 NLT

"...equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'."

An estimated 69% of Christians today don't have close relationships with non-Christians.

A _____ people where they are!

Romans 15:7 NLT

"...accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory."

Eyes Open...

- By accepting somebody it doesn't mean that you are approving of their _____.
- By accepting somebody it does not mean that you are agreeing with their _____.
- You are just accepting them as God's _____ and _____ about their spiritual condition.
- By showing acceptance of others, Christians are showing God's _____ and therefore accepting His glory.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Dr. Seuss

R _____ sharing your story!

John 1:9-12 NLT

The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are You asking me for a drink?"

It's your story

1. Your life _____ you encountered Christ.

Romans 3:23 NKJV

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."

2. When you _____ Christ.

Romans 5:8 NKJV

"But, God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

3. Your life _____ receiving Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Paul's Story....

2 Corinthians 11:21-31 NLT

¹ I'm ashamed to say that we've been too "weak" to do that! But whatever they dare to boast about—I'm talking like a fool again—I dare to boast about it, too. ²² Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. ²³ Are they servants of Christ? I know I sound like a madman, but I have served him far more! I have worked harder, been put in prison more often, been whipped times without number, and faced death again and again. ²⁴ Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea. ²⁶ I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not.^[a] ²⁷ I have worked hard and long, enduring many sleepless nights. I have been hungry and thirsty and have often gone without food. I have shivered in the cold, without enough clothing to keep me warm.

²⁸ Then, besides all this, I have the daily burden of my concern for all the churches. ²⁹ Who is weak without my feeling that weakness? Who is led astray, and I do not burn with anger? ³⁰ If I must boast, I would rather boast about the things that show how weak I am. ³¹ God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, who is worthy of eternal praise, knows I am not lying.

E _____ God do His part!

Ephesians 3:20 -21 Voice

***"Now to the God who can do so many awe-inspiring things,
immeasurable things, things greater than we ever could ask or
imagine through the power at work in us,"***

- The most important thing for you when you think about caring is to be

_____.

- Just faithfulness is more important than

_____.

***William Carey is well known for saying "Expect great things
from God. Attempt great things for God."***

John 1: 40 – 42 NLT

***⁴⁰ When they [Samaritans] came out to see Him [Jesus], they
begged Him to stay at their village. So He stayed for two days,***

⁴¹ long enough for many of them to hear His message and believe.

***⁴² Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe because we have
heard Him ourselves, not just because of what you told us. He is
indeed the Savior of the world."***

***We do our part, God does His part. When God gets involved
incredible things happen.***