

## THE BRIDGE

Start with the Gospel · Participant Handout

**Part 1 — “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” — Romans 6:23 (ESV)**

*Draw along as your leader teaches The Bridge gospel illustration. Use the space below to draw the visual and the notes section to capture anything that stands out to you.*

**Notes**

## THE BRIDGE

Start with the Gospel · Study the Scriptures

### PART 2 — STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

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During the presentation, several scriptures were used to tell the gospel story. Look up each reference below in the order they appear in the illustration, write it out, and then put it into your own words. This is one of the best ways to make the gospel your own — not just something you heard, but something you understand and can speak from.

#### **Romans 6:23**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

#### **John 3:16**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

#### **Romans 3:23**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

#### **Romans 5:8**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

### **1 Corinthians 15:3–4**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

### **John 17:3**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

### **Ephesians 2:8–9**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

### **Romans 10:9**

*Write it out:*

*In your own words:*

## THE BRIDGE

Start with the Gospel · Write the Gospel

### PART 3 — WRITE THE GOSPEL

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Now that you have worked through the scriptures, try writing out the gospel message in your own words. This is not about getting it perfect — it is about making it personal. The more you practice putting the gospel into your own words, the more natural it will feel to share it with someone else.

#### Use these prompts to guide you:

- What separates every person from God — and why can we not fix it on our own?
- What did God do about it — and what did it cost?
- What does it mean to receive the gift — and what happens when you do?

## PART 4 — SALVATION STARTS NOW

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Many people think of eternal life as something that begins after death. But Jesus defines it differently. Eternal life is not just a destination — it is a relationship that starts the moment you trust Him.

### JOHN 17:3 (ESV)

*“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”*

### Personal Reflection

Based on this verse, what does eternal life actually mean? How does that change the way you think about your relationship with God today?

### Discussion Questions

- 1. If eternal life is about knowing God — not just going to heaven — how does that change the way you think about your faith on a daily basis?**
- 2. What does it look like practically to know God more deeply starting today?**

### PART 5 — SALVATION IS SECURE

Once you receive the gift of salvation, it cannot be taken from you. This is not because of how strong your faith is — it is because of how faithful God is. The security of your salvation rests entirely in Him.

#### JOHN 10:28-29 (ESV)

*“I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”*

#### ROMANS 8:38-39 (ESV)

*“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

#### Personal Reflection

What stands out to you most from these two passages? Is there anything in your life that has made you feel uncertain about your standing with God? What do these verses say to that?

#### Discussion Questions

- 1. Why do you think God wants us to have assurance of our salvation — not just hope that we might be saved?**
- 2. How does knowing your salvation is secure change the way you live and the way you relate to God?**

**THE BRIDGE**

Start with the Gospel · Growing in Your Faith

**PART 6 — GROWING IN YOUR FAITH**

The Bridge illustration ends with the decision to trust Jesus — but that decision is just the beginning. God does not save you and leave you on your own. He invites you into a life of growing a relationship with Him and His church. The question is not just “have you crossed?” but “are you walking?”

*Read the following scriptures and reflect on what each one teaches you about growing in your relationship with God and His church.*

<b>Scripture</b>	<b>What does this teach you about growing in your relationship with God and His church?</b>
<b>Acts 2:42–47</b>	
<b>Ephesians 4:15–16</b>	
<b>2 Timothy 3:14–17</b>	
<b>Hebrews 10:24–25</b>	
<b>Hebrews 4:16</b>	
<b>John 15:7–11</b>	

## Personal Reflection

Which of these areas feels strongest in your life right now? Which feels weakest? What is one honest step you could take toward growing in that area?

## Discussion Questions

- 1. What has helped you grow most in your relationship with God — and what has gotten in the way?**
- 2. Which of these areas do you sense God is inviting you to grow in most right now — and what would it look like to take one intentional step in that direction this week?**

### REFLECT & CONNECT

*The Bridge is not just an illustration — it is the story of what God has done for you. You were separated. Jesus bridged the gap. And now you are invited into a life of knowing Him more deeply every day. Wherever you are on the bridge right now — whether you just crossed for the first time, have been walking with Jesus for years, or are still standing on the other side — God is not finished with you. He is patient, He is pursuing, and He is faithful. What is one thing from today that you want to carry with you — and who in your life needs to hear what you just studied?*