



# LESSON 31

## Gospel Tracts, Part 1

*“I don’t know of anything more thrilling, more exciting than to know that God can use me and God can use you to be a fisher of men. There is no greater fulfillment on this earth than to bring somebody else to a saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Now when we fish for fish we take fish out of a beautiful life into death, but when we fish for men we take men out of death into a beautiful life with the Lord Jesus.”*

**ADRIAN ROGERS**

### **Kirk’s Comment**

I used to cringe at the thought of giving someone a gospel tract. I didn’t want to appear as a religious fruitcake. But the sobering thought that every unsaved person will be spending eternity in hell compels me to do *something*. If I don’t have the opportunity to speak with someone about the Lord, a well-written tract can do the speaking for me. A tract may not be as good as a personal conversation, but a sincere gospel tract is better than no gospel at all.

## QUESTIONS & OBJECTIONS

*“I hope I’m going to heaven when I die.”*

Of all the things that you should be sure of, it’s your eternal destiny. To say “I hope I’m going to heaven” is like standing at the open door of a plane 25,000 feet in the air and, when asked if you have your parachute





- They can do the witnessing for us. If we are too timid to speak to others about the things of God, we can at least give them a tract, or leave one lying around so that someone will pick it up.
- They speak to the individuals when they are ready; people don't read it until they want to.
- They can find their way into people's homes when we can't.
- They don't get into arguments; they just state their case.

Oswald J. Smith said, "The only way to carry out the Great Commission will be by the means of the printed page." Charles Spurgeon stated, "When preaching and private talk are not available, you need to have a tract ready... Get good striking tracts, or none at all. But a touching gospel tract may be the seed of eternal life. Therefore, do not go out without your tracts."

If you want people to accept your literature, try to greet them before offering them a tract. If you can get them to respond to a warm "Good morning," or "How are you doing?" that will almost always break the ice and they will take it. After the greeting, don't ask, "Would you like this?" They will probably respond, "What is it?" Instead, say, "Did you get one of these?" That question has a twofold effect. You stir their curiosity and make them ask, "One of what?" That's when you hand them a tract. It also makes them feel as though they are missing out on something. So they are.

Perhaps you almost pass out at the thought of passing out a tract. Don't worry; you are not alone. We *all* battle fear. The answer to fear is found in the prayer closet. Ask God to give you a compassion that will swallow your fears. Meditate on the fate of the ungodly. Give hell some deep thought. Confront what it is that makes you fearful.

Do you like roller coasters? Some Christians want to try skydiving or bungee-jumping. Isn't it strange? We are prepared to risk our lives for the love of fear—and yet we are willing to let a sinner go to hell for fear of giving out a tract. Ask yourself how many piles of bloodied stones you can find where Christians have been stoned to death for preaching the gospel. How much singed soil can you find where they have been burned at the stake? Part of our fear is a fear of rejection. We are fearful of looking foolish. That's a subtle form of pride. The other part of our battle



with fear comes directly from the enemy. He knows that fear paralyzes. We must resist the devil and his lies. If God is with us, nothing can be against us.

If you have never given out tracts, why not begin today? If you are fearful when it comes to witnessing, here are some things you can do that don't take much courage. When you go to a gas station, leave a small tract in the credit card slot at the pump. The next person will have to take it out to put his credit card in, and will appreciate having something to read while he's filling his gas tank. Each time you go to the grocery store, discreetly go down the beer aisle, placing tracts in the top slot in beer cases. Tuck tracts into pockets in the clothing department, inside magazines, and in the racks in the checkout line, where they'll be easily seen and enjoy a captive audience.

Then each night as you shut your eyes to go to sleep, you will have something very special to pray about—that God will use the tracts you put somewhere. You will also have a deep sense of satisfaction that you played a small part in carrying out the Great Commission to reach this dying world with the gospel of everlasting life. Don't waste your life. Do something for the kingdom of God while you are able to. Always remember: treat every day as though it were your last—one day you will be right.

## QUESTIONS

- 1. Name some individuals who were saved through a gospel tract.**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2. List five advantages of using gospel tracts.**





**Christian:** “Take the time to see how long the woman at the well (in John chapter 4) spent at Bible school before she shared her faith.”

**Stan Dup:** “But...”

**Christian:** “No ‘buts.’ Just stand up for Christ. You can do it.”

**Stan Dup:** “Do you think so?”

**Christian:** “Yes. Say, ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.’”

**Stan Dup:** “What should I do?”

**Christian:** “Start by placing a few tracts here and there.”

**Stan Dup:** “Where?”

**Christian:** “Anywhere. How about leaving one in a shopping cart, in the tube at the bank drive-through, or in the tip jar at Starbucks?”

**Stan Dup:** “I could do that.”

**Christian:** “Just think—as you lay your head on your pillow at night, you can have the satisfaction that you stood up for the kingdom of God.”

## FEATHER FOR ARROWS

Consider the way dogs cross the road. A dog will wander onto a freeway oblivious to the danger. His tail wags as he steps between cars without a second thought. Cars swerve. Tires squeal. The noise is deafening as vehicles smash into each other. The sleepy dog stops wagging his tail for a moment and looks at the pile of smoldering, broken cars on the freeway. His expression betrays his thoughts. His bone-burying brain doesn’t realize for one moment that he is responsible for the disaster.

When man wanders onto the freeway of sin, his tail wags with delight. He thinks that this is what he was made for. His thoughts of any repercussions for his actions are shallow. His mind wanders into lust, then predictably he wanders onto the path of adultery. Suddenly a disaster sits before him. His marriage is shattered, his name is slurred, and his



children are twisted and scarred. But like the dumb dog, he doesn't realize for one moment that he is solely responsible for his sin. This is why the perfect Law of God needs to be arrayed before his darkened eyes—to show him that his way is not right in the eyes of a perfect God.

## Memory Verse

*“To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.”*

**1 CORINTHIANS  
9:22**

## Last Words

**Alexander Hamilton** (1757–1804), who was mortally wounded in a duel with Aaron Burr, stated:

**“I have a tender reliance on the mercy of the Almighty, through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am a sinner. I look to Him for mercy.”**