

BREAK OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE

1. *At-Home Preparation:* Practice "Shower Power"-As you shower each day, practice bringing up the subject of God. Don't worry about people hearing you; your family has probably heard you talking to yourself in the shower anyway. Here are a few suggestions to help you get started:

- "What do you think about all these hurricanes, earthquakes, and tsunamis? We never know when a tragedy may strike. Have you thought about what would happen to you if you died?"
- "What do you think of the 'Killer Bird Flu' in Asia? Scary, isn't it? Makes me think about how precious life is. What do you think happens when a person dies?"
- "Have you noticed how much we hear on the news about religion these days-religious movies, TV shows, celebrity beliefs, etc. Do you have a religious background?"

Thinking through several different ways to bring up the subject of God, and hearing yourself say them out loud, will help you feel much more comfortable and confident as you talk with people.

2. *Real-World Application:* Okay, get ready for sweaty palms. If you feel confident, as you continue to leave or give out tracts this week, warmly greet strangers then hand them your favorite Ice Breaker. Simply give it to the person the same way you did in class. You *can* do this! For example, when you're at the checkout stand, greet the cashier and give him a tract as you're leaving. Or as you're going through a fast-food drive-through, engage the person in a conversation about his job or his day. You want him to warm to you. Pass him a tract, say, "Please read this when you've got a minute;" and then drop the pedal to the metal and drive away saying to yourself, "I did it! Thank you, Lord." Better to do it and run than to not do it at all. This may sound scary, but think of that person's eternal welfare. Then consider your worst-case scenario. You may hear, "No, thanks." If that happens, deal with it. It won't be pleasant to be rejected, but it isn't the end of the world. But more than likely, the person will take the tract, and even thank you for it.

Again, remember to smile and offer a warm greeting like, "Good morning. How are you doing?" Just the person's response will help dissipate your fears. Then when you ask, "Did you get one of these?" he will be more likely to respond positively because of your friendly greeting. And if someone asks what it is, be ready to just say, "It's a gospel tract" or "It has a gospel message on it. Please take the time to read it. Nice to meet you." If you hand out the \$1 Million Bill, you may want to say, "It has a million-dollar question on the back. Be sure to read it!"