

# Facilitator's guide · Session 4

Making disciples · 3 conversations · Rehearsal · Journey map

## « YOUR HOUSE » – IN THE SENSE OF JOSHUA 24:15

« As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD » (Joshua 24:15). Here, « house » means everyone who lives under one roof: a large family, a couple, a single parent with their children – or a person alone before God. A household of one is a household. Whenever this guide says « as a family » or « as a household », hear all these situations, and make sure everyone recognizes themselves in it and finds their place – never setting anyone apart.

## RULE FOR EVERY WORKSHOP · PERSONAL FIRST

Each workshop follows the same order, faithful to Back to the Altar: **first alone before God** – we write or reflect in silence – **then we share or build together**. Never have people share cold: personal silence always precedes sharing together. And before the sending, the **anchoring duo** (2 min) fixes the goal in everyone's mind.

## PREPARATION

- “The 3 conversations” cards · 1 per person
- Chairs in pairs face to face – with no table between them
- Large blank A4 sheets · 1 per person · and colored pencils
- Commissioning cards · 1 per household
- Soft background music for the rehearsal
- Inform the pastor: when conversation 3 comes, pastoral contact is needed

## FOUNDING PRINCIPLE OF S4

The facilitator does not teach conversion. They facilitate the learning of accompaniment. Conversion belongs to God. Faithful presence belongs to the disciple.

▣ 0:00–0:20 OPENING · 20 min.

« To make a disciple is not to convince. It is to walk beside someone until they see Jesus. »

« Say a first name from your Oikos aloud – the one you prayed for this week. »

« These first names – God has heard them since before you said them. »

**IF MANY HAVE DONE NOTHING SINCE S3**

Say: “What you came looking for this afternoon – that is exactly why we are here.” Do not create shame. The Workshop B rehearsal will unblock what has not yet moved.

▣ 0:20-0:40 DIAGNOSIS · 20 min. · Mapping on paper

## No questionnaire — we draw

### AN ENTIRELY NEW FORMAT — THE 4TH DIFFERENT FORMAT

S1 = YES/NO. S2 = YES/NO. S3 = open questions. S4 = drawing. Hand out the A4 sheets and pencils BEFORE explaining.

« Don't write words — draw. You in the center. The 3 people of your Oikos around. Relationship lines. Then a symbol: a flame if it's moving forward, a stone if something is blocked, a path if it's going slowly. »

« In your map — which person is closest to hearing about Jesus, in your view? »

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH — S4 DISTILLATION

The 3rd diagnosis question of S4 is silent: “Since S1 — *has my personal life with God (prayer, reading, listening) moved? Even a little?*” Then move straight on: “*You cannot accompany someone toward Jesus if you do not walk with Him yourself. That is the link between personal growth and discipleship.*”

▣ 0:40–1:15 WORKSHOP A — The 3 conversations · 35 min.

*“Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you — but with meekness and fear.”*

1 PETER 3:15

**GOLDEN RULE TO REPEAT TWICE**

Never skip a stage. A person at stage 1 who receives a conversation 3 closes down. Identify where the person is BEFORE choosing the conversation.

**THE OPENING LINE MUST BE IN THE PARTICIPANT’S OWN WORDS**

Do not let people copy the text on the card. Insist: “Your own wording, with this person’s name. If this sentence doesn’t sound like you, rewrite it.”

« *That is your voice. That is what opens doors.* »

▣ 1:15–1:25 BREAK · 10 min.

**CHAIRS IN PAIRS FACE TO FACE**

No table between people. Face to face. No physical barrier. It is a disciple’s conversation, not a meeting.

« *You have learned the 3 conversations. Now you are going to have one — for real. Not pretend. A real conversation, here, with someone from this room.* »

▣ 1:25-2:05 WORKSHOP B — Rehearsal · 40 min.

## **It is not theatre. It is a real conversation.**

### **IF THE REHEARSAL BECOMES SUPERFICIAL**

The facilitator may pause and say: “The person playing the friend — respond truly as you would if someone said that to you in the street.” Restart the pair. No intervention if the conversation is deep.

### **THE MOST POWERFUL SHARING-BACK QUESTION**

Ask the Friend (who played the unbeliever): “When you played the unbeliever — what would really have touched you in real life?” This question produces the deepest learning of the whole session.

*« To the Friend: what opened you up — and what closed you down in that conversation? »*

*« What will you change in the way you approach your Oikos after this workshop? »*

▣ 2:05-2:45 WORKSHOP C – The journey map · 40 min.

*“The path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.”*

PROVERBS 4:18

*“Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’”*

MARK 12:34

#### THE 4 STAGES OF THE JOURNEY

1. FAR – the LIFE conversation. 2. CURIOUS – the MEANING conversation. 3. CONVINCED – the DECISION conversation. 4. DECISION – accompany toward baptism. Do not skip a stage. The map helps you see where the person is.

#### KEY MOMENT – FAMILY-AS-MISSION, COLLECTIVE

After the individual cards: the family chooses TOGETHER one priority person among all their first names. Each member says how their gift and their style can help. This moment connects S1 (home altar) to S4 (collective discipleship).

« For the person on your map – what is the precise action you will take this week? »

« Can you name one way you have grown spiritually – personally – since Session 1? »

#### ANCHORING DUO · 2 MIN – OPENS THE SENDING

Before the blessing: « Turn to the person next to you – not your spouse, whoever is there – and tell them the one thing you take away and will do this week. » Two sentences each. **Odd number: a trio.** Make sure no one is left without a partner – that is what includes those who are alone. Only then, the sending.

▣ 2:45-3:00 SENDING — The keys of the Kingdom · 15 min.

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS IN PAIRS

Person A places their hands on B's shoulders. B says the first name of their Oikos person and the stage they are at. A prays a single sentence quietly. 90 seconds. Then swap. The facilitator prays for the whole room at the end.

« Father, we go toward people who do not yet know You. We will not convert them — You will. We will not instruct them — Your Spirit will. We will simply stay with them, on their journey, until You have finished Your work. Send us. »

#### AFTER S4 — FOLLOW-UP IS ESSENTIAL

WhatsApp group: one piece of Oikos news a week. When conversation 3 comes for someone: contact the pastor immediately. The companion brings — the pastor baptizes. Do not handle the baptism alone.

#### DIFFICULT SITUATIONS — S3 & S4

##### **Someone says they know no one outside the Church**

Do not correct. Ask: “Is there anyone in your neighborhood whose first name you know? A neighbor? A shopkeeper?” Everyone knows someone.

##### **Someone says they are not ready for these conversations**

Affirm: “No one is ever ready. Jesus did not ask Zacchaeus if he was ready — He asked him for a meal. The conversation begins there.”

##### **The Workshop B rehearsal becomes too light**

Pause and say: “The person playing the unbelieving friend — respond truly as you would in real life.” A genuine answer from a simulated unbeliever often produces the strongest learning of the evening.

S4 closes the growth thread in 4 points:

- In the *diagnosis* : a silent question on growth since S1 – a review of the entire journey.
- In the *Workshop C family-as-mission, collective* : the final question “*In what way have you grown since S1?*” as an act of gratitude.
- In the *sending blessing* : the sentence “*We will simply stay with them*” says that discipleship is a posture of continuous growth – not a fixed state.
- In the *follow-up after S4* : growth does not stop at the 4th session. It continues in the weekly relationship with the Oikos.