

REBOOT SESSION 1: Introduction

The Great Challenge

Let's begin with an exciting question: **“What would the world be like if God had His way?”**

- The population of the world is now over 6,000 million, but less than one-third of all people follow God.
- Here in Australia, only about 5 percent of all people have a real and meaningful relationship with Jesus.
- Over 400 people die in this country daily, meaning that **380 Australians enter a godless eternity every single day.**
- To reach every Australian with the Gospel is a tremendous challenge! We need power and wisdom given by the Holy Spirit to achieve this humanly-impossible task.

Our Command to Witness

Before He left the earth, Jesus gave one final command: *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you . . .”* (Matthew 28.19-20)

The Great Commander

- Jesus said, *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”* In this passage Jesus reminds us that He is the highest authority in the universe. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords!
- Imagine someone with complete authority over you. If you really understand his position, then you would obey him. A soldier would never question a directive from his commander. He would obey immediately without hesitation.
- Jesus has clearly revealed to us His authority and power. We must completely submit ourselves to Him.

The Great Command

- Jesus' command begins with *“Go.”* If we don't go, how can others know the Lord? Most people will not come to us.
- The Lord wants us to *“make disciples of all nations.”* A disciple is a learner who is trained by another believer. Every disciple must learn God's heart for lost people, and follow Him in obedience by sharing the Gospel with them.
- Making disciples also involves *“teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you,”* meaning that **disciples are also disciple-makers!** It is not enough to make converts. We must train them to be trainers that can train others.
- Faithful witnesses have passed the Gospel to us today. We must pass it to others and teach them to obey Jesus.
- Once we start moving in the power of God's Holy Spirit, we will begin to see the many people that need to know Him. If we just stay in place, there will be no change and we will not reach others with God's love.

The New Testament AIM of the Church

- Jesus gave us the “Great Commandment” and the “Great Commission” which can be summarised as follows:
“Love your neighbour as yourself,” expressed as **Accountability** - our relationship with one another
“Love the Lord your God,” expressed as **Intimacy** - our relationship with God
“Go and make disciples,” expressed as **Multiplication** - our relationship with lost people
- Jesus commanded these things and expects us to obey. AIM provides a clear sense of direction and purpose. It is also an easy way to remember the most important things Jesus commanded us.

The Reboot Training Concept

- Most of us have used a computer. Sometimes a computer slows down, gives us unpredictable results, or will even freeze up completely. It stops doing what it was designed to do! When then happens, we need to reboot it so we can start fresh. This usually solves the problem and allows us to be productive once again.
- The same thing happens to believers. Many slow down to a grinding halt. Most believers are not doing what God intended from the start. They are sitting idle or doing busy work that does not count for eternity. *Reboot* is designed for believers from established churches to get us back to basics and to give us a fresh start so we can be effective.
- *Reboot* is **not** about information or academics. It is about **obedience**. Our purpose is not to “teach” information, but to “train” people to be obedient to God—faithful people who are “doers of the Word” (James 1.22).
- We are not training you to be leaders, nor are we training you to be followers. **We are training you to be trainers who will train other trainers.** This follows the model of Paul in 2 Timothy 2:2, *“the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”*
- We cannot effectively multiply trainers by any impersonal means. It must be done person-to-person, mouth-to-ear.
- You must keep your training groups small to make them personal and as simple as possible to organise.
- Plan to meet for 8 sessions on a fortnightly basis, at least 2 hours each session. Each session should consist of 3 equal segments of at least 40 minutes each, broken down according to AIM:
 - A - Reporting & Celebrating:** share, review assignments, discuss problems, pray for one another, worship
 - I - Hearing & Obeying:** listen to God, learn to obey what He is teaching us
 - M - Preparing & Praying:** practise training lessons, build confidence to share the Gospel, pray for lost people

The Goals of *Reboot*

- In training others, your aim is to achieve 3 immediate goals:
 1. **To develop a lifestyle of obedience to Jesus, giving highest priority to the Great Commission.** The Father's heart for the world is to reach those who do not know Him! *Reboot* is designed to remind believers of the urgency of the Gospel while bringing them into accountability to share their faith with lost people regularly. You must keep the bar of accountability high at all times to train others to walk in obedience to Jesus.
 2. **To unlearn and relearn the foundational truths of Christian faith.** Even well-meaning believers have misconceptions and blind spots about Christianity and the church. The purpose of *Reboot* is not to gripe about what anyone is doing wrong, but to learn what is right and do what God expects.
 3. **To dynamically model the New Testament church, preparing believers to start new churches.** *Reboot* is not merely a training course. We will be "doing" church and will put everything we learn into practise immediately.
- Our ultimate goal is to foster a nationwide movement which will give every Australian a fair go at knowing Jesus and growing in relationship with God. What will it take to make this happen in our generation?

Expectations

- **You must be here each time we meet.** The training process will not work if you are not here.
- **You must be honest with yourself and one another.** Authenticity is a vital part of accountability.
- **You must share the Gospel with at least one unsaved person per week.** If you are not confident to share at first, your lead trainer will go with you. Be sure to help your trainers build confidence to share on their own.
- **You must complete the Bible assignment each week.** Bring your Bible and your notes each time we meet.
- **Make it your goal to begin training others.** We meet fortnightly to give you time to train your own trainers.

Developing Your People List

Jesus said that "the fields are ripe for harvest" (John 4.35), meaning that there are many people who are ready to hear the Gospel. Our task is to find them and share the Good News with them.

- Make a list of all the people you know starting with your family, friends, and acquaintances.
- On your list, mark off those who know Jesus. Remember to thank God for saving these people!
- The remainder are the people with whom you will be sharing the Gospel over the next several weeks.

Sharing the Gospel

Every trainer must be bold in sharing the Gospel. When the Holy Spirit prepares people to believe, they will come to faith fairly quickly. But it is our responsibility to share the message. The Bible says, "*Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have*" (1 Pet. 3.15). We are commanded to be ready!

The "Four Spiritual Laws"

1. God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life (Jer. 29:11; John 3.16; John 10.10; Rev. 21.1-7)
2. We have all sinned and are separated from God (Isa. 53.6; Isa. 59.2; Rom. 3.23; Rom. 6.23)
3. Jesus died to pay the price for your sin (Rom. 5.8; 1 Peter 3.18; John 14.6; Eph. 2.8-9)
4. God's gift is not yours until you accept it (Acts 3.19; Rom. 10.9; Rev. 3.20)

The "Creation to Christ" Story

- This is the Gospel in story form, telling how God has worked to bring sinful mankind back to Himself.
- Use the dot points to prompt your memory. It should only take you about 10 minutes to share the entire story.
- Take time to practice this story today so you will become very familiar with it.

Your Personal Story

- The most effective way to share the Gospel is to tell what Jesus has done for you.
- Write a story about how God has changed your life, or how He has worked powerfully. Include one Bible verse.
- Keep it short! You should be able to tell your story in less than 2 minutes.
- Rehearse it aloud to yourself several times, then practice it aloud with someone else.
- When you are training others, be sure to first share your story as an example.

Assignment

- Develop your People List by writing down the names of all the people you know starting with your family.
- Write your Personal Story and rehearse it several times.
- Share the Gospel message with at least two people over the next fortnight.
- Read Acts chapters 1-4 and answer the questions on the worksheet (handout).