

The Good Soil E&D Scale – The Horizontal Dimension

Understanding-Receptivity Matrix

How does the following matrix relate to the two models on page 5?

Mark 4:20 (heart & will)

Receptivity

closed												open	
-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	Repents & trusts Jesus	
												-1	Understanding Matthew 13:23 (head)
												-2	
												-3	
												-4	
												-5	
												-6	
												-7	
												-8	
												-9	
												-10	
												-11	
												-12	

Adapted from the Gray Matrix by Frank Gray of Far East Broadcasting Company

Think of one person that you know who is most likely not a true believer—not saved.

Place an "X" in the **Understanding-Receptivity Matrix** above to indicate where you think this person is in his/her:

1. **Understanding** of the gospel and
2. **Receptivity** toward embracing the gospel.

Be prepared to discuss this question:

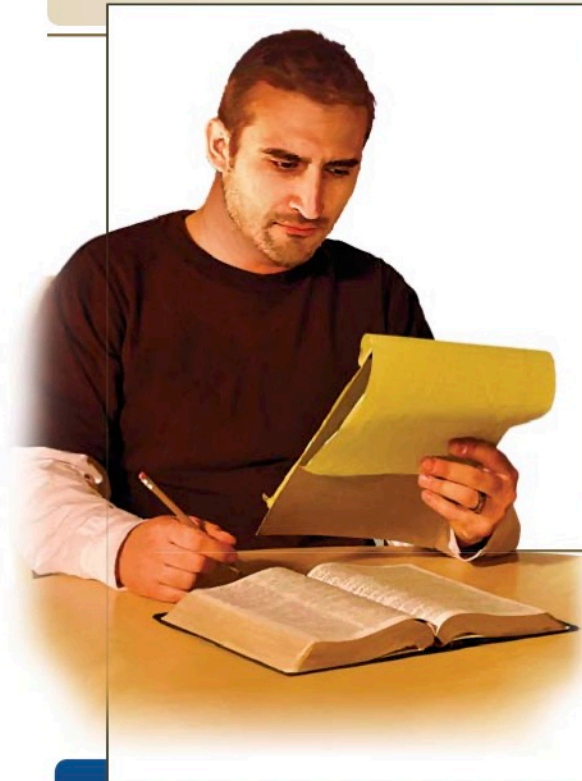
In addition to the work of God's Spirit, what do you think this person needs most in his/her "conversion process" in order for him/her to trust Jesus Christ and be born into God's family?

The Way to Joy: Pursuing Basic Steps to Discipleship

Lesson 8 – The Joy of Sharing: Witnessing

Structure and Practice Your Faith Story – Pages 20-21

Experiential Gospel Presentation



Structuring Your Faith Story

May I share my faith story with you?

First. Life Before: Share a brief account of your life before you became a Christian, highlighting how you came to recognize your spiritual need. If possible, build upon a life experience or perspective that you and the hearer have in common.

Second. Life Change: Explain how you came to understand the gospel, including essential bridge truths, and how you came to believe God's good news and trusted Christ.

Third. Life Now: Explain how Christ changed your life and share some of the results—joy, peace, assurance, etc.

- Outline key thoughts for the development of your faith story.
- Practice telling your faith story to another person in class.
- Continue to develop and polish your faith story after the seminar.

Write Your Story: Use the space below or the full page form in the Supplemental Materials Section (S-12).

Life Before:

- Before Christ—Aim at shared experiences (“Earlier in my life...”)
- False beliefs—Aim at known or assumed false beliefs (“I always thought...”)

Life Change:

- Truth encounter—Focus on key gospel truths (“Then I discovered...”)
- Faith response—Focus on turn, trust, surrender (“So I chose to trust in...”)

Life Now:

- New life—Emphasize life changes (“Since I personally trusted in Jesus Christ...”)

Initiate conversations that may become redemptive relationships. Colossians 4:2-6

My Personal Faith Story

Life Before:

- Before Christ
- False beliefs

Life Change:

- Truth encounter
- Faith response

Life Now:

- New life