

Invitation/Counseling Facilitator's Guide

How to use this facilitator's guide:

Green = notes to you, the facilitator

Black = content to cover in class

Red = things students say or do with you

Materials list:

- Printout of this facilitator's guide (printed in color if possible, which is very helpful)
- Provide *Guiding a Child to the Savior Key Questions* brochure for each student and instructor (available from CEF Press®)
- Sample Invitation Worksheet (found on last page of this guide).
- *Truth Chasers Club*® starter lessons (one for each student and facilitator to show)
- "First Steps" tract from CEF Press (recommended – one for each student and facilitator to show)
- Equipment:
 - Laptop or DVD player
 - Projector or TV screen
 - HDMI cable if connecting to a flat screen TV
 - Computer speakers (if playing video from a laptop)
 - Power strip and extension cord
- DVD of *Invitation/counseling* training (available from CEF Press; also available free for streaming on CMI Online)
- Extra Bibles for students who do not bring one for practicing
- Timer or cell phone with stopwatch to keep track of practice times
- **Optional:** ribbons or sticky notes/tabs for students to use to mark verses in Bibles

To order *Guiding a Child to the Savior* brochures, "First Steps" tracts, the *Invitation/Counseling* DVD, go to cefpress.com or call 1-800-748-7710.

To order free *Truth Chasers Club*® starter lessons, call (636) 456-4321 ext. 1351 or email: truthchasersclub@cefonline.com.

Before the class:

- Pray for good attendance and for those who will be trained.
- Review this facilitator's guide so you can conduct the class smoothly.
- Gather and order materials (list and ordering instructions above).
 - **NOTE: Order materials from CEF Press® at least 2 weeks prior to the training date!**
- Print student notes for each student, plus extra copies.
- Print "Sample Invitation" worksheet for each student.
- Ask students to bring a Bible in which they can underline verses and use to share verses with a child.
- **Optional:** Prepare ribbons, strips of colored paper, colored sticky tabs, or yarn for each student to use to mark verses in their Bibles.
- Determine how much time you will have for the training in order to set time limits for the discussion and practice. (Suggested time is 1 hour and 10 minutes, which allows for viewing the 47:12 video and in class practice time.)

On training day:

- Set out materials (TCC lesson, “First Steps” tract, *Guiding a Child to the Savior* brochure) and notes for the students on the tables.
- Have a Sample Invitation worksheet, *Guiding a Child to the Savior* brochure, starter lesson, and tract up front with you along with this facilitator’s guide.
- Organize students into groups of two.
- Tell students to have their Bible, pen or pencil and student notes open, ready to follow along and take notes.

Introduction:

Luke 18:16 says, “But Jesus called them unto him, and said, ‘Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.’”

It is God’s will that children come to Him. What a privilege we have to share the Good News with children and invite them to come to Jesus, not forbidding them, but lovingly showing them the way.

It is important that the invitation we give to the children be clear.

By the end of this class you will have learned how to give a clear invitation in a class setting after the Gospel message has been presented. You will also have learned how to counsel a child who responds to the invitation. There will be instruction on the video followed by a video demonstration and a time of discussion, and then a time for you to practice what you have seen. Have your notes open and your Bible and pen or pencil ready. Here we go with the first part.

1. Giving an Invitation (instruction and demo)

(PLAY VIDEO – Introduction and Invitation training / demo – 10 minutes.)

(PAUSE VIDEO at 10:06)

Pause the video at the break for students to practice giving an invitation. Distribute the sample invitation worksheet (see last page of this guide). Direct students’ attention to the sample invitation at the top of the page and point out the guide at the bottom of the page for writing their own invitation. Allow students time to write out an invitation and practice giving one to their table partner. Check to see if each person has had a chance to practice with their table partner. (Allow approximately 10 minutes.)

Let’s read through the sample invitation that you see at the top of your worksheet handout watching for the five steps of the invitation. **(Read the sample invitation out loud, or have a volunteer read it.)** Now take a few minutes to write your own invitation using the guide at the bottom of the worksheet. You can use John 3:15, John 3:16, Acts 16:31, John 1:12 or another condition/promise verse. When you are finished writing your invitation, practice it out loud with your table partner. You’ll have about 10 minutes to work on this.

Direct students’ attention back to the screen as you play the next part of the video.

(Resume VIDEO)

2. Counseling the child who responds (instruction and demo)

(PLAY VIDEO – Guiding a Child to the Savior Key Questions, Part 1 / demo – 11 minutes)

(PAUSE VIDEO at 21:22)

Pause the video at the break to review using the first questions on the Guiding a Child to the Savior tool.

Take a few moments right now to practice the review questions found on your *Guiding a Child to the Savior Key Questions* tool. Start with asking the child why he came back to talk to you and go through the “Way of Salvation” questions. Practice with your table partner.

(AFTER ABOUT 4 MINUTES, HAVE THE STUDENTS SWITCH ROLES)

(AFTER ABOUT 4 MORE MINUTES, TELL THEM TO START WRAPPING UP)

Direct students' attention back to the screen as you play the next part of the video.

(PLAY VIDEO – “BELIEVE IN JESUS – 8 minutes)

(PAUSE VIDEO at 29:39)

Pause the video at the break to allow students to practice.

Practice the “Believe in Jesus” section with your table partner. You'll have about 3 minutes and then switch for the other person to practice.

Direct students' attention back to the screen as you play the next part of the video.

(PLAY VIDEO – Assurance and Grow – 18 minutes.)

(PAUSE VIDEO)

Pause the video at the break to allow students to practice. Point out the TCC Starter lesson and the “First Step” tracts to students, letting them know that these are available to order from CEF Press.

Practice the “Assurance” and “Grow” section with your table partner. You'll have about 5 minutes and then switch for the other person to practice.

(ALLOW STUDENTS TO PRACTICE)

Now that you've practiced, do you have any questions or observations you'd like to share?

Depending on the needs of the students and if time allows, consider showing the whole demonstration in its entirety (15 min.), which is the second menu item on the DVD and also available online.

You could ask the students if they would like to watch the full demonstration right now.

Encourage them to view the full demonstration video online at cefonline.com/freedemos

OPTION 1: If time remaining is short, end with conclusion below.

OPTION 2:

- Let's take a break **(5 minutes)**
- Now let's watch the entire demonstration all together.
- **PLAY VIDEO – Demonstration – 15 min.**

Conclusion:

What a privilege it is to invite children to come to Jesus and to counsel them.

Will you take the time to practice what you have learned today so that you can give a clear invitation and counsel children who respond? Will you cherish this great privilege that God has given you?

Let's pray for the children that we minister to....
(closing prayer)

Sample Invitation:

If you have not believed in Jesus, you can do that today. God loves you so much that He sent Jesus to die for you to take the punishment for your sins. Jesus came back to life and you can have a friendship with God because of what Jesus did for you. *[Read Acts 16:3a from your Bible.]* To believe is to trust completely that Jesus died for your sins. It is to be willing to turn from going your own way and to go God's way instead. If you will believe in Jesus to save you, you will no longer be separated from God but will instead have a friendship with Him that starts now and lasts forever. He will change you to want to live for Him now and someday you'll live with him forever. Will you believe on Jesus today? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you believed in Jesus **today** or you have questions about what it means to believe, please show me by raising your hand. *(Pause and acknowledge responses.)* If you raised your hand please meet me *(designate time and location)* and we will talk more about what it means to believe in Jesus.

Write out your own invitation:

Briefly review the need and the way:

Read and explain the invitation verse phrase by phrase (condition/promise):

Question: "Are you willing to turn from your sin and believe in Jesus as your Savior today?"

Bow head and close eyes.

"If you have believed in Jesus **today**, show me by..."

"Meet me..."