



## **One Hundred Words: Reaching Others in Everyday Moments**

By Jan Villott

What do you do to reach others for Christ when you are—

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| —at work?                  | —getting a haircut?       |
| —going to school?          | —connecting with clients? |
| —buying groceries?         | —shopping?                |
| —eating out?               | —caring for someone?      |
| —visiting with a neighbor? | —on vacation?             |
| —buying a new car?         |                           |

Do you pray expecting God to use you each day? Do you ask God to stretch you? Do you really, *really* want to touch others for eternity through Christ? Is it your passion, something you're convinced you're supposed to do?

These are good questions to consider. We invite you to let God develop your outreach muscles.

*How?*

**Pray.** Ask God to open your eyes anew to those in your sphere of influence. Be aware of those around you: the waitress, the cashier, people on the elevator or in line with you, the teacher or principal, your boss or assistant, their spouses, your friend's children.

**Ask questions.** Our joy comes from moving others closer to Christ. Do this by being a good listener, asking open-ended and forward-focused questions, such as:

- *What have you accomplished that you are really proud of?*
- *What do you do particularly well?*
- *What are some positive qualities other people see in you?*
- *What kind of a question would make your best friend (or spouse or child) smile?*

- *How would you like to feel at the end of your day?*
- *What do you notice about \_\_\_\_\_?*
- *Tell me about\_\_\_\_\_.*
- *If \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_.*

Hold back opinions, advice, and your own stories. Be curious, but don't try to change someone.

**Be ready** to share the hope in you, in 100 words or less. Look for an opportunity to share what your own need was when you said yes to Christ:

- Were you looking for eternal life?
- Were you seeing forgiveness?
- Were you out of control?
- Were you aware of your need for love and acceptance?
- Did you need purpose?
- Did you desire a sense of significance?

Your need will give shape to your One Hundred Words. Everyone has a need that shaped who they are today. Christ is the one who fills the holes left by that need.

# ONE HUNDRED WORDS Worksheet

## WHAT IS YOUR STORY?

In three sentences, express what need you had in your life that demanded your turn to Jesus Christ.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

In three sentences, tell who Jesus Christ is and when you responded to Him.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

In three sentences, express the difference He has made in your life.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Now consider:*

- Your language. Is your vocabulary understandable by the person who is not churched or who is not as familiar with Christianity as you are? Many may call God “the Light” and be “led by the Spirit”, but still be missing the gift of the cross! Practice pointing to Christ, telling how He met your need without getting caught up in a language gap.
- Your emotions. When you tell your story, do you convey any anger or resentment you may have felt before you met Jesus?

- The feelings of others. Could anyone you know hear what you are saying and be hurt or embarrassed?
- Your core message. Can you share the Gospel—who Jesus Christ is and what He has done for you—in just a few, simple from-the-heart phrases? (Review Scripture that communicates this message.)
- Your familiarity with your material. Practice until you are comfortable and confident with what you are saying.