

Have any of you been on a diet before? What are some problems people run into with dieting? The main fundamental problem with dieting is that by definition, it's a period of time where you work on your weight. A period of time. The only real way to lose weight and keep it off is to change your lifestyle. Adding more exercise or taking some bad eating habit out of the picture.

A fundamental problem with Christianity is that we do what we're supposed to in short phases. Camping trips where we spend time with God away from the distraction of everyday life. A mission trip where we learn and apply the art of talking to people about their need for Jesus in their lives. A weekly church service where we learn from the Bible and pray. What if these things were a part of our everyday lives? The reason that we're so unhealthy spiritually is because Christianity is not a lifestyle for us... it's a hobby. What would a lifestyle of mission look like? What if it were simply owning your influence with those outside of the faith in an intentional way?

The following exercise is called Netchurching and it's exactly that, but first a word of explanation

Question 1: Is Christianity true?

Question 2: Are you a Christian?

Question 3: Is God intimately involved in the details of our lives?

Question 4: Does God primarily use his people to accomplish his work?

If the answer is yes to all of the above than do you believe the following axiom?

Axiom: God has put the people around you into your life because his desire is that you would lead them into a vibrant relationship with him.

Read the following verses and see if they verify your belief.

2nd Corinthians 5:18-20

Ephesians 2:10

If it truly is your responsibility and privilege to lead the people around you into a vibrant relationship with God through Jesus, than do you need to be intentional about your work? In other words, do you think that you will do this well if you don't plan or should you be strategic?

Read the following verses and see if they verify your belief.

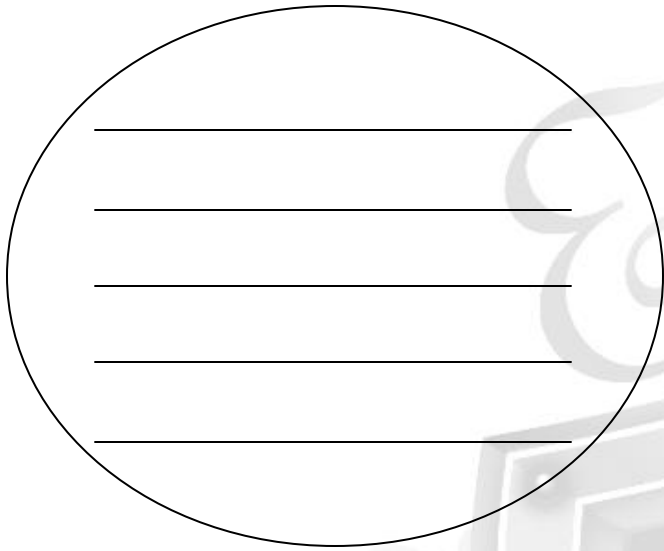
Matthew 25:14-30

Netchurching

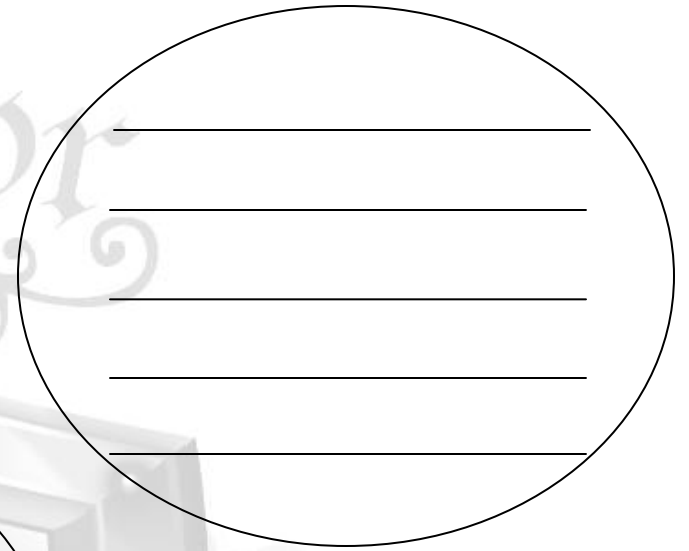
- 1) A word of explanation
- 2) Write circles of influence (ex. neighborhood, little league, work)
- 3) List contacts within circles (ex. John, Mary)
- 4) Rate by Engel's Scale (directly to the right)
- 5) Final Admonition (pray daily, intentionally move up scale)

The Engel Scale

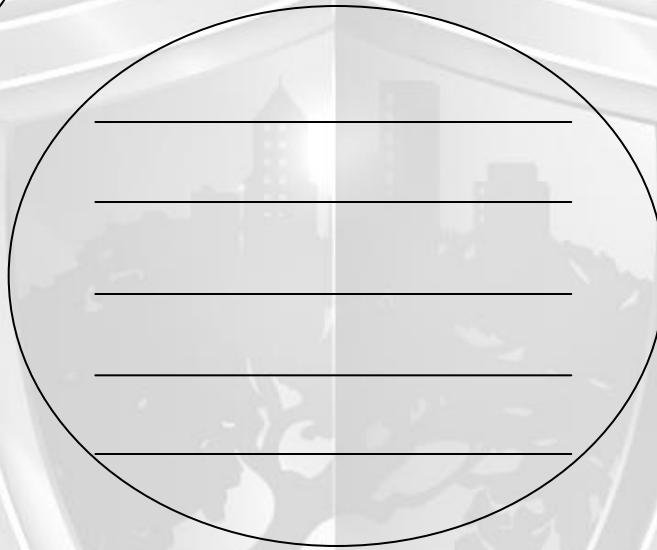
- 8: Awareness of a supreme being but no effective knowledge of the gospel
- 7: Initial awareness of the gospel
- 6: Awareness of the fundamentals of the gospel
- 5: Grasp of implications of the gospel
- 4: Positive attitude toward the gospel
- 3: Counting the cost
- 2: Decision to act
- 1: Repentance and faith in Christ
- REGENERATION
- +1: Post-decision evaluation
- +2: Incorporation into the body
- +3: A lifetime of growth in Christ – discipleship and service



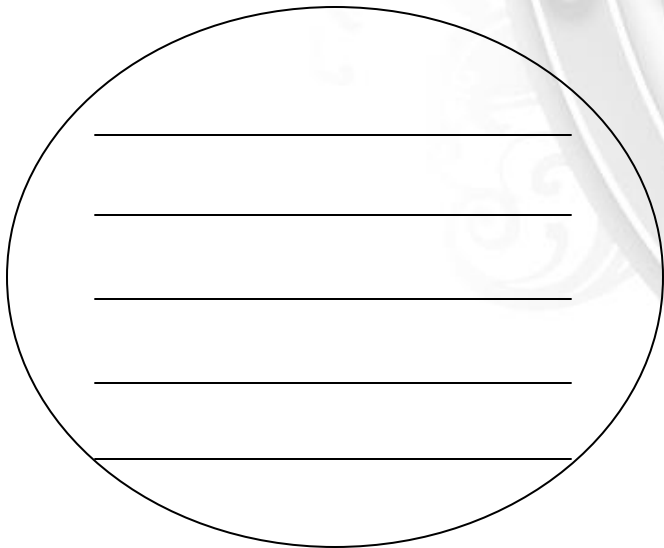
A circular area containing five horizontal lines for writing.



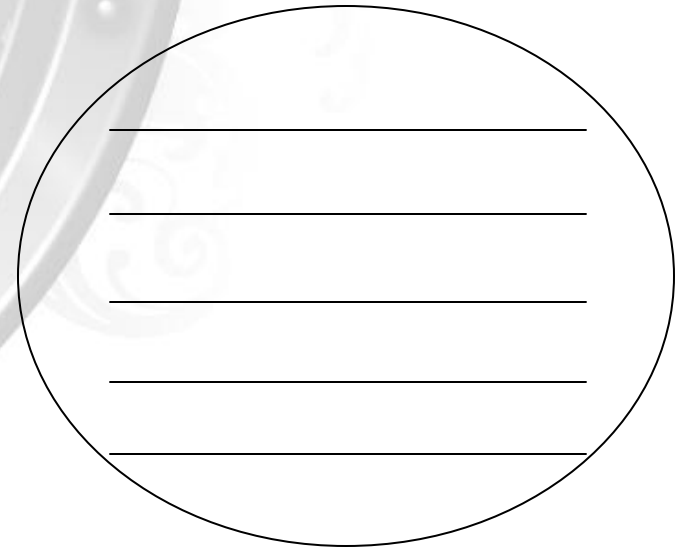
A circular area containing five horizontal lines for writing.



A central circular area containing five horizontal lines for writing, positioned over a large, faint shield emblem.



A circular area containing five horizontal lines for writing.



A circular area containing five horizontal lines for writing.