

The Gospel on the Hand

This simple and highly-reproducing method for sharing the gospel story helps you remember the basic points of the gospel and leads the person to a point of decision. It also includes an important step vital to generational growth: the start of the disciple-making process. Use the hand on which people wear their engagement or wedding rings in your culture.

THUMB [Hold up your thumb.]

(good news, God's love)

'Thumbs up' means something good!

God created you, loves you, and wants to have a relationship with you.

Jer. 29:11; John 3.16; John 10.10; Rev. 21.7

INDEX [Point your index finger at each person and at yourself.]

(bad news, sin, rebellion, separation)

Pointing this finger signifies blame. **We have all sinned and are separated from God.**

Sin causes a separation between us and God, and it always points us *away* from Him.

Isa. 59.2; Isa. 53.6; Rom. 3.23; Rom. 6.23

TALL [Hold your hand open and point to your middle finger.]

(curse, death, resurrection, surrender, lordship)

This is the tallest finger. **Jesus died and rose again to pay the price for your sin.**

This 'rude' finger signifies a curse. Jesus became a curse so you could become righteous.

No matter how badly you have sinned, the sacrifice and forgiveness of Jesus is greater!

Jesus became victorious over sin, and now He wants to be Lord of your life—your number one.

Gal. 3.13; 2 Cor. 5.21; 1 Peter 3.18; John 14.6

RING [Hold your hand open and point to your ring finger.]

(relationship, decision, commitment, cost, baptism)

A ring on this finger signifies a committed relationship that began with a decision.

God invites you into a relationship with Him (not religion), but you must accept His invitation.

[Hold up your thumb again.] God has already said "I do"...

[Point to your ring finger.] ... but now you must say "I do" to Him. Turn away from sin and turn to God!

A man gets married and lives with his wife; God wants to "move in" and take residence in your life.

Just as the ring is a symbol of a relationship, baptism is the symbol of a commitment to Jesus.

Rev. 3.20; John 14.23; Rom. 10.9; Act 2.38

[Stop here and ask the person if they are willing to ask Jesus into their heart. If so, bow together in prayer and you pray first, asking God to give understanding and clarity to the person receiving Jesus. Then go back and start from the thumb, asking the following questions and allowing the person to answer in his/her own words:]

THUMB ... *What do you want to say to God about His love for you?*

INDEX *What do you want to say to God about your sin?*

TALL *What do you want to say to God about what Jesus did for you on the cross?*

RING *What do you want to say to God about starting a relationship with Him and obeying Him?*

[If the person receives Jesus, then continue.]

PINKY [Hold up your pinky by itself.]

(new life, disciple training, church family)

This is the weakest and most vulnerable finger. This is you, the new disciple!

You need someone to help you grow as a new disciple. I will walk with you to help you grow.

I'll introduce you to other believers, because as the church together, we are strong!

Matt. 28.19; Php. 3.17; 2 Tim. 2.2

Important! When you lead someone to Jesus, begin training that person as a disciple just as Jesus commands us to do.

- Don't just take them to church and assume they will grow on their own.
- Meet with them at least weekly to train them, and introduce them to a few other faithful disciples.
- Hold them accountable to obey Jesus. Lead by example and encourage them!
- Expect them to share their story immediately and to teach others what they are learning.

