

Problem-Solving Exercise

This is a simple exercise that can be applied to practically any problem or issue that becomes a barrier to movement. This is best done in small groups around tables.

1. Begin by defining the PROBLEM.
2. Take time to look in the WORD for passages that address the problem. These are direct commands or instructions that should be quite obvious.
3. Next, think of examples of God’s WORKS, past or present, that address this problem in some way. Think of stories or events in history.
4. Finally, discuss ways to change the WINESKINS—the “containers” such as your methods, tools, and patterns for going about the work.

The Problem	Word Scripture: <i>What does the Bible have to say—direct commands?</i>	Works Stories: <i>What are examples of God’s work—indirect lessons learned?</i>	Wineskins Suggestions: <i>What do I need to start doing, stop doing, or change?</i>
<p>EXAMPLE:</p> <p><i>“Many of the people in our church do not believe that every Christian is responsible to share the gospel.”</i></p>	<p><i>Matt. 6.9a,10, “Pray, then, in this way ... Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”</i></p> <p><i>Matt. 28.18–20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.”</i></p> <p><i>Rom. 10.14–15, How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!”</i></p> <p><i>1 Timothy 2.3b, God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.</i></p>	<p><i>In Acts chapter 8, it appears that everyone was a witness! Acts 8.1–4, And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles ... those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.</i></p> <p><i>In movements around the world, the most effective churches consist of people who share their faith boldly and broadly.</i></p>	<p><i>I need to be sure to communicate these passages of Scripture so people will understand God’s will for us all.</i></p> <p><i>Our church needs to cast vision more often so our people will see the Father’s Heart.</i></p> <p><i>We must teach and practice tools for making connections and sharing the gospel, to give people confidence.</i></p> <p><i>As we reach new disciples, we need to immediately begin teaching them simple ways to share their faith.</i></p> <p><i>I can model bold witness by going out and taking people with me to observe.</i></p>

