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Practice Scenarios

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**The following
scenario responses
provide familiar
references and are
not exhaustive**

**If someone truly
needs counseling
today, see a
counselor**

**These scenarios are
not real and are
mainly meant to
connect
experiences to
Bible.**

**Share how you
would address the
key dilemmas for
each scenario
including the gospel**

**Include the gospel
in response to the
key dilemma
questions of the
scenarios**

**Some responses
may be helpful for
ourselves**

The Coffee Shop Confession

- A young professional, Maya, sits alone in a busy café, visibly upset after a phone call. You feel prompted to check on her. When you gently ask if she's okay, she opens up: her father was just diagnosed with a serious illness, and she feels spiritually lost. She says she used to go to church but "never felt anything." She asks why God would let this happen.
- Key Dilemma: How do you offer hope without sounding cliché or dismissive of her pain?

The Coffee Shop Confession Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you offer hope without sounding cliché or dismissive of her pain?
 - We suffer due to sin (Rom. 6:23)
 - Instead of prevent, God chose to love (Rom. 6:23)
 - God shows love in trials (Heb. 12:3-11)
 - God demonstrated His love through Christ's death (Rom. 3:23; 5:8)

The Rideshare Revelation

- You're taking an Uber to LAX. The driver, Jorge, mentions he's been thinking a lot about death after losing a friend in an accident. He says he's "not religious," but he wonders what happens when people die. He asks what you think.
- Key Dilemma: How do you share your faith clearly without turning the conversation into a debate or sermon?

The Rideshare Revelation Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you share your faith clearly without turning the conversation into a debate or sermon?
 - God wants worshippers (John 4:23-24)
 - However, we rebel against Him (Rom. 3:1-18)
 - We also live opposite of His desire (Eph. 2:1-3)
 - Jesus came to save from perishing (John 3:16)
 - We can have eternal life or perish
 - We can choose to deny Him if desired (John 3:17-18)
 - We must trust in Jesus for eternal life (Romans 10:9)

The Classroom Challenge

- A college student named Brianna tells her study group she's struggling with anxiety and feels like life has no purpose. You mention that your faith has helped you find peace. Another student immediately pushes back, saying religion is "a crutch" and "dangerous." Brianna looks embarrassed and withdraws.
- Key Dilemma: How do you continue the conversation with grace while protecting Brianna's vulnerability?

The Classroom Challenge Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you continue the conversation with grace while protecting Brianna's vulnerability?
 - If you have been justified by faith...
 - You have peace with God through Christ (Romans 5:1)
 - We cast cares on Jesus, He cares (1 Pet. 5:7)
 - We trust God to care for us (Matt. 6:25-33)
 - Some suppress the truth of God existence (Rom. 1:19-20)
 - I'd rather acknowledge Him
 - He's the only way to justify (existence/knowledge/good...)

The Street Encounter

- Outside a grocery store, you meet a man named Terrence who is homeless. He asks for money, but as you talk, he shares that he feels abandoned by God and wonders if God even sees him. He says he used to pray but stopped because “nothing changed.”
- Key Dilemma: How do you share God’s love in a way that is practical, not just verbal?

The Street Encounter Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you share God's love in a way that is practical, not just verbal?
 - Our faith must remain fortified, He cares! (Matt. 6:25-33)
 - God hears the righteous and answers best (James 5:16)
 - Even Christ's death was for ungodly people (Rom. 5:6-8)
 - God gave us His son already (John 3:16)

The Workplace Window

- A coworker, Sam, confides that he feels guilty about a broken relationship with his brother. He says he wishes he could “start over,” but he doesn’t know how. He asks you why you seem so calm under pressure and whether your faith has anything to do with it.
- Key Dilemma: How do you share the gospel in a workplace setting without crossing professional boundaries?

The Workplace Window Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you share the gospel in a workplace setting without crossing professional boundaries?
 - I'm reconciled to God through Christ (Rom. 5:6-11)
 - I have peace with God (Rom. 5:1)
 - I was offered a chance for humility (Phil. 2:5-11)
 - I seek peace where possible (Rom. 12:18; Heb. 12:14)

The Hospital Waiting Room

- You're visiting someone at Centinela Hospital. In the waiting room, a woman named Denise is crying because her son is undergoing emergency surgery. She says she used to pray but feels like God has abandoned her. She asks if you believe prayer actually works.
- Key Dilemma: How do you speak faith into a moment of fear without sounding insensitive?

The Hospital Waiting Room Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you speak faith into a moment of fear without sounding insensitive?
 - Our faith must remain fortified, He cares! (Matt. 6:25-33)
 - God hears the righteous and answers best (James 5:16)
 - Even Christ's death was for ungodly people (Rom. 5:6-8)

The Neighborhood BBQ

- At a neighborhood cookout, your neighbor Malik casually mentions he's been reading about different religions and wonders how anyone can know which one is true. He asks what makes Christianity different.
- Key Dilemma: How do you explain the uniqueness of Jesus in a friendly, non argumentative way?

The Neighborhood BBQ Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you explain the uniqueness of Jesus in a friendly, non argumentative way?
 - Humbled Himself and now exalted (Phil. 2:6-11)
 - Jesus possesses all qualities of God (Col. 2:9)
 - Died for our sins and resurrected (1 Cor. 15:3-4)
 - Way, truth, and life (John 14:6)
 - Justifies the ungodly (Rom. 5:6)
 - Jesus is Lord and Savior (2 Pet. 1:10-11)

The Social Media Spiral

- A friend posts on Instagram about feeling depressed and “done with everything.” You message them privately to check in. They say they feel empty and disconnected from God. They ask if you’ve ever felt that way and how you got through it.
- Key Dilemma: How do you minister meaningfully through digital communication?

The Social Media Spiral Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you minister meaningfully through digital communication?
 - Jesus died and resurrected (1 Cor. 15:3-4)...
 - We have a connection to God's love (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8)
 - We now have full assurance for forgiveness (Heb. 10:22)
 - He is faithful in securing our hope (Heb. 10:23)
 - I/My church can encourage you further (Heb. 10:24-25)
 - God's grace is worth enduring trials (2 Cor. 4:15-18)

The Gaming Discord Breakdown

- You're part of an online gaming match. During a casual chat after the match, a player named "Nova" suddenly says he's logging off because he's "tired of life." The tone shifts. You message him privately, and he admits he's overwhelmed, lonely, and feels like he has no purpose. He says he used to believe in God but doesn't anymore because "nothing ever changes." He asks why you still believe.
- Key Dilemma: How do you share hope and truth in a digital space where tone, empathy, and presence are harder to convey?

The Gaming Discord Breakdown Responses

- Key Dilemma: How do you share hope and truth in a digital space where tone, empathy, and presence are harder to convey?
 - Jesus died and resurrected (1 Cor. 15:3-4)...
 - We have a connection to God's love (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8)
 - I'm changed because of Him as intended (Eph. 2:10)
 - I ask God for wisdom through trials (James 1:5)
 - We now have full assurance for forgiveness (Heb. 10:22)
 - He is faithful in securing our hope (Heb. 10:23)
 - I/My church can encourage you further (Heb. 10:24-25)
 - God's grace is worth enduring trials (2 Cor. 4:15-18)

The Grocery Store Line Conversation

- You're waiting in a long line at Ralphs. A woman named Carla, juggling groceries and a toddler, sighs and says, "I don't know how people do life. I'm exhausted." You make a light comment, and she unexpectedly opens up about feeling like she's failing as a mother. She says she wishes she had "real peace," not just temporary relief. She asks if you've ever found something that actually helps.
- Key Dilemma: How do you share the peace of Christ in a brief, public moment without overwhelming her?

The Grocery Store Line Conversation Resp.

- Key Dilemma: How do you share the peace of Christ in a brief, public moment without overwhelming her?
 - I have peace with God through Jesus (Rom. 5:1)
 - Having God's peace helps me take risks
 - He gives me wisdom through trials (James 1:5)
 - I'm able to handle more through sanctification (Heb. 12:11)
 - These hardships aren't forever
 - I learn and mature (1 Pet. 2:2)
 - I accept my realities in humility and thankfulness (Phil. 2:5-11; 1 Thess. 5:18)