# Do the Two Love God and Love Your Neighbor

and (maybe) share the Savior

Our Do the Two Project is simply planned growth in a characteristic of love, done in plain sight of those likely to benefit from the change. There are several excellent reasons why this type of program may be worth considering.

Biblical Reasons for Do the Two

- 1. Love is the supreme command "Love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." Romans 13:1
- God is the supreme lover "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly beloved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." Ephesians 5:1-2

We know from experience that we often fail to imitate God's love and therefore should always consider becoming more loving as a biblical, God pleasing goal.

Cultural Reasons for Do the Two

1. Our Lack of Love May be Evident to Others – Friends, family and co-workers often see a side of us we'd rather hide, so it's very possible they already have formed an opinion about a change they think we need to make. God used a 'compliment' by an unbeliever to make me think deeply about this area in myself and Christians in general.

He simply said, "You are a humane and compassionate Christian," but in the context of our discussion, he was identifying me as an exception to the Christians he knew. He may have guessed I wasn't perfect either, but he thought Christians should act humanely and compassionately (and we should) and tragically, did not have enough similar recollections of Christian behavior.

 People Avoid the Unloving – We don't frequent restaurants with bad reputations or do business with known con-artists, because we have perceived a lack of something good. It is the same with human relationships. We don't want to associate ourselves too closely with people who won't love us.

We are not imitating God very well in our relationships with others, if they minimize their time around us because of our unloving behavior.

Evangelistic Reasons for Do the Two

- Committing to Change Sparks Interests and Raises Questions People are drawn toward the human improvement effort. If you lose weight, the common question is, how. When you become more patient or less angry, or start displaying any other attribute of love more consistently, some of your friends will want to ask the same question.
- Questions are Opportunities for Answers Since your change will be brought about through the power of God in your life, the answer to their question will launch spiritual discussions.

We don't try to love people (or even make friends) to foster opportunities for evangelism or we'll be following an agenda with less than the best motive. We love people because it honors God and fulfills His plan for our life. That it builds a natural transition to evangelistic moments where we can share our faith (which is also God's command for us), is a glorious example of His wisdom and grace.

# The Process for Do the Two

# Evaluate Your Character and Select an Area for Growth

Using the characteristics of love listed in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13, we'll walk you through a process of selecting a characteristic in need of improvement.

## Determine a Strategy for Change

Flowers don't grow without certain necessary growth ingredients and neither to people's character. After choosing a character trait to change, we'll provide a list of ideas to help you begin the growing process.

#### **Involve Your Friends**

We'll prepare a customized online survey that you will offer your friends so they can participate in your Do the Two journey. It will give them an opportunity to share their opinion on the behavior you want to change, and indicate if they'd like to receive a progress report.

## Commit to Change

When we're serious about changing, God is more than willing and able to help us with the process. If you begin the steps to grow in godly character, and rely on His power, you'll experience growth.

## OPTIONAL (but encouraged)

For friends who requested an update on your growth plan, a second survey can be supplied. In addition to asking if they've noticed an improvement in your behavior, they'll be given an opportunity to hear your opinion of what caused the change. This will give you an open door to share, at the very least, your belief that God was responsible for the change. It may even lead to sharing the gospel with them.

#### Cost

There is no financial charge to the first fifty participants in our Do the Two program. Upon enrollment of fifty people, we will evaluate the costs to Share the Savior and determine what, if anything, to charge future enrollees.

We may require selected participants to complete one or more surveys to help us determine the effectiveness of the program, and learn how we can improve it.

We will forward to all participants, whether they are charged a fee or not, information on the different ways they could support Share the Savior. However, participation in the Do the Two program is not based on reviewing this information.

#### Bonus Offer

All who sign up prior to December 24, 2011, will receive a free gift to assist in their personal evangelism efforts or that of a friend.

## Ready to Start / Have a Question?

Send an email to: <u>DotheTwo@SharetheSavior.org</u>, call 510 734-6212, or write Share the Savior; PO Box 5594; Hercules, CA 94597.

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