

Step 9 – Advocate and Patient Spiritual Discussion Script

While the nurse runs the pregnancy test the Advocate addresses the patient's spiritual needs by having a spiritual discussion. This step is part of our mission and fulfills our intention to be a resource of information by addressing all her needs – physical, emotional and spiritual.

It is a good idea to begin this time with the patient letting her know it takes the Nurse about :05 to :07 minutes to run the pregnancy test and gather the appropriate paperwork. This will help her feel less anxiety about what to expect and feel more secure (Operational Assumptions).

“It will take the Medical Staff approximately :05 to :07 minutes to run your pregnancy test and assemble the appropriate paperwork. We like to use this time to discuss your support system.”

You can begin by using some opening statements such as:

“We like to say that when a woman is facing a pregnancy, she is faces it on three different levels: physically, emotionally and spiritually. We want to address all three levels –
–Physically – the Medical Staff will come in shortly and go over questions or concerns you may have,
–Emotionally – this is why we asked many of the questions we did in the beginning of the appointment (perhaps mention someone she told you is supporting her – personalize it to her)
–& Spiritually – as many women consider this to be a strong source of support for them. Would it be okay if we talk about that briefly?”

AS IN EVERY STEP, THIS DISCUSSION TAKES PLACE ONLY AFTER PERMISSION TO HAVE A SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE PATIENT.

IF THE PATIENT STATES SHE IS NOT INTERESTED IN A SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION, WE NEED TO RESPECT THIS. **WE DO NOT OFFER PRAYER OR LITERATURE IF THE PATIENT DECLINES THE SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION.** YOU CAN THEN SPEND THE REMAINDER OF THE :05 TO :07 MINUTES DISCUSSING OTHER AREAS OF SUPPORT IN HER LIFE.

Be prepared to make conversation so that the patient's decline of a spiritual discussion is not awkward for either of you.

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If the patient gives permission to have a spiritual discussion, you can continue by perhaps bringing up what she said earlier about attending church:

“You stated that you attend church regularly, sometimes, etc., is that correct? Is your spiritual life important to you? I ask because it is important to get an understanding of your support system.” OR “I know that you stated that you are not currently active in a church or religion, but may I ask have you ever been?”

Let her respond, and use that as a beginning of a spiritual discussion.

Or some other quick transitioning questions can be...

-“To you, who is Jesus?”

-“Do you believe in heaven and hell?”

-“If something terrible were to happen to you and you were to die, do you know for sure where you would go?”

Depending on her answer – if she says “Heaven” – ask her what makes her confident? If she states she has believed in Jesus Christ for her eternal life, then encourage her in this relationship with Him. If she isn’t sure, or is depending on someone/something other than Jesus Christ, you can move on in your discussion.

“Can I share with you a little bit about what the Bible says about going to Heaven and having a relationship with God?”

-If she says she is not interested in moving forward with a spiritual discussion, we need to respect this and spend the remainder of the time discussing other areas of support in her life.

-If she is interested and has given you permission, go ahead and have a spiritual discussion with her.

-Because our time is short – please keep in mind:

-We don’t want to overwhelm her...Remember, we are hoping this visit to the Center will be the first step in her transformation process.

-Stay focused on her reason for being here

-Our main mission at this point is to empower her choose life

-We can’t “fix” her life (nor has she asked us to)

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-While the message of Eternal Life is unchanging, your method of sharing this information should be ever-changing to be relevant to the patient that you are meeting with and her life situation.

-The method you use to offer her the information on eternal life needs to be relational. Be cautious that you do not become so dependent on your “method” or “process” that you appear to be giving her a “sales pitch.” Keep it conversational and relevant to her.

-Be cautious that you aren’t focused on a “tract mentality”

-“Accepting Christ into her life”

-“Accepting Jesus as her Lord and Savior”

-“Praying to receive Christ”

These are all phrases we have learned from tracts – not from the Bible. The Bible teaches **belief in Christ alone for the salvation of eternal life.**

-We only have a limited amount of time (5-7 minutes) –

SO KEEP THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING – BELIEF IN JESUS CHRIST

If we try to include too many things, it can get complicated. Remember she has a lot on her mind right now – let’s keep it simple – The Gospel IS Simple.

-Please personalize your message of God’s love for this patient to her and her life situation. You may, or may not, give a complete and thorough presentation of the Gospel of Eternal Life. LISTEN TO HER and respond accordingly. The training videos will help you with this.

The Center has put together a Gospel of Eternal Life “card” that you can offer to your patient (if appropriate). This way, even if you are unable to “get through” the complete message, she will leave with key Scriptures that, should she desire to learn more, will lead her into the Truth of Eternal Life through Jesus Christ.

We cannot stress enough the importance of **not** making this :05-:07 minutes of talking as fast as you possibly can so you can get through what you need to get through. This is about relationship. Taking situations of need in her life and letting her know that Jesus can meet those needs.

Sometimes it will be appropriate to share the entire message, other times you may just talk about a few of the verses (or you may add your own). The key is to connect with her to point her to Jesus.

Please do not be “afraid” to offer this truth to her. This is critical information for her. If she is open, please give her what she needs!

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Sharing the Message of Eternal Life

God's word is clear in the Bible – He loves us. He created us and wants to spend eternity with us. One of the most familiar verses in the Bible is John 3:16

JOHN 3:16 “FOR GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.”

Let's consider His words a portion at a time...

“FOR GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH...”

God loves everyone in the world, including you and me. He wants to spend eternity with us. But there is a problem we all have – sin.

**“For everyone has sinned, we all fall short of God's glorious standard.”
(Romans 3:23)**

The next line is...

“...THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON...”

God giving His son is the solution to our sin as He is

“...the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” (John 1:29)

When Jesus died on the cross, His death paid for all the wrong you and I (everyone) have ever done or will ever do in our lives. Next, Jesus tells us what we must do:

“...SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM...”

Let's think about this. People oftentimes mistakenly believe that if we are:

- 1. Good enough**
- 2. Do the right things**
- 3. Do more good than bad**

That this will earn us the right to get to heaven. But Jesus does not tell us to do good works, or anything else to get to heaven. He only tells us to “believe in Him” FOR eternal life.

“God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this, it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.” (Ephesians 2:8-9)

The next line is...

“...WILL NOT PERISH...”

Jesus promises that if we believe in Him, we will “not perish” – which is another way of saying we will not be condemned and go to hell.

“God sent His Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through Him.” (John 3:17)

Next,

“..BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.”

If we believe, we will not perish because we have “eternal life.” This everlasting life begins the moment we believe in Jesus for it.

“He who believes in Me has (right now) everlasting life.” (John 6:47)

Do you believe the words of Jesus found in John 3:16? If so, then you will not perish – you have Everlasting Life!!

The truth about Jesus impacts not only our eternal destination, but our life today as well.

“...I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” (John 10:10)

If you would like to find out how this decision to believe in Jesus Christ for your everlasting life can transform your life now, there are some things you can do:

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-Spend time reading God’s Word and talking to Him (prayer) frequently

-Find and attend a church that clearly teaches the Word of God
-Find and attend Bible Study. Spending time with other believers will help you learn more about God and His best for you.

****It is here if you are using the card that you can transition to telling her how, if she is interested, our Center can help her grow in her relationship with the Lord.****

If this is something you are interested in, we offer Bible Studies and Life Basics Classes that can help you learn and understand more about the love of Jesus and what that can mean for your life today.

(Please keep in mind, these classes are only offered at our Hartford-North Office)

-If appropriate, please offer the Gospel of John and Gospel of Eternal Life card to take home with her.

-Depending on her response and your connection with her, it is entirely appropriate to pray for her to conclude the spiritual discussion. **PLEASE DO NOT VERBALLY PRAY FOR "THE BABY" OR "HER PREGNANCY" AT THIS TIME.**