



## One Conversation: Trusting God for Growth

### Workshop Outline:

1. Welcome (*8 min*)
2. What Is “One Conversation?” (*3 min*)
3. Why conversation matters? (*3 min*)
4. **Part 1: Notice—Becoming Aware of Soil** (*12 min*)
5. **Part 2: Listen—Understanding the Soil** (*15 min*)
6. **Part 3: Cultivate—Trusting God with the Soil** (*12 min*)
7. Final Wrap-Up (*3 min*)

## 1. **Welcome**

Good morning (or evening), everyone.

I'm so glad you're here that you have come back for second workshop — **One Conversation**.

Before we jump into today's topic, let's pause and remember where this journey began.

Last time, we explored **One Prayer** — learning to pray daily for one person God has placed on our hearts.

Prayer is where outreach begins.

Prayer helps us to join Christ's work for outreach.

So before we move forward, let's take a moment to reflect together.

**“Can you briefly share how your One Prayer has been going?”**

- **Encouraging**
- **Challenging,**
- **or eye-opening?”**

Thank you for sharing.

One of the reasons we start with **prayer** is because prayer and conversation are deeply connected.

In fact, **prayer and conversation cannot be separated.**

Because:

- Prayer changes the atmosphere.
- Prayer softens hearts.
- Prayer opens doors

So when the time comes to have conversation, we're not forcing something spiritual to happen.

We are simply **stepping into what God has already begun.**

That's why we encourage three simple prayer rhythms:

- Breath Prayer
- Blessing Prayer
- Intercessory Prayer

These aren't techniques.

They are ways of **staying aligned with what God is already doing.**

And when we begin to pray for someone regularly, something interesting happens.

Our **awareness changes.**

We begin to notice moments.

We begin to notice people more deeply.

We begin to notice opportunities to connect.

And that brings us to the second part of the **THREE ONES** journey:

**One Conversation.**

**Let's pray.**

Thank You for gathering us today.

Open our hearts to Your Spirit.

Teach us to listen with compassion,  
to notice the people around us,  
and to speak with grace and truth.

Prepare us for the conversations You are already placing in our path.

In Jesus' name, Amen."

## 2. What is One Conversation?

**One Conversation is a simple, intentional connection with someone God has already placed in your life.**

Not someone you search.

Not someone you assign yourself to.

But someone God has already part of your everyday world:

- a friend at school
- someone on your team
- a classmate
- a neighbor
- someone in your family

God has already placed people around you.

One conversation isn't:

- A presentation.
- A speech.
- A debate.
- A spiritual sales pitch.

You don't have to be perfect.

You don't have to have all the answers.

It's much simpler than that.

### **It's About Presence**

**One Conversation is about being present with someone.**

The Apostle Paul wrote in **1 Thessalonians 2:9**,

“...we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves.”

Not just a message — **but our lives.**

## And What Does That Look Like?

Sometimes it looks like:

Asking one more thoughtful question.  
Taking one more moment to listen.  
Showing one simple act of kindness.

Small moments matter.

Where Do These Conversations Happen?

One Conversation is **simple**.

It happens in ordinary moments.

- at lunch.
- In the hallway.
- after practice.
- in the car.
- hanging out with friends.

No stage.

No microphone.

Just you—being real with someone.

One conversation is **natural**.

It grows from real relationship.

It isn't scripted.

It isn't forced.

One conversation is **relational**.

It quietly says, "You matter to me."

And most importantly — it's **Spirit-led**.

We believe God is already working in people's hearts.

- God prepares the moment.
- God softens the heart.
- God opens the door.

We don't push doors open.

We simply step into the ones God has already prepared.

**One Conversation is the moment where your love, your curiosity, and the Holy Spirit meet.**

And through your simple presence,  
God begins gently working in someone's heart.

### 3. **Why Conversation Matters.**

Why not just pray...then share the gospel when the moment feels right?

Why take time for conversation?

**Because conversation is the space where trust grows.**

And trust matters in outreach.

Why?

Because we are not sharing information.

We are talking about things that are **deeply personal**.

People may share:

- their fear
- their doubts
- their struggles
- their beliefs

**That kind of sharing requires safety.**

And safety grows through **trust**

Trust says:

- “You are safe to talk with me.”
- “I’m not here to fix you.”
- “I’m not here to win an argument.”
- “I genuinely care about you.”

**Without** trust, people protect themselves.

**With** trust, people open themselves.

And faith open grows best in open hearts.

That’s why trust matters.

**Faith often grows through series of conversations.**

Small moments.  
Honest questions.  
Being heard.  
Feeling understood.

Over time, those moments build trust.

And **trust makes space for truth**.

**Think about your own story for a moment.**

Was it **one sermon** that changed everything?  
Or were there people and conversations along the way?

- Maybe someone asked you a question that made you think.
- Maybe someone listened when you were struggling.
- Maybe someone shared how Jesus met them in their season.

Faith often grows in those kinds of moments.

**Conversation often reveals what God is already doing in your “one.”**

When we listen well, we begin to understand someone’s story —  
their hopes,  
their fears,  
their struggles,  
their doubts,  
their beliefs.

And when we understand someone’s story,  
we can love them personally — not mechanically.

## **Conversation is where Jesus often worked.**

Yes, He preached to crowds.

But again and again, hearts opened in personal conversations.

Jesus talked with:

the woman at the well.

Nicodemus at night.

Zacchaeus in a tree.

In Gospel of **Luke 19:5–7**, “And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.”

He didn't begin with correction.

He began with connection.

He entered Zacchaeus's world.

He shared a table.

And in that relational space, something shifted.

Trust opened the door.

And salvation followed.

One person.

One conversation at a time.

That's why **One Conversation** matters.

It's not dramatic.

It's not flashy.

It's the gentle, relational bridge Jesus often uses to soften the soil of a heart.

**And as that soil softens,  
it prepares the way  
for One Story.**

**Quick Table Discussion:** “Think about your ‘one.’ In one word, what kind of conversation do they need right now? And why do you think that?”

#### 4. **Workshop Roadmap**

Now that we've seen **why conversation matters**.

Here's where we're going today.

One Conversation is not a technique or script.

It's not a "perfect way to say it."

It's a way of living with people — Jesus' way.

It's a simple, relational posture.

Today, we'll learn One conversation through **three movements** —  
Jesus modeled again and again in His interactions with people:

1. **Notice**
2. **Listen**
3. **Cultivate**

Each step builds on the one before it.

By the end of today's workshop,  
You'll walk away with a simple, Spirit-led framework you can actually use in real  
life.

at school  
at practice  
at lunch  
in your group chats  
at home

Not complicated. Not fake. Just faithful.

One Prayer.  
One Conversation.  
One Faithful step at a time.

## 5. **Part 1: Notice — Becoming Aware of the Soil**

Let's begin with this simple truth:

**Outreach doesn't start with speaking. It starts with noticing.**

- Matthew 9:36 says, "When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

Jesus didn't just see a crowd.

He saw **people**.

**Before Jesus spoke — He noticed.**

### **Noticing the Soil**

Jesus consistently noticed what others missed.

He saw the weary crowds and felt compassion.

He noticed Zacchaeus hiding in a tree.

He stopped for the bleeding woman in the middle of a pressing crowd.

Others saw interruptions.

Jesus noticed people.

In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus teaches that the "soil" represents the condition of a person's heart.

So when we talk about "noticing the soil," we are simply paying attention to what may be happening beneath the surface — **Without assuming, labeling, or diagnosing.**

We might ask ourselves:

- Are they open or guarded?
- Are they hurting?
- Are they overwhelmed?
- Are they curious about faith?

Sometimes God is already doing something quietly in their heart.

We are not judging the soil. We are simply noticing and responding with compassion.

### **What Notice Looks Like in Everyday Life**

Noticing happens right where you already live.

- **At school**

A friend seems quieter than usual. Instead of ignoring it, you say, “Hey—are you doing ok?”

- **On our team**

someone looks frustrated or discouraged.  
You respond with patience instead of frustration.

- **With friends**

Someone jokes about something painful.  
Instead of laughing it off, you notice there may be something deeper going on.

Noticing isn't complicated.

It's learning to see people the way Jesus does.

## The Story of Trader Joe's — Transactional vs. Relational

Have you ever been to Trader Joe's?

Have you noticed how different it feels from other stores?

When you talk in:

- People make eye contact
- They smile
- They ask how your day is going.

If you can't find something, they don't just point.

They say, "Oh! Let me show you!"

And then walk with you.

**Sometimes I feel like I've made a new friend just trying to buy bananas.**

Sometimes employees in other stores are just focused on:

- scanning items
- stocking shelves
- moving quickly

They aren't being rude.

They're just **focused on the task**.

One experience feels **transactional**.

The other feels **relational**.

And that's the difference.

Outreach isn't about **treating people like tasks**.

It's about **noticing people**.

When people feel seen, they open up.

When they feel rushed, they shut down.

Jesus never moved too quickly to notice people.

## How do we grow in noticing?

Here are a few small habits:

- **Slow your pace** — take one extra breath before engaging.
- **Pay attention to the heart** — emotions, frustration, openness, fatigue.
- **Stay interruptible** — some of God's best moments aren't planned.

If we are rushing, we miss it.

If we slow down, we begin to see.

## Table Discussion #1

Take a moment and think about the one person you've been praying for.

As you've been praying for your one, what have you noticed recently about their life or heart?

Just name what you're seeing.

Sometimes noticing is the first evidence that prayer is working.

## 6. Part 2: Listen — Understanding the Soil

### 1. What does It Mean to Listen?

“James 1:19 says, “let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;”

Listening is not a small skill.

Listening is one of the most **Christlike ways we can care for others.**

Think about Jesus on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24.

He could have interrupted the disciples immediately.

**He could have said,  
“Don’t you see? I’ve risen!”**

But He didn’t.

He walked beside them.

He listened to their confusion.

He listened to their sadness.

He listened to their lost hope.

Only after He listens. He begins to speak truth.

That is powerful.

**Listening is love.**

Listening is a practical expression of patient love.

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.  
**It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking,** (1 Corinthians 13:4-5)

It communicates:

- “You matter more than my opinion.”
- “I care about your story.”
- “I’m not here to win. I’m here to understand.”

In a noisy world, **unhurried listening stands out.**

When someone listens without fixing, judging, or rushing—it feels different.

It makes people wonder,  
“Why do you care so much?”

And sometimes, that curiosity becomes the doorway to spiritual openness.

### **Listening Helps You Better Understand the Soil.**

When you listen well, you begin to understand the soil — the condition of someone’s heart.

As you ask gentle questions and listen with compassion, you begin to hear:

- What they fear
- What they hope for
- What weighs on their heart
- What wounds they carry
- What they believe about God and themselves
- Where they might be spiritually open

You are not listening to fix.

You are listening to discern where God may already be at work.

That changes everything.

**We are not bringing God into the conversation.**

**We are discovering where He has already been working.**

### **Listening always starts small.**

Before we think about big, life-changing questions, remember this:

Listening always starts small.

It happens in ordinary moments.

- The coworker who quietly sighs.
- The neighbor who looks worn down.
- The friend who casually says, “It’s been a tough week.”

These small interactions train our hearts to understand the soil.

And sometimes, a simple question opens a surprising door.

## **The Story of the Bathtub Drain Tool** *What Happens When We Don't Feel Heard*

Let me share another story.

Recently, the crossbar in my bathtub drain was worn out. I watched a YouTube and thought,

“This looks simple. I can fix this.”

So, I went to a hardware store and asked an employee where I could find a bathtub drain tool. I began explaining that I had watched a YouTube video.

But halfway through my explanation, he cut me off.

“He fixed my thought quickly and gave the solution. He treated me like I don't know anything about it.

Maybe he was right.  
He has many experience.

But in that moment, I didn't feel helped. I was so discouraged.

And it made me think:

How sometimes we do the same thing in our conversations?

- Before we fully understand, we jump in to fix.
- Before we listen, we correct.
- Before we hear the whole story, we give answer.

Correction without listening feels like rejection.

That's why listening is love.

And when people feel heard, the soil begins to soften.

Now we jump into the **table discussion #2** (12 min).

**Read Luke 24:13–26 together and reflect**

“What stands out to you about how Jesus approached the disciples? What is one thing we can learn from His example?”

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### **Transition Back**

Noticing and listening are not just conversational skills.

They are spiritual practices.

They reflect the way Jesus loved people.

We slow down.

We listen well.

And we trust that God is already at work in the soil.

## 7. Part 3: Cultivate—Trusting God with the Soil.

### 1. What Does It Mean to Cultivate?

Throughout the Bible, we see cultivation in simple actions:

- **Sowing** seeds
- **Watering** patiently
- **Tending** carefully
- **Remaining** faithfully

**We can notice something here.**

None of these actions create life.  
They care for life.

That's why we can say:

**Cultivation is faithfully joining in what God is already doing.**

**It does not mean changing someone's heart.**

**It does not mean pulling out weeds by force.**

**It does not mean diagnosing, labeling, or pruning people ourselves.**

Only God can do that!

Jesus said, "...The Father is the gardener..." (John 15:1, NIV)

And Paul reminds us, "...but only God gives the growth..." (1 Corinthians 3:7)

God alone brings new life.

He is sovereign, powerful, and He is always at work.

So where do we fit?

Just a few verses later Paul says,

**"For we are God's fellow workers..." (1 Corinthians 3:9)**

What a mystery — and what a privilege.

God does not need us.

But in His grace, He invites us to join Him.

We are not starting something new.

We are stepping into something God has already begun.

He is already at work in your “one” quietly.  
Convincing. Stirring. Softening. Drawing.

You are already joining His work through One Prayer!

We sow.  
We water.  
We remain.

And we trust Him for the growth.

## 2. **Why Do We Cultivate?**

“...because Christ first loved us.” (1 John 4:19)

Before you came to know Christ, think about your own story.

God was patient with you.  
God pursued you.  
God stayed with you — even when you were slow to understand, slow to respond.

He did not rush you.  
He did not force you.  
He walked with you patiently.

So now, we reflect that same love with patient toward our “one.”

We stay.  
We pray.  
We love.

We don't rush them.  
We don't force them.  
We walk with them patiently.

We trust God with the growth.

That is cultivation.

### 3. **Cultivation Is Walking With, Not Working On**

Cultivation is not something we do to people.  
It is not a project to manage or a problem to solve.

It is walking with people — not working on them.

We do not fix them.  
We do not pressure them.  
We do not measure their progress.

Instead,  
We pray for them.  
We notice them  
We listen to them.  
We care for them.

**We celebrate with them in joy.**  
**We grieve with them in sorrow.**

Romans 12:15 says, “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”

We choose to love them where they are —  
not where we wish they were.

We walk with them.  
We stand beside them.  
And as we remain present,  
God works in ways we cannot see.

That is cultivation.

### 4. **Cultivation requires patience.**

Farmers do not plant on Monday and harvest on Friday.

Sometimes we plant.  
Sometimes we water.  
I panted, Apollos watered, **but God gave the growth** (1 Corinthians 3:6)

Sometimes the most spiritual thing we can do is:

- Keep praying
- Keep showing up
- Keep loving

Because the Father is the Gardener.  
And He never stops working beneath the surface.

## 5. Practical Ways to Cultivate Every Season of the Soil

- **Ask Thoughtful Questions**

One of the most common challenges I hear about outreach is this:

“It’s hard to come up with meaningful questions.”

We feel pressure to ask something deep.  
Something impressive.  
Something spiritual.

But here’s what I’ve learned:

Don’t try so hard to create the perfect question.

If you are praying for that person daily...  
If you are spending time with them...  
If you are listening with genuine curiosity...

Meaningful questions will come naturally.

The real key is your attention and listening through your prayerful mind.

Good listening naturally leads to gentle, thoughtful questions.

Jesus was the Master of asking questions.

He didn’t rush to give answers.  
He asked questions that opened hearts:

“What do you want Me to do for you?” (Mark 10:51)

“Do you want to get well?” (John 5:6)

“Do you love Me?” (John 21:17)

His questions created space.  
They allowed people to respond freely.

He wasn't trapping people.  
He was inviting them.

That's our model.

Instead of trying to steer the conversation somewhere,  
we simply create space.

We ask simple, honest, reflective questions like:

"How have you been doing lately?"

"What has that been like for you?"

"How did that make you feel?"

"What do you think that meant for you?"

We are not digging.

We are not pushing.

We are not forcing.

There are no right or wrong answers.

We are simply making space.

**These kind of questions help people process their thoughts,  
put their feelings into words,  
and reflect on what it meant for them.**

**And in that space,  
God often begins to work.**

- **Share Small Pieces of Your Story**

Not a sermon.

Not a full testimony.

Just a sentence — offered gently.

My "one" is Benjamin. He's 19 and walking through a winter season — discouragement, confusion, uncertainty.

When I spoke with Benjamin, I didn't try

I simply said:

"There was a time when I felt lost too. But later, I saw God was strengthening me through the season."

I didn't explain everything.  
I didn't draw conclusions for him.

I simply bore witness.

In John 9:25, the healed blinded man says,  
"One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

Simple.  
Personal.  
Not complicated.

He didn't explain everything.  
He shared one sentence.

We quietly testify to what God has done for us.

The Spirit uses what He chooses.

- **Respond to Life Moments**

Life is not so easy. Life naturally creates opportunities.

- Loss.
- Illness.
- job change.
- Celebration
- Transitions.

These moments often soften people in ways we cannot manufacture.

Jesus modeled this kind of presence.

On the road to Emmaus, in the middle of confusion and disappointment,  
"...Jesus himself drew near and went with them." (Luke 24:15)

He didn't interrupt.  
He didn't correct immediately.  
He walked with them.

So, we respond with faithful presence:

- Remember details about their life.

- Follow up on what they shared.
- Show up in difficult seasons.
- Celebrate small joys with them.
- Stay, even when spiritual conversations stall.

We do not force spiritual depth.

We simply pay attention.

**“I’m here.”**

**“How can I pray for you?”**

We remain steady.

God moves as He wills.

### **Table Discussion #3 (8 min)**

**“What relational actions and steps could you take these coming weeks?”**

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Cultivation is where genuine relationship begins to deepen and where faith quietly starts to take root.

## 8. Final Wrap-up

“As we close today, let’s remember the simple journey of **One Conversation**.

It begins with:

**Notice** — becoming aware of the soil.

We pay attention. We see people the way Jesus sees them.

**Listen** — understanding the soil.

We slow down. We make space. We seek to understand before we speak.

**Cultivate** — Trusting God with the Soil

We build trust. We ask thoughtful questions. We care patiently and consistently.

But remember this:

**We are not responsible for the growth.**

**We are responsible for faithful presence.**

God gives the growth.

So as we step into this week,  
let’s carry open eyes,  
open ears,  
and open hearts —

trusting that the Spirit is already preparing conversations before we ever say a word.”

## **A Word of Encouragement for You!**

“Before we finish, let me say something clearly.

Jesus did not choose impressive people.

He chose fishermen.

Tax collectors.

Ordinary men and women.

Acts 4:13 says the leaders were astonished because Peter and John were ‘unschooled, ordinary men.’

What made them effective was not skill.

Not eloquence.

Not education.

It was their closeness to Jesus.

And that is incredibly freeing for us.

Because noticing does not require expertise.

It requires presence.

One Conversation is not about having the perfect words.

It is about being present.

Attentive.

Available.

God works through ordinary people  
who simply show up with compassion.

And that is something every one of us can do.

That’s what THREE ONES is all about.

It’s simple.

It’s doable.

It’s relational.

Thank you for being here.

“May the Lord guide your conversations this week  
and make them fruitful for His glory.”