

3Thirds Discipleship Training Tools

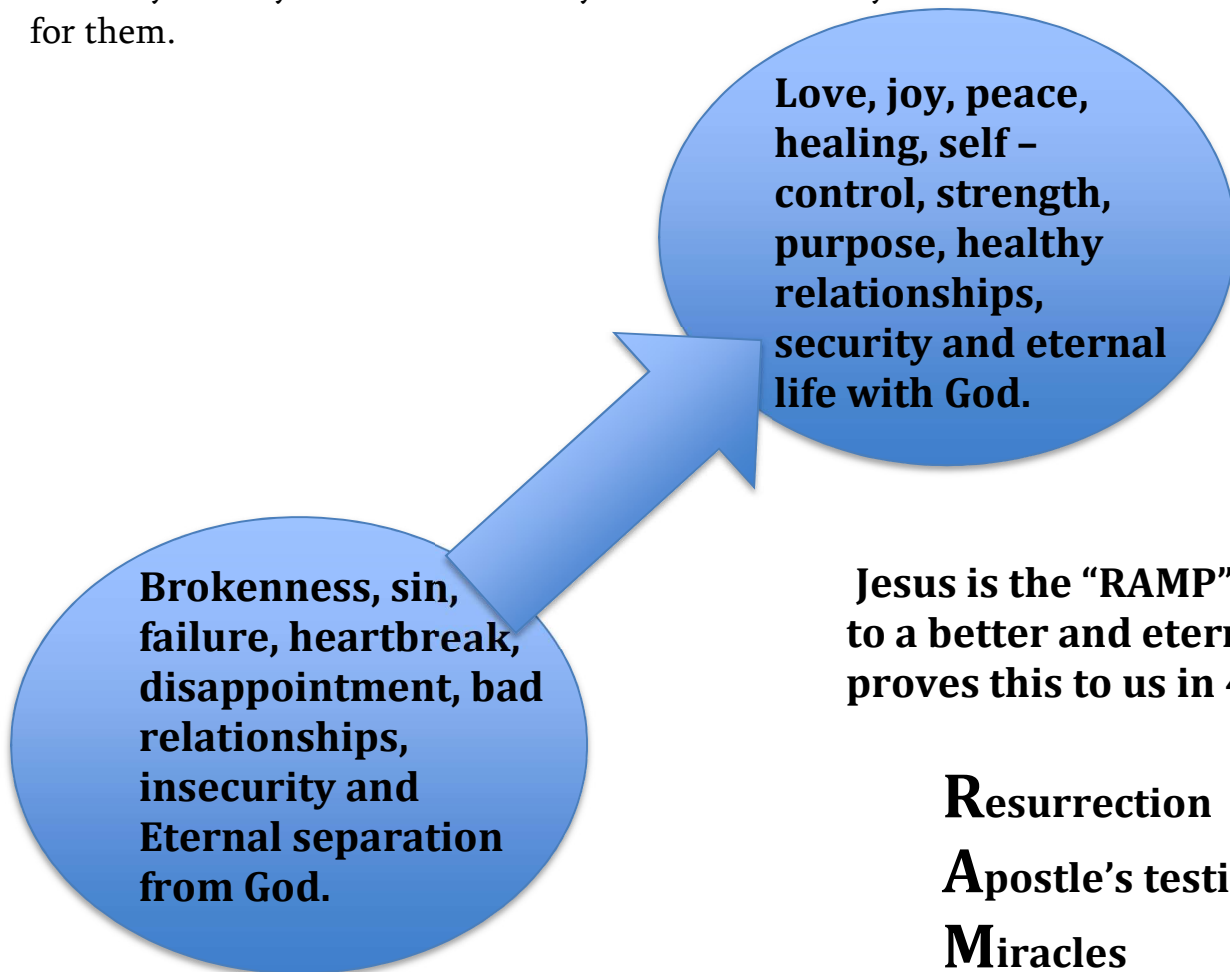
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The RAMP

The idea for the RAMP come from **1 Cor 15:1-8** where Paul lays out his Gospel clearly and simply. Please turn there and read that passage.

The idea of the RAMP is to prove to people that Jesus is the one who can take us from lives of brokenness and sin into lives of love, forgiveness and peace. And God gives us 4 irrefutable truths that prove that He is the One who can do that. You just need to remember the “RAMP”.

Each letter of the word “ramp” stands for one of the proofs. You can share these with anyone anywhere. And if they have more time, you can even draw this out for them.



Jesus is the “RAMP” or the way to a better and eternal life. God proves this to us in 4 ways...

Resurrection

Apostle’s testimony

Miracles

Prophecy

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The “RAMP” to an abundant eternal life in more detail...

God does not ask anyone to believe on “blind faith”, but rather He gives us compelling proofs, proofs that are historical and irrefutable. This sheet is simply for reference. Don’t try to memorize all this – but do memorize the “RAMP”. The following will lay out more of the process and will summarize some things you’ll probably want to say.

Start by asking something like: “Do you consider yourself a spiritual person?” Or “Can you tell me about your spiritual background?” Or “Do you have a church you enjoy attending?”

Then listen to their story.

Then ask something like, “Can I tell you about why I follow Jesus?” Or “can I share what I’ve discovered?”

If they say “no” or “I’m not interested” then the conversation ends; but invariably they say “yes.”

Then you’ll say something like, “I’ve become a follower of Jesus, and I did this because God has given all of humanity 4 irrefutable reasons for doing so.”

1. First, God raised Jesus from the dead, this is called the...

Resurrection. (1 Cor 15:1 – 8. “Christ died *for our sins*... and was resurrected...”)

Some key points:

- Jesus walked the earth and did good to all.
- Although Jesus never sinned, corrupt political leaders and corrupt religious leaders were jealous of Him and they conspired to put him death
- God allowed this to happen because He was not dying for His own sins, but rather as a sacrifice for our sins.
- God showed His approval of Jesus’ sacrifice by raising Him from the dead.

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- Jesus was seen by 100's of people as having been resurrected.
- The Jewish leaders tried to discredit the story immediately but they could not produce the body. It was not in the tomb. He has risen!

2. Transition: “Now we know this is true because of the eyewitness testimony of the men and woman who had seen Him raised from the dead. This is called the...”

Apostle's testimony. (Acts 10:40-41; 1 Jn 1:1-3; Luke 1:1-2; Heb 2:3-4)

Some key facts:

- These eyewitnesses were people who lived and walked with Him, men like Matthew, John, Peter, James, etc.
- These same corrupt leaders came to these men and threatened them with imprisonment, beatings and death. But these men would not be silenced. They were willing to die for their testimony.
- These men and their followers wrote down wrote their testimony and this became the New Testament.
- Our religion is not based on a philosophy or the religious experience of a charismatic leader, but rather upon the eyewitness testimony of men who gave their lives, who were killed for saying that He rose, but even so, would not deny Him or retract their testimony.

Here are some Scriptures for your own study – you don't need to share these – but if time permits feel free to.

Acts 10:38-42 (NASB95)

- 38 “*You know of* Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and *how* He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.
- 39 “We are **witnesses of all the things He did both** in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross.
- 40 “**God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible,**
- 41 **not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is,** to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.

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- 42 “And He ordered us to preach to the people, and ***solemnly to testify*** that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead.

1 John 1:1-3 (NASB95)

- 1 What was from the beginning, ***what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—***
- 2 and the life was manifested, and ***we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life***, which was with the Father and was manifested to us—
- 3 ***what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also***, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

Luke 1:1-2 (NASB95)

- 1 Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us,
- 2 ***just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses*** and servants of the word,

Hebrews 2:3-4 (NIV)

- 3 how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? ***This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.***
- 4 God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

3. Transition: “These men not only testified about the resurrection but also about Jesus’ miraculous ministry. Jesus did many signs and wonders and “

Miracles.

These miracles demonstrate irrefutably that He is the Son of God and the Lord of all. All through the Gospels – miracle after miracle – if they were all written down, not all the books in the world could contain them.

Here’s just a few of them...

- Jesus walks on water.
- He calms the storms.
- Jesus opens the eyes of the blind.
- Jesus opens the ears of the deaf.

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- He feeds thousands of hungry people with just some fish and some loaves.
- He heals leprous people.
- He casts out demons.
- He raises the dead.

These miraculous signs show God's approval of Jesus and His message. Only God can raise the dead!

Here are some Scriptures for your own study – you don't need to share these – but if time permits feel free to.

- Mat 8:1-3 Jesus heals a leper.
- Mat 8:5-13 Jesus heals a Roman Centurions servant.
- Mat 8:23-27 Jesus calms a storm.
- Mat 9:1-2 Jesus heals a paralytic.
- Mat 9:19-29 Jesus heals a woman with a hemorrhage, raises a dead girl to life and heals two blind men.

4. Transition: "And if all that weren't enough, there is..."

Prophecy.

There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament, written 100's of years before the coming of Jesus that covered almost every aspect of Jesus' life and ministry. Jesus fulfilled all of them.

Here are just a few...

- Would be born of a virgin. Isaiah 7:14.
- Would be "God with us". Isaiah 7:14
- Would be born in Bethlehem. Micah 5:2.
- Would be a descendent of Abraham. Gen 12:3.
- Would be a descendant of Isaac. Gen 17:19
- Would be a descendant of Judah. Gen 49:10
- Would be a descendant of King David 2 Sam 7:12-13.
- That He would die for our sins as a servant. Isaiah 53.
- That He'd be raised from the dead. Psalm 16:10.
- That He'd ascend into heaven. Dan 7:13-14.

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Only God can foretell the future. The fulfillment of all these prophecies demonstrates irrefutably that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God and the Lord of all.

Question: "Would you like to follow Jesus?"

Or "Would you like to learn more about following Jesus?"

Or "Do you have time to take a closer look at what the Bible says about Jesus?"