THE MAIN THING
Talk about the thresholds people go through on their journey to discovering a relationship with Jesus. Help your disciple consider where their friends are today, and how they can help them take the next step toward Jesus.

Q: What are your barriers to journeying with someone?

Q: Why do you desire to help people journey toward Jesus?

Looking at it in terms of these five thresholds can be a helpful way of thinking about our friends who don’t know Jesus (the idea of thresholds is taken from the book I Once was Lost written by Don Everts and Doug Schaupp).

▼ 1 – Trusting a Christian
This is when someone goes from thinking of their stereotypes of what a Christian is to thinking of a person (you). It is them knowing a Christian personally and trusting them.

▼ 2 – Becoming curious about Christianity
This is when you see a shift within your friend from being complacent to being curious about the way you live, the big questions in life, and God/Jesus/Christianity.

▼ 3 – Becoming open to change
This is when your friend goes from an external interest in what others believe, to an internal interest – they see their own personal need for change and start looking for what will give that to them.

▼ 4 – From meandering to seeking God
Meandering may look like interest in Christianity, but also exploring many other avenues that are promising change. Crossing this threshold means going from being just intrigued by Christ to actively pursuing Him with purpose.
5 – Making a decision to follow Jesus
The final threshold represents the process a friend goes through to make a decision about whether they will accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

Q: For each threshold, let’s brainstorm how you could recognize if someone is at this point?
A: Look at the chart at the end of this conversation for ideas.

Tip: At the top of a piece of paper, write down what they say about how to recognize each threshold. This may be a review for them, so you can move through this part quickly and spend more time talking about their friends.

Q: Name five friends that you’ve been praying would come to Christ. At which threshold would you place each of those friends?

Tip: Draw the following chart on your page and list the names and threshold each friend is at.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
<th>When I’ll do this</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Tip: The number of friends on this list is not as important as the fact that your disciples are journeying with people. If they don’t have anyone to put on this list, help them think of action steps they can take to begin journeying with others. (Do evangelism with them to meet people on campus, have them talk to a classmate this week, or ask an acquaintance to study, have lunch, etc.)

Q: How do you know they are at this threshold?

Q: What are specific things you can do to help them move forward?

Q: What are things I should avoid doing that could hinder them from moving forward?

Some things to remember:
- Pray for your friends at each step of the way!
- You can share the gospel at any point throughout – they’ll probably need to hear it many times and in different ways.
- Don’t assume that everyone is starting at threshold one.

Let’s pray for each one of our friends before we finish up today.

Tip: If you haven’t already shared about friends you are journeying with, share about them before you pray together.

APPLICATION AND ACTION

Write out when you’ll take action with each one of these friends. Aim to initiate with at least one of them in the next week.

HOW DID IT GO?

Discipler give your feedback at p2c.sh/leaderfeedback, then email/text your disciple this other link so they can give us their feedback too, p2c.sh/disciplefeedback.
## POSSIBLE ANSWERS FOR RECOGNIZING AND MOVING FORWARD FROM EACH THRESHOLD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threshold</th>
<th>Evidence they’re at this threshold: They are...</th>
<th>How can you help them move forward?</th>
<th>What ways might I hinder them?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 - Trust a Christian | - enjoying spending time together  
- being honest with you  
- sharing about their life with you  
- asking your opinions or advice  
- asking deeper questions | - vulnerability and honesty about your life  
- time together and sharing life  
- concern about them as a whole person  
- make sure they know you are a Christian  
- establish common ground  
- share the role that faith plays in your life | - judging  
- dishonesty, gossip, mocking  
- defensiveness  
- no personal interest in them  
- lecture mode |
| 2 – Become curious about Christianity | - telling you you’re safe  
- asking you for advice or clarification  
- asking questions about about deeper topics, cravings, meaning, purpose, etc.  
- asking why you believe what you do, or what you believe about certain things | - ask thought-provoking questions specific to them  
- tell them your story  
- live curiously, as you live out your faith in the world  
- invite them to experience Christian community | - addressing only intellectual barriers, not heart level issues  
- oversimplifying your answers  
- not engaging their questions  
- being smug, with a sense of superiority when you interact with them |
| 3 – Become open to change | - starting to question their own worldview or beliefs  
- recognizing brokenness in their life  
- uncertainty about having things figured out  
- identifying a personal need for change | - gently point out holes in their beliefs  
- share personal stories  
- show their idols: money, success, etc. and how they ultimately won't satisfy  
- help them connect their felt problems to the root issue (sin and brokenness) | - same as above  
- asking them to change their behaviours without their heart being changed |
| 4 – Seek God | - willing to figure it out  
- willing to read the Bible with you  
- participating in Christian activities  
- asking specifically about Jesus | - explicitly share the gospel  
- challenge them to seek God  
- invite them to a discussion group  
- start or continue them on a process of exploring Christianity (Alpha group, Bible study, etc.)  
- share your testimony  
- challenge them to begin praying | - not prioritizing building the relationship  
- having a good conversation but not following up with them later on  
- failure to prioritize or make a plan |
| 5 – Make a decision to follow Jesus | - able to communicate the gospel back to you  
- understanding grace  
- asking questions  
- aware they need to respond  
- reading the Bible  
- counting the cost  
- talking about God as a person, not a concept | - invite them to make a decision!  
- encourage them that they don’t need all the answers first (faith)  
- pray with them  
- share how you gave your life to Christ | - not asking them for a decision, assume they’ll know what to do on their own  
- always asking for a decision, over and over again |