

The logo features a stylized grey silhouette of a person standing at a podium with a microphone. Below the podium, the words "Talk Outline" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Talk Outline

Lighting the Way

Assigned To:

Lay Person



Let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors,
for we are members of one another.

Ephesians 4:25

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

Lighting the Way

Lay Talk

20 minutes plus 10 minute Demonstration

OBJECTIVE: To remind the participants that the joy of the weekend will not automatically continue with them. It will take a conscious choice to stay close to Christ, and the Prayer and Share fellowship is Kairos' method of helping us continue to walk in the Light of Christ.

PREPARATIONS: During this talk, the speaker will invite two team members to come forward and conduct a "demonstration" of a section of a Prayer and Share experience. It is critical that the speaker select these persons in advance, with their understanding of what is expected of them. They **MUST** be persons who are actively involved in their own weekly Reunion Group, and they must have the spirit that this on-going grouping is a key element to their staying on "the Path."

Further, these volunteers should understand the nature of the Share and Prayer environment at the particular institution. If the institution supports the formal, weekly grouping format for the Share and Prayer fellowshiping, then their demonstration should be structured to illustrate that format (seated in a circle, and focused use of the Grouping Card).

However, if the institution does not allow the structured grouping weekly meeting, then the demonstration should be more informally oriented to participants conducting the Share and Prayer fellowship, say, in the prison yard (standing up, less focus on the Grouping Card).

At the appropriate time during the talk, the speaker will call the two team members forward. Plans should have been made so that the placement of their chairs (if used) has been worked out, along with proper placement of microphones.

The "demonstration" should be limited to 10 minutes, with each person taking no more than 5 minutes. Each one should offer their response to the following question from the Kairos Grouping Card - they should have been provided a

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

Grouping Card in advance.

Person 1 - Share a moment when you have known that Christ's presence was with you. (Closest to Christ moment).

Person 2 - Has there been a time where it has been difficult to show Christ's love for another person? (Discipleship Denied).

It is very important that the demonstration be oriented to establish the orientation that the Prayer and Share fellowship is very important even in institutions where the organized, weekly Grouping is not allowed.

PRAYER: Kairos Community Prayer, page 11, Freedom Guide

TALK: *Begin with the following word story:*

Imagine this scene with me. You're in a small fishing boat with a few friends out for a good night of ocean fishing - not too far from shore. There's no moon. It's overcast. It's really dark all around, but you're having a great time with your friends.

As the night wears on, the wind changes and really starts picking up. It starts raining. The wind starts howling. The waves are getting higher. You start the motor to head back, but it's so dark and the wind and waves have you all turned around.

Where? Where do I head for shelter and safety? You're confused about where to go - you know where you want to end up, but how do you get there?

Then, there it is! A light! A light shining in the distance - a beacon. It's the bright search light from a lighthouse that is built on a big rock at the entrance to a safe harbor. That's what you're looking for - that light that you can trust to guide you to safe harbor. Now, even in the dark and stormy night, you know where to steer.

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

My brothers (sisters), that is not just a nice story, but it describes the nature of our journey into tomorrow. You know where you want to end up - in the safe harbor of the Body of Christ with Jesus. But the world around you is a dark and stormy place. There are so many distractions. So much confusion. So much hate and anger. So much disappointment. In the midst of all of this, HOW DO I STEER TO JESUS?

a. Remember that God never withdraws His love from us.

Read Romans 8:38-39

b. We are the ones who may choose to withdraw from the loving relationship with God. We do that by our conscious choices.

Remember the Choices talk that started our discussions back at the beginning of Friday? We can choose where we steer our boat.

c. The Christian life requires balance.

Think of a 3-legged stool. You can't have a balanced stool with only 1 or two legs under it. And neither can your Christian life. It takes three legs to balance a stool. It also takes 3 legs, or pillars to under gird our Christian journey. Let's remind ourselves of those 3 legs:

1. First is Spirituality. You have to have an honest, real prayer and meditation life. You have to spend time with God in order to have a relationship with Him.

2. The second leg of the Christian life is the ongoing discovery of Jesus. The foundation of this is our study in scripture of His life, His teaching, and His will for us. Take advantage of study programs that are offered by the Chaplain's office.

3. The third leg is Christian Action.

As you learned in the Action talk, we are to be Christ's hands and feet in a hurting world. Christ expects us to take our love for Him and share it with others.

As you go forward, and particularly if you feel like you are drifting in the

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

boat, ask yourself, honestly, “Have I lost my balance?”

d. Participate in the monthly Kairos Reunions. The team comes back and joins you and the rest of the Kairos Community.....

e. Make the ongoing Kairos Prayer and Share fellowship part of your life. I can't emphasize enough how important I've found this to be in my own Christian journey.

[Speaker shares personal testimony about specifically how their own weekly Reunion Group has made a difference in the depth of their Christian journey.]

Next Saturday [confirm in advance this date] the Team will meet with you to go over exactly what a Prayer and Share fellowship is and how it works. But, to give you a sense of what happens, I'm going to ask two Team members to come forward and give us an actual example of what happens.

[Speaker invites the two Team members that they had previously made arrangements with to come forward and demonstrate how they would interact in a Prayer and Share fellowship. The format that they should use should be appropriate for what the institution allows.]

[After the Prayer and Share Fellowship demonstration]

As much as this Kairos Weekend may have meant to you, believe me when I say **that it will fade away into a distant memory unless you make a conscious choice to involve yourself in a Prayer and Share fellowship.**

This weekend is NOT Kairos - it is only the doorway to the heart of Kairos. The heart of Kairos is the ongoing Prayer and Share time of Christian fellowship with each other. It is not about your relationship with us, the Team. It is about you and your family members helping each other see the Light in the midst of all

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

the dark obstacles you will face.

What obstacles are there? Some are obvious to us all. Things like:

1. Old Habits

Just because you have been here this Weekend, don't expect that everything will be different. You will need to spend more time in study and prayer and Christian fellowship. Old habits may get in the way of establishing new habits.

Perhaps some of these "old habits" involve behaviors that need to be walked away from in favor of the Christian life. Some of us may be involved in:

- Pornography
- Gambling
- Gossiping
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Racism

Seek the help and support of Christian community to help you restructure your life to replace improper old habits with new habits of the faith.

Another obstacle is...

2. Peer Pressure

Some people will not like the fact that you are trying to change the focus of your life. Some people will just want you to go back to being like you always have been.

3. Busy-ness

One of the great tools that Satan uses is to get us busy. Even busy for the Church! We get so busy DOING that we don't have time

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

for BEING! We have to take time for God - not to just do things for Him, but to get to know Him. To share our hopes and disappointments with this most important of all friends.

Some obstacles to our deepening faith are not so obvious and I want to talk about a couple. I hope that when you see these situations come up, you might recall my words today and realize that the real issue is what Choice do you make in response to those situations.

I want you to write these down so you might remember them.

a. People who act differently around Kairos volunteers

It will happen. You begin to observe that some of your Christian brothers (sisters) act “good” when the Kairos Team is here, but they act like they always have the rest of the time. It bothers you - a lot! In fact, it may begin to bother you so much that you don’t want to be around them, and since they are in Kairos, you decide to stop coming to Kairos events.

Here is the spiritual issue. Satan would love nothing more than to get YOU off track. He has discovered that he can pull you away from trying to follow the Light by getting you to begin to focus on the failings of others! He’s learned that when you focus on other people’s failing, you are taking your focus off of Jesus, and from Satan’s perspective, he’s winning the battle with you by pulling you away from the disciplining environment of Kairos.

Don’t let Satan win! Realize when you start feeling like complaining about another’s failings, you have your focus on the wrong thing. You can defeat Satan’s focus on you by praying for the other person rather than criticizing them.

b. People who try to control others in Kairos

Kairos encourages the Chaplain to establish an inside council to help deal with the details of logistical coordination inside the institution. Over time, some people start to feel like the ones who

Talk Outline



Lighting the Way

Lay Person

have been appointed (or elected) to leadership are taking advantage of it. You may feel like they are trying to take ownership of Kairos for themselves.

This is a similar obstacle to the previous problem. Where have we placed our focus? We've taken our focus off Christ and have moved it to the problem of these other people.

I urge you not to let these distractions divert you from the real issue. Each of us desperately needs the redeeming forgiveness of Jesus, and a loving relationship with Him. All of us - even those who appear to pretend that they are walking with Christ. All of us - even those of us who are criticizing the other persons. **WE NEED TO BE IN FELLOWSHIP WITH EACH OTHER, TO HELP EACH OTHER OVERCOME OUR WEAKNESSES, AND TO ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER TO CONTINUE WALKING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST.**

Our ongoing journey **WILL** take us through dark and stormy times in this place and in life in general. Today, we **KNOW** Jesus is the answer. We **KNOW** the Body of Christ is **REAL**. We **KNOW** that we want to reside in the safe harbor of Christ's love. But it is so easy to get distracted and lost.

So, I want you to look for the Light to guide you on your journey to that safe harbor. In Kairos, that guiding Light comes from our choice to be part of a Prayer and Share family each week.

I now ask you to spend time in your family talking about "Are we really willing to help each other, and how can a weekly family meeting help us?"