



# **Links of our lives**

**Evangelizing the world  
one event at a time**



# Planting and watering

- Evangelism is most often a process
- *"I planted the seed. Apollos watered it, but God made it grow."* -- 1 Corinthians 3:6
- That's an understatement.
  - *"With many people today, you have to clear away some rocks and other debris, and you have to plow and plant and water and fertilize and pull weeds; and often you plant a second or third time and replicate the fertilizing before God gives the increase."* – George Hunter

# A team game

- Evangelization is usually a "team game."
  - *Most converts report that several people served as their bridges and helped them find The Way; seldom do they name only one person.*
  - *The process from a person's initial exposure to the gospel, to the point that he or she adopts it, takes time -- weeks, months, or years.*



- **Evangelism strategist George Hunter:**

- *Christian conversion typically results from a 'chain' of experiences.*
- *Each link in the chain matters. Our purpose in ministry at any given time is to provide one link in that chain.*





- **Evangelism strategist George Hunter:**

- *Number of significant experiences in that chain is typically about 30 links*
- *This varies from person to person, depending partly on how "far back" the process had to begin and the number and depth of the "issues" a person brings to the gospel encounter.*



# Four sources of links



- **God's own sovereign action**
  - *God orchestrates the whole chain so that people can come to faith.*
- **Specific gospel truths / Scripture verses**
  - *Converts often report not being able to get one or more texts or truths out of their minds.*
- **The compassion, ministry, witness, and character of believers**
- **The convert may be a very active agent in his or her own conversion.**

**What were  
the links  
in your life?**





**Isn't  
“presence evangelism”  
enough?**