

Module 04

Attracting Spiritual Interests



Poll the audience

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Sharing Christ drives a “virtuous cycle”



After decade of letting light shine, Adventist woman considers mentioning Jesus

By [SDuhA](#) May 31, 2016 [Christianity](#), [evangelism](#), [letting light shine](#), [living the sermon](#), [ministry](#), [religion](#), [talking the walk](#), [vegetarian](#), [walking the walk](#)



EAU CLAIRE, Mich. — Shyla DeMurr, a committed Seventh-day Adventist, has been practicing the “Living the Sermon” method of evangelism for well over a decade and thinks that she may have to talk the walk as well now.

After years of hearing about how Christians should behave, DeMurr decided to let her actions and deeds do the evangelizing for her. She prepared answers for the many questions she expected people to ask her when they noticed how peaceful, loving and non-addicted to drugs her lifestyle was. However, the flood of questions didn’t come.

“I always made sure to bring a vegetarian lunch with plenty of fruit to work,” said DeMurr. “But so many people are health-conscious nowadays that they hardly noticed. Actually, someone did say something about my Stripples the other day, but that was only to tell me that I should probably lay off on the overly processed, salty veggie meats.”

DeMurr also takes time each week to volunteer with organizations outside of her denomination. She makes sure she is kind, patient, loving and friendly. The only problem is that most of the volunteers are the same way.

“And some of them don’t even go to church!” said a very surprised DeMurr.

DeMurr lets all of her friends, family and acquaintances know that she won’t go out and do social activities from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset, but is flabbergasted that most people are respectful and quietly accepting of her decision. “They usually say, ‘Sure, no problem! Another time then!’” said DeMurr, sadly shaking her head.

Having spent most of her time steeling herself for insults, arguments and confrontations that might arise when people ask about her beliefs, DeMurr was wholly unprepared for the utter lack of curiosity.

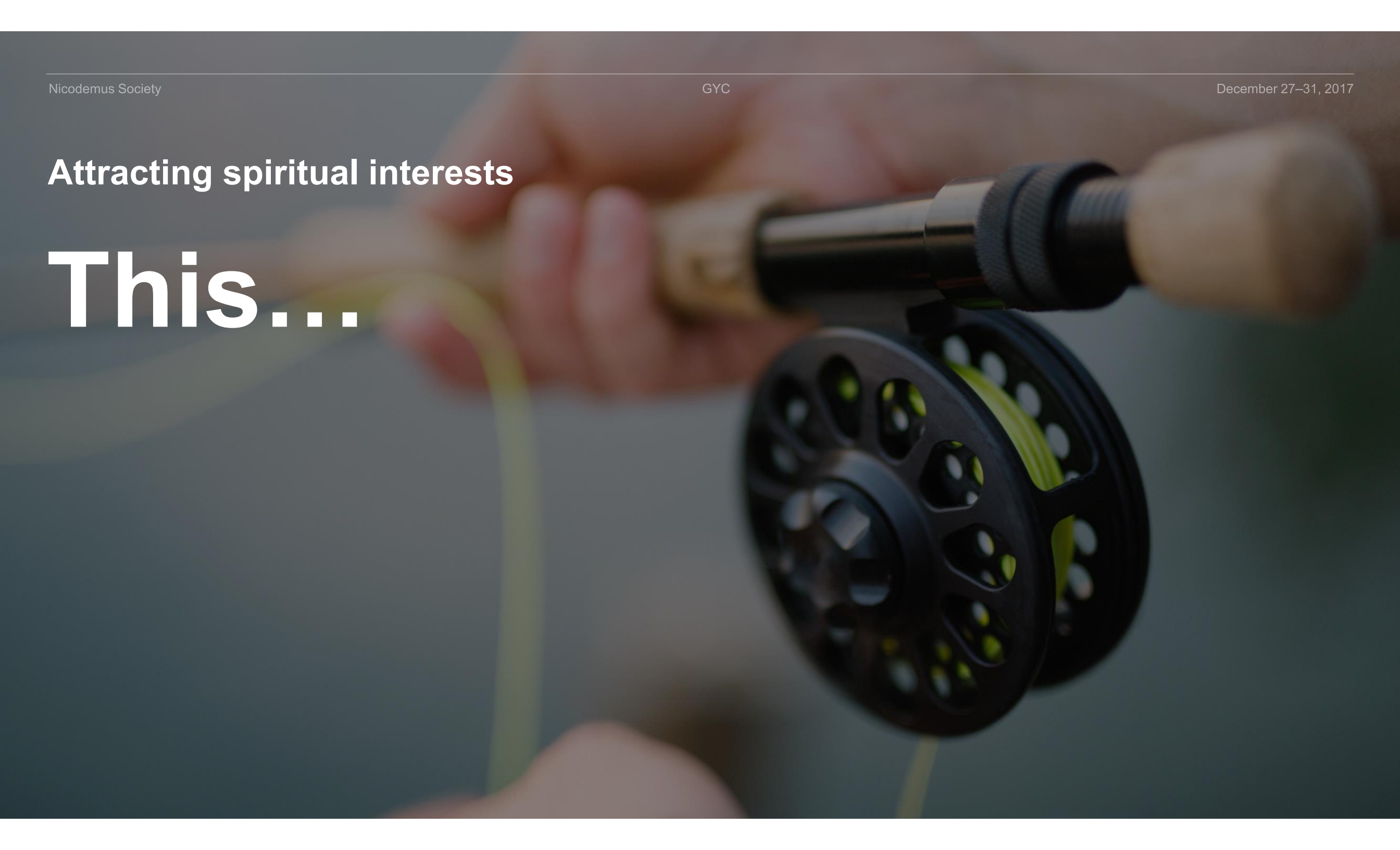
“It’s come to the point where people think it’s impolite to ask others about their religion,” complained DeMurr. “I might actually have to make an effort. Like, I think I might actually have to talk about Jesus with people instead of waiting for them to come up to me. Bummer.”

Attracting spiritual interests



Attracting spiritual interests

This...



Attracting spiritual interests

Not this!



Attracting spiritual interests

This...

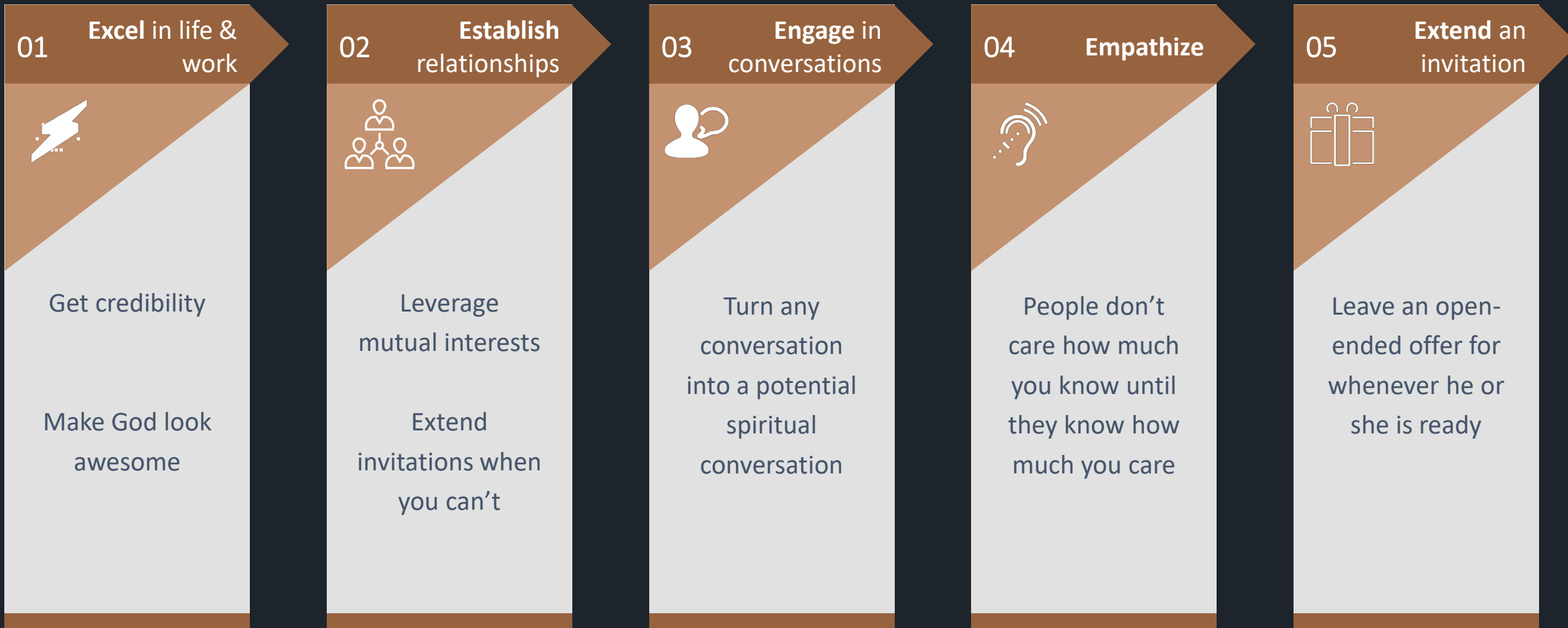


Attracting spiritual interests

Not this!



Attracting spiritual interests is an active, intentional process



Excel in life and work

01

Excel in life &
work



Get credibility

Make God look
awesome

***And whatever you do, do it heartily,
as to the Lord and not to men.***

Colossians 3:23

***Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.***

Matthew 5:16

Reaching W3s requires our best efforts to build credibility

Reaching W3s requires our best efforts to build credibility

2 SAT 41.3

But in order to do this all the workers will have to keep themselves up to a high level of intelligence. They cannot do this work and sink down to a low, common level, feeling that it does not much matter how they labor or what they say, since they are working for

Reaching W3s requires our best efforts to build credibility

2 SAT 41.3

the poor and ignorant classes. They will have to sharpen up, and be armed and equipped in order to present the truth intelligently and to reach the higher classes. Their minds must rise higher, and show greater strength and clearness.

10 things that require zero talent

- Being on time
- Work ethic
- Effort
- Body language
- Energy
- Attitude
- Passion
- Being coachable
- Doing extra
- Being prepared

Would your W3 friend want to be like you?

- Excellence in work/school
- Family life
- Health & fitness
- Hobbies & interests
- Temperament/personality
- Social/communication skills
- Spiritual/religious practice
- Other...

Would your W3 friend want to be like you?

**Is your life a credible
reflection of the
transformative power
of God**

Establish relationships

02

Establish
relationships



Leverage
mutual interests

Extend
invitations when
you can't

[Jesus] said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.”

Luke 19:5

Establish relationships

MH 25

02

Establish
relationships



Leverage
mutual interests

Extend
invitations when
you can't

While He ministered to the poor, Jesus **studied also to find ways of reaching the rich.** He sought the acquaintance of the wealthy and cultured Pharisee, the Jewish nobleman, and the Roman ruler.

Establish relationships

MH 25

02

Establish
relationships



Leverage
mutual interests

Extend
invitations when
you can't

He accepted their invitations, attended their feasts, made Himself familiar with their interests and occupations, that He might gain access to their hearts, and reveal to them the imperishable riches.

Engage in spiritual conversations

03

Engage in
conversations



Turn any
conversation
into a potential
spiritual
conversation

Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

John 4:10

Engage in spiritual conversations

MH 213

03

Engage in
conversations



Turn any
conversation
into a potential
spiritual
conversation

Some are **especially fitted to work for the higher classes.** These should seek wisdom from **God to know how to reach these persons, to have not merely a casual acquaintance with them,**

Engage in spiritual conversations

MH 213

03

Engage in
conversations

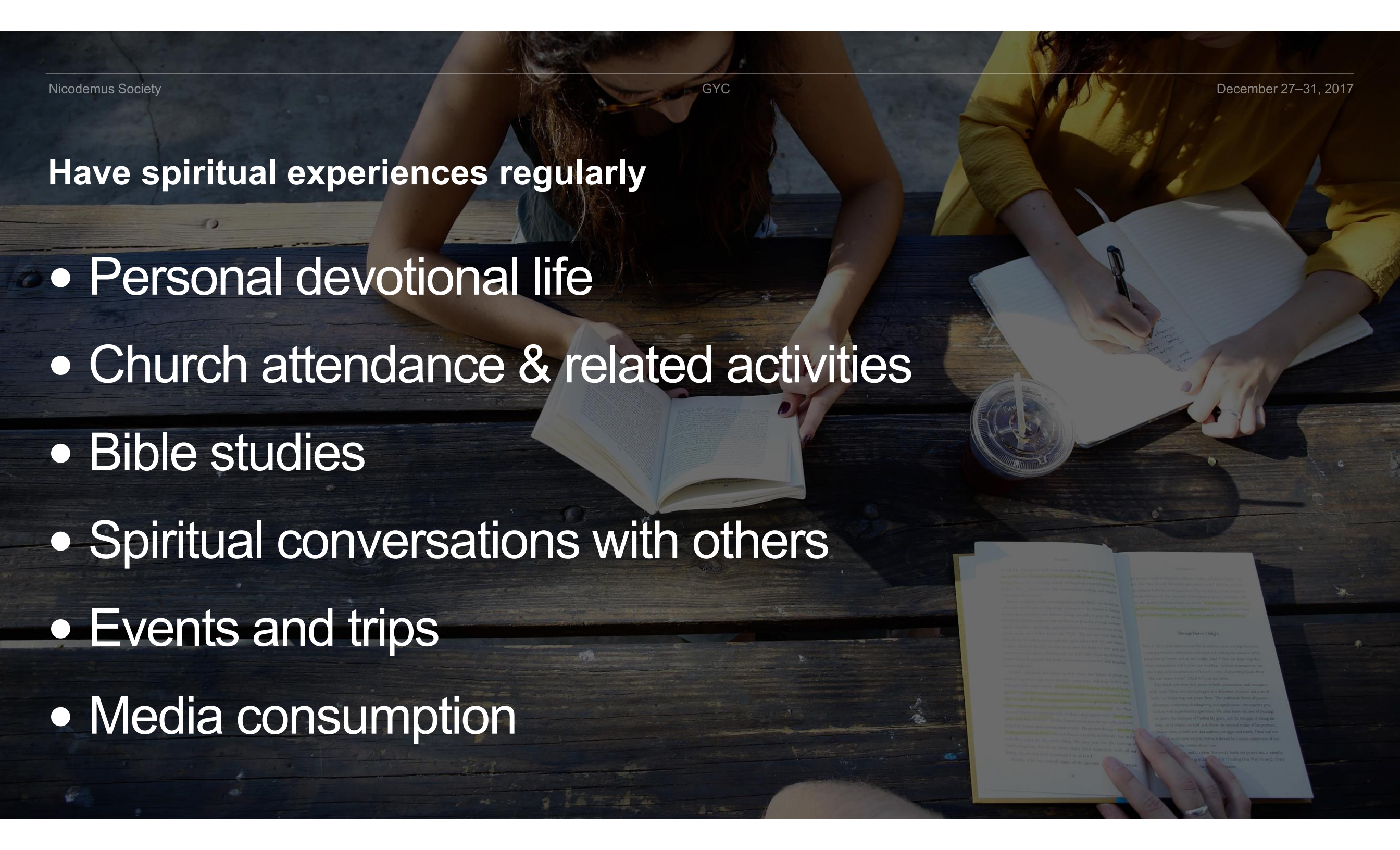


Turn any
conversation
into a potential
spiritual
conversation

but by personal effort and living faith to awaken them to the needs of the soul, to lead them to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.

Have spiritual experiences regularly

- Personal devotional life
- Church attendance & related activities
- Bible studies
- Spiritual conversations with others
- Events and trips
- Media consumption



Offer a conversational menu of options to gauge spiritual interest

“Why don’t you wear makeup?”

1. I try to live a **healthy lifestyle** so that my skin doesn’t need a lot of makeup
2. I prefer saving my time in the morning for **other things** (e.g. **working out, spiritual time**)
3. I only wear makeup when I’m trying to look older/more professional or for special occasions **like church**

Turn any conversation into a spiritual conversation

- What's up for/how was the weekend?
- Any vacation plans?
- What do you do for fun?
- Do you still play the cello?
- How do you shut off work while you're on vacation?
- Do you have any advice on how to be successful at work?

Empathize with the individual

04

Empathize



People don't
care how much
you know until
they know how
much you care

***Come to Me, all you who labor
and are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest.***

Matthew 11:28

Empathize with the individual

MH 24

04

Empathize



People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care

[Jesus] taught in a way that made them feel the completeness of His identification with their interests and happiness...

Extend an open-ended invitation

05

Extend an
invitation



Leave an open-
ended offer for
whenever he or
she is ready

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Revelation 3:20

Extend an open-ended invitation

21MR 317.2

05

Extend an
invitation



Leave an open-
ended offer for
whenever he or
she is ready

There are intelligent men and women whom **we are afraid to work for, fearing repulse; but earnest efforts should be made for the higher classes, coming close to their hearts,**

Extend an open-ended invitation

21MR 317.2

05

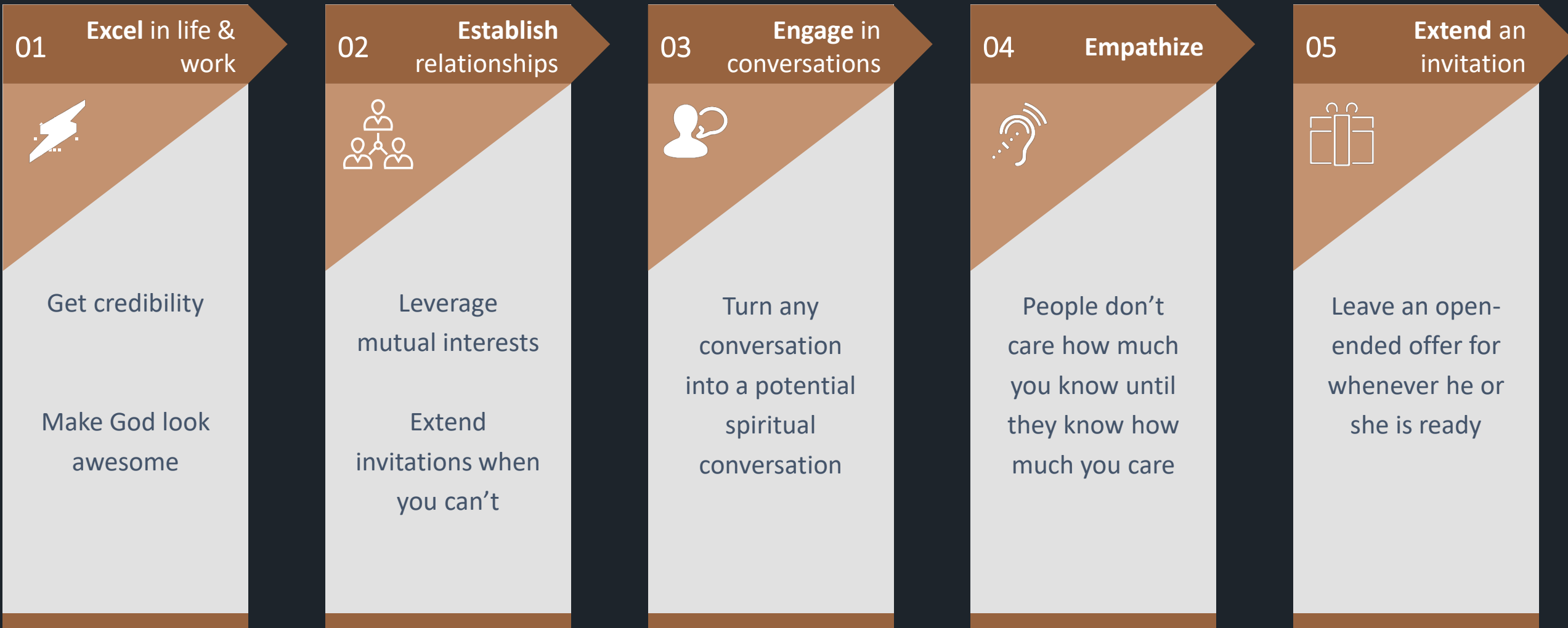
Extend an
invitation



Leave an open-
ended offer for
whenever he or
she is ready

visiting them and using special wisdom to win them to the truth. There should be no pushing, no sharp contention, but leading their minds out to investigate.

Attracting spiritual interests is an active, intentional process

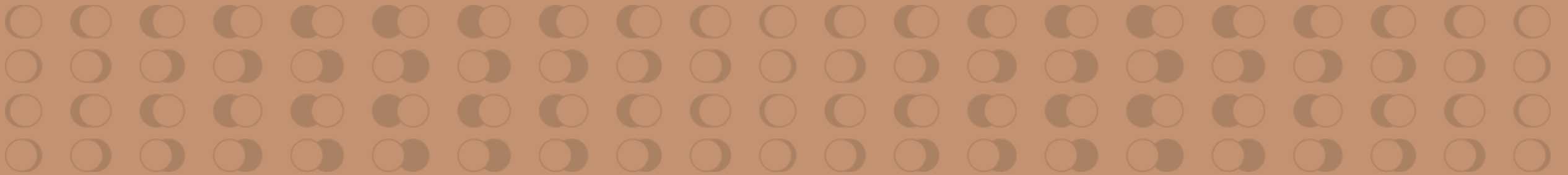


Reflect



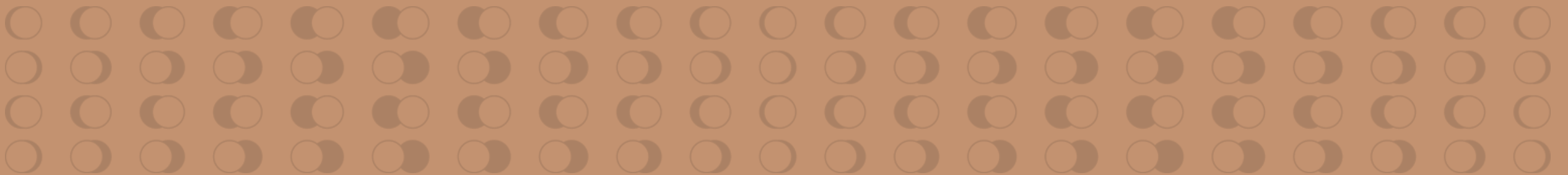
Reflect

In what ways is your life attractive to W3s? In what ways can you improve?



Reflect

**Are you having enough
spiritual experiences to fuel
spiritual conversations?**



Reflect

Will you commit to having spiritual conversations in your sphere of influence?



Stay Engaged—NicodemusSociety.org

