

# BEC RAMP TRAINING

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Communal Evangelism Toolkit



# COMMUNAL EVANGELISM | BEC RAMP TRAINING (1 Hour)

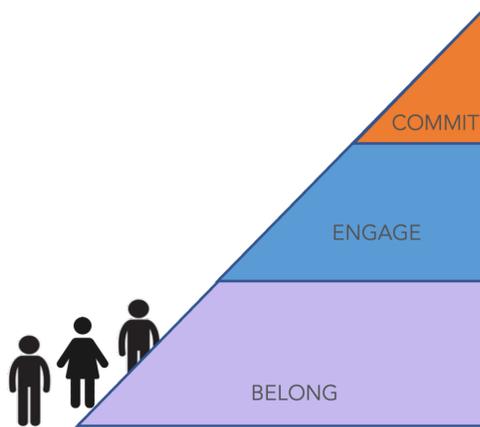
## Vision of Belong-Engage-Commit "BEC" Ramp (5 min)

Today we are going to talk about evangelism and how we can do evangelism together as a community, or "communal evangelism." Many Asian American students come to know Jesus because they become part of a community that loves them and loves Jesus. This is a gift of the Asian American community for evangelism.

*Discuss in pairs: What do you think of when you hear the word "evangelism"?*

## The Ramp: BELONG ENGAGE COMMIT

What kind of events and invitations help a non-believer go from newcomer to believer?



Even with the "perfect" ramp, people need to be invited and choose to walk up the ramp.

### OUR ROLE: BE A HOST

Invite to become a follower of Jesus (Threshold 5)

Invite to try on faith in a part of their lives (Thresholds 3 & 4)  
Debrief experiences

Build trust  
Invite into community  
Help them experience belonging & love (Thresholds 1 & 2)

### EXAMPLE EVENTS

Call to faith and recommitment (LG, SG, retreat, one-on-one)

Bible study / GIG  
Retreat / Conference  
Discipleship

NSO / Welcome events  
Socials  
1 on 1s  
Unofficial hangouts  
Big Bro-Sis

## BEC Ramp Framework (10 min)

This ramp illustrates someone's journey towards faith in Jesus. It has 3 components: Belong, Engage, and Commit.

### BELONG

Belonging is the ramp's foundation. We welcome and invite this person into community. They come to trust and be curious about Christians and Christian community. *People in Belong show up, spend time, and trust people in the community. First, they only attend formal events, then also informal events.*

**Our role:** We need to be people that help others belong by inviting, talking to, and spending time with them. This is why we do follow-up and include new people in our informal hangouts.

**Example Events:** We also need events/spaces where we build trust and relationship with non-Christians and newcomers. This is why we do New Student Outreach, social events, and meals together.

### ENGAGE

We invite this person to engage spiritually, and they become open to trying Christian practices, engaging on a deeper level, and eventually wrestling with who Jesus is. *People in Engage are connected to at least 2 people and having spiritual conversations with them. They try out spiritual things in community. First, there is mainly external engagement: shows up and observes spiritual events like large group or retreats. Then there is also internal engagement: tries out prayer, Scripture, worship for themselves.*

**Our role:** We must walk with people by debriefing, interpreting, and asking about their experiences, while also sharing our own and inviting them to take next steps. This is why we do discipleship/GIG's, 1-on-1's, and prayer ministry.

**Example events:** We host events/spaces, like large group and small group, where people can become open, engage with Jesus, and hear student testimonies.

## COMMIT

We invite this person to commit to Jesus. People in Commit make a decision to follow Jesus in all parts of their life and identify as a Christian. *First, discipleship is needed for the new believer as they orient their lives around Jesus. Then, they help guide other people in their exploration of Jesus.*

**Our role:** We pray for people and have spiritual conversations to help them process their thoughts, questions, and barriers to following Jesus.

**Example events:** We also give calls to faith at conferences, large groups, and small groups, so that people have a chance to respond and say yes to Jesus.

### The BEC Ramp in our stories (10 min)

#### *Annie's Story*

*Annie came to college with some baggage from church and was not interested in Christianity. But she attended some welcome week events and got connected to the chapter. One person she met was Stephanie. Stephanie led the small group in Annie's dorm and made it a point to invite Annie and build relationship with her, even though Annie rarely came to small group. Stephanie also helped Annie connect with the other freshmen in the chapter and helped her belong.*

*One day, Stephanie found out that Annie needed a ride, so she reached out to an upperclassman, Katie, who had a car. During the ride, they got to know each other and decided to eat Taiwanese beef noodle soup because Annie (who is Taiwanese) was surprised Katie had never tried it. Now Annie was on Katie's heart too.*

*The next year, Katie invited Annie to her small group. Even though Annie didn't come all the time, it became another space of belonging and gradual engaging. One day, on the way to large group, Katie and Annie got into a deep conversation and ended up sitting on a bench and skipping large group altogether. Annie was wrestling with faith, and this was one of many conversations she had with people in the community. The next year, Annie started going to church and decided to follow Jesus! The whole community was amazed!*

**Discuss:** Where do you see the BEC ramp in Annie's story? What stories from your own experience does it bring to mind?

## Everyone's gifts are needed for communal evangelism! (5 min)

Each section of the ramp is made up of our events (structures) and relationships (people). Every small group, large group, hangout, conversation, and friendship can build this ramp. We need all these different parts of our community life for an effective witness.

In 1 Cor. 12:12-27, Paul says that we are all the body of Christ with many parts. In communal evangelism, we all participate in the same chapter/community but we each play a different part. No part is more important than the other.

**Gifts for belong:** We need people who have a heart for fun and hospitality, which invites people to belong.

**Gifts for engage and commit:** We also need people who want to have deeper conversations and usher people into God's presence, which invites non-Christians to engage and commit to Jesus.

In fact, Belong is the foundation for Engage: We must build *and maintain* trust and relationship, showing people God's love even as we share about it. Evangelism isn't just verbally sharing the Gospel, but also means embodying the Gospel in how we love and walk with people. Being hospitable, welcoming people well, getting to know them and listening to their story, inviting them into our community and making sure they feel valued in our community ← all these things are vital to evangelism.

*"Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words."*

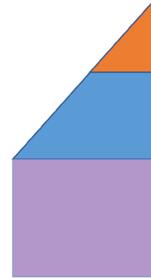
-Francis of Assisi

## We need each part of the ramp for effective communal evangelism. (5 min)

### *We must not discount the importance of "Belong."*

Belong encompasses a lot of "mundane" interactions. Grabbing a meal with someone, walking to class with them, studying with them -- all these things build a stronger ramp. They seem small but they add up to something big. God uses our small yes's for wonderful things. Without Belong, we make the journey inaccessible.

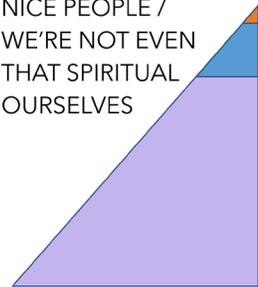
IF IT'S GOD'S WILL,  
YOU'LL FIND US



### *We also must not discount the importance of "Engage" and "Commit."*

Engage includes conversations on a deeper level, asking people how their experience at small group or large group has been, hosting spaces where people (including us!) encounter God. Otherwise, we are simply a nice community or not even that centered around our faith.

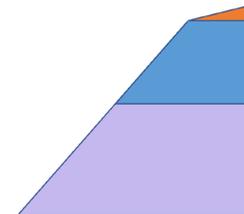
CHRISTIANS ARE JUST  
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### *Without commit, we abdicate our role in God's mission and the joy of inviting people into God's family.*

Commit entails inviting people to follow Jesus, whether it is during a one-on-one conversation or a call to faith at large group.

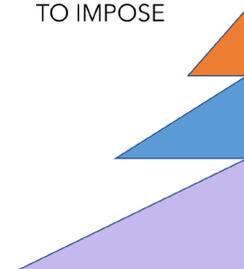
GOD WILL CALL YOU



### *Remember: Even with our best efforts, people still need to choose to take steps up the ramp.*

It may take a long time, and it may not be straightforward, but it is much better to walk up the ramp when people are walking with you and showing you the way. While we must not pressure them, we still need to be active. This means praying for God to meet them, walking with them, and inviting them to take next steps. Our invitations embody God's active welcome and invitation into relationship. Otherwise, we make it hard to continue up the ramp.

DON'T WANT  
TO IMPOSE



## Group Activity (15 min)

*Draw your chapter's ramp using the worksheet and share in pairs or as a group:*

- What structures and events do you currently have for B, E, C? What are you missing?
- What people skills does your leadership team currently practice? What can you grow in?
- Where on the ramp are the non-Christians in your chapter?

*Discuss: What strengths for communal evangelism already exist in your chapter? Where would you like to see your chapter and leadership team grow?*

## Next Steps (10 min)

**Communal:** Write down the non-Christians in your chapter and where they are on the ramp. Pray for them and pray for your chapter's witness to them. What next steps can you take with them?

**Individual:** Choose 1 section to work on this week: B, E, or C. What is a next step you can take? Share with the group.

**Next week:** Continue growing in Communal Evangelism with the *Becoming a Host* training.

## TRAINING IDEAS

- Use a student story to illustrate the ramp.
- Have students reflect on their own stories of BEC in the chapter.
- If you already know which section you want your chapter to work on, build the next steps around that.
  - Example: Belong - We host many belong events but we could grow in connecting with people during and after these events. This week, have an intentional conversation with a newcomer or non-Christian and invite them to hangout.

## MORE RESOURCES

Staff training (2019): <https://youtu.be/fEo54doqTVQ>