

## The Gospel Tea Bag- my version

### About This Message

This is my spin on a reasonably well- known Gospel presentation. This message works well with older children (12 plus), youth and adults.

Because this is a visual presentation using a smaller object, it works best with smaller groups-up to 30; a good communicator might manage a few more.

This is not an open-air message but if you are invited to speak somewhere this message is easily adapted and can be used at a youth-group or business group, a small jail-house or even someone's home- this message would be fine for all.

It can be presented sitting down at a table or standing up. You will need a tea-bag and a lighter – a good quality tea-bag will have all the components you need: an outer packet/sleeve, a string with a paper label attached, and a staple.

You must practice this message several times to be able to present it well. I usually present this after sharing my testimony and sometimes I will even use a short presentation of The Law (Gods Commandments) before my testimony.

Make sure you are not yelling at your listeners –if the group is small, there is no need for a micro-phone either.

### **Present the tea-bag:**

You are probably wondering what I'm going to do with this tea-bag. Well, there is much we can learn about ourselves from a teabag, including how God deals with us

**Sleeve:** This packet reminds us that we often judge each other by appearance; if we like the look of the packet (the way a person looks) then we don't mind being with them. But God's different, He doesn't make judgments that way in fact the Bible says, *"The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*(1 Samuel 16:7). (Take the bag out the packet/sleeve)

**Label:** Notice that the Label is attached to the packet and it can be that way in life to. People label us on our appearance they say she's ugly, he's dumb, or he's useless- But God is great at changing labels. (David, Gideon, Jephthah, Rahab- Take your pick)

**String:** The string reminds us when it comes to getting other peoples acceptance there is often strings attached; they might say I'll accept you if you do this or I won't love you if don't do that. Now sometimes those words remain unspoken but we feel it don't we? But with God there is no string's attached, He loves us regardless of who we are and where we have come from. God is always faithful; a verse in the Bible says this about God, *"For your unfailing love is as high as the heavens. Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds."* (Psalm 57:10)

**Staple:** (remove the staple while you speak) Life has a way of wounding us, sometimes physically sometimes emotionally. The staple reminds us of this. But most of the wounds we receive in life are the result of sin (the tea leaves on the inside) - ours or

someone else's nearly every argument, every fight, every war every problem in the world has been caused by sin. Sin is so destructive that it had to be dealt with. The staple also reminds us of how God dealt with sin- through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The Bible says, *"He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins, He was beaten so that we can be made whole."*(Isaiah 53:5)  
Through the wounds of Jesus Christ on the cross believers are healed spiritually from sin.  
This brings me (again) to the tea leaves

**Tea Leaves:** When we commit our lives to Jesus He deals with the tea leaves- the sin that's in our lives and as we begin to follow Him and obey his Word He also deals with our issues and attitudes (pour out the tea as you speak)

**The Bag:** The great thing is that once we make Jesus both Saviour and Lord of our lives He forgives us and guides us wherever we go. He will be with us always until we go up to Heaven to be with Him. (As you say this straighten the now empty bag and stand it on a table. Light the tea bag at the bottom with the lighter or a match and watch it rise in the air and disappear)

What must we do ...?

**Repent (Acts 3:19).      Believe (John 3:36).      Receive (John 1:12)**

**Now Call for a Response.**