

A CHRISTIANS CORE VALUES #7 TO BE A SOUL WINNER

The unbelieving world is made up of a variety of people: young, old, rich, poor, educated, uneducated, urban, rural, with different race, personalities, values, politics, and religious backgrounds. It's going to take more than one style of evangelism to reach such a diverse population!

I. DIFFERENT METHODS WITNESSING

A. Confrontational- John the Baptist

Acts 2 Repent and be baptized, save yourselves from this corrupt generation.

B. Intellectual -Paul

Acts 17 Paul debated with the philosophers on Mars Hill to convince them.

C. Testimonial- The blind man healed

John 9 One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!

D. Relational- The demonic that has been set free.

Mark 5 Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you.

E. Invitational- The woman at the well

John 4 The Samaritan woman at the well begged the people of the city to come and hear Jesus for themselves.

F. Serving- Dorcas

Acts 9 Dorcas impacted her city by doing deeds of kindness.

Don't ever think you're a second class Christian because you don't proclaim Christ like Peter or Paul. Discover your own method.

II. BARRIERS THAT KEEP SINNERS FROM ACCEPTING JESUS.

A. Misconceptions

1. They will lose their freedom
2. They will miss out on having "fun"
3. They lose fulfillment in life

Where do these misperceptions come from?

They come from poor examples, bad teaching, and natural fears.

What can we do about them?

1. We can let people know that we understand their hesitations, because we may very well of had many of them before we became Christians.
2. We can live our lives as a model that shatters their stereotypes and gives them a new view of Christianity.
3. When it comes to the bad teaching, the only effective antidote is good teaching; right learning.
4. When it comes to their natural fears, it's only natural to hesitate when any of us are considering a life-changing choice.

B. Intellectual barriers

Peter tells us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us the reason for the hope we have.

We won't always have the answer on the tip of our tongues for every question.

In many cases, the best thing you or I can do is tell them that they've asked a good question, and that right now, you don't have

a good answer, but you will do your homework and then get back to them.

Some of the intellectual roadblocks we will face have to do with things like:

1. The historical accuracy of the Bible
2. The logic of faith
3. The problem of evil
4. The Christianity vs. Science debate.

C. MORAL MISGIVINGS

Some just use those questions as a smokescreen or an excuse to keep from having to change.

When we sense that someone is putting more energy into finding questions than finding answers, then maybe we need to call their bluff and ask them if they **really want answers or do they really want to avoid having to change.**

Each of us make a statement for or against Christ.

Ill. Ron Banard our state Chi Alpha director had just preached about the real Jesus. The last point of his message was that Jesus will meet you in death and made the statement, "Today could be my last day, who knows?..."

The church is having a lunch outside and he sees a 4 year old boy about to cross highway 36 without being aware of the oncoming traffic. A man pulling a camper in a Ford 150 truck slammed on his brakes. Ron seeing what was about to occur ran to the boy picked him up and threw him to safety. The truck hit him.

From that point on the following miracles occurred:

1. Suddenly he felt a supernatural peace.
2. People suddenly gathered around him and prayed like they believed in a God greater than death.

3. He came back to consciousness after two minutes. (The doctor said this was a miracle. He had such a serious head injury he should not have regained consciousness.)

4. His injuries consisted of a cracked skull, a lung exploded and was drowning in blood and his leg was broken to such an extent it was by his face. He was bleeding profusely. God took care of the lung before they could do surgery.

While the EMT's were working on him he was making jokes.

5. The man driving the truck came to see him in the hospital. He said, "My wife was saved a few weeks ago and wanted me to follow her but I told her I was not interested. I told her I am an atheist because I have never seen God do a miracle. But when I saw that little boy standing in my mirror on the side of the road alive, and then I crawled into the ditch with you, I felt a presence of God like I have never felt. I have given my life to Jesus because of you."