

LIGHT UP YOUR WORLD
Stories for *Easier* Evangelism (Part 8)
“Approaching the Lost”

INTRO: Is there a good way to engage in a spiritual conversation when approaching the lost? Probably many ways . . . Main issue is being available and willing to have the conversation at all. God always creates the opportunity. Our job is to step into it with clarity and courage (Col. 4:2-6). Always remember God’s Spirit is already at work in preparing the soil (heart) to receive the seed (Gospel). See John 16:7-11. No one comes into a relationship with Christ unless they are drawn (Jn. 6:44). How can we create a spiritual conversation in approaching the lost? Remember lost are at different distances from God (Lost diagram from part 5). Let me suggest one possible approach with a stranger or a casual acquaintance.

I. CREATE INTEREST WITH QUESTIONS

ILLUS – Meat thermometer . . . Where are they?

1. Would you be open for a spiritual conversation?
2. Do you have any spiritual beliefs? Ever think about spiritual matters?
3. Do you go to church anywhere?
4. Why do you think there’s so much sin, evil, and suffering in this world?
5. Will you forgive me for not telling you about the most important person in my life?
6. What do you think is the biggest problem people face today?
7. Can I share with you the best thing that’s ever happened to me?

II. SEEK PERMISSION TO SHARE YOUR STORY

Tell your story of life change using three points: My life before Christ. How I came to Christ. How following Jesus makes a difference. Close with: “May I share with you how I came to trust and follow Christ and gained assurance of heaven?”

III. SHARE GOD’S STORY (Presenting the Gospel)

A. *Share the Gospel* Message (Acts 2:42) – 4 words summarize

1. God - God’s Plan – joy, peace, purpose
2. Us - Man’s Problem – show need
3. Christ - God’s Deliverance – Only Christ
4. You - Our Decision – Try to bring to a decision to make a commitment to trust and follow Christ.

Note - Old Membership Presentation of the Gospel (19 slides)

Note - One unchanging message (fixed and unchanging) but many methods: Ex-tract, app, Roman Road (3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9-10, 13), ... Let them read verses

B. *Review with 5 Commitment Questions*

1. Does this make sense to you?
2. Do you agree you are a sinner in need of forgiveness?
3. Do you believe Jesus died on the Cross for your sins and rose again?
4. Are you willing to surrender your life to follow Christ as best you can?
5. Is there any good reason why you can’t invite Christ into your life, right now?

Pray *for* them, then *with* them to trust Christ! Sinner’s Prayer . . .

C. Handling Objections / Rejection

1. Never take it personally (Matt. 10:24-25; Jn. 15:18 ff)
2. Do not force or pressure them

D. Immediate Follow up (2 Pet. 3:18) – Tell someone and GROW

1. Get baptized – First step of obedience
2. Read Bible and Pray Daily
3. Obey and trust
4. Walk in the Spirit

***NOTE:** If engaging with a lost friend or family member help them understand how concerned you are for them and how much you want to spend eternity with them – only because you love them!

CONC: Remember, we are responsible to share the Good News – not responsible to turn sinner’s heart toward God (that’s the Holy Spirit’s job to draw and convince). Success is sharing our faith and living out our commitment to Christ. Success is best defined by our obedience. When we share Christ and someone rejects, we have not failed – because we have been obedient. Close with this promise in Philemon 6 . . . if we are obedient to share God promises to be faithful to bless!