



SHARING YOUR FAITH

How to Share Your Faith:

1. Pray

Prayer is vital. How should we pray? First, pray for opportunities. Pray that God would bring non-Christians across your path and that He would open up natural opportunities for you to talk about your faith with them. Pray that they would ask you questions, that they would see something about your life that intrigues them.

Second, as you engage in conversations with people, begin praying intentionally for them. Ask God to put the name of particular family members, friends or colleagues on your heart and pray for them every day. Pray for more opportunities to talk with them. Pray that situations would arise in their life that would cause them to ask deeper questions.

Third, pray for wisdom. In John 14:26 Jesus tells His disciples that one of the roles of the Holy Spirit is to instruct us and to remind us of Jesus' own teachings. God asks us to be ready to give an answer for the hope we have and then He promises to give us the resources to do just that. Whenever God calls, He provides.

2. Share Jesus.

Make sure you are walking with God. They will be watching how you live and if God is really your focus. John 15:1-11 and Galatians 5:22-23

3. Talk and Listen

One of the most powerful evangelistic tools is simply this: talking to people. To most of us, this comes naturally. Learn to be interested in people and their stories. Get to know your friends, neighbors, colleagues and family members better. And as they talk, learn to really listen. Hear what's being said, what your friend's concerns, interests and passions are. And as you listen, pray silently, that God would help you find the opportunities to weave the gospel naturally into the conversation.

4. Learn to Ask Good Questions

Ask questions about what they believe, not to trap them, but to understand them and break down any relational barriers that are keeping them from considering Jesus. Questions like "Why do you believe that?" or "Why do you think that?" can be very powerful. If somebody expresses a negative opinion about the Christian faith, gently ask "What's your evidence for that?" can crack open the conversation. Questions can expose hidden assumptions, shed light on motives, and show whether somebody really believes what they have just said, or if they are just repeating something they heard on television, for example. Admire everything you can about what they believe in order to help people open up. Don't affirm their heresy but their honesty. Find areas of common ground you can compliment them on.

5. Study the Bible

If we are going to share and defend our faith, we first have to know our faith, and thus we need to ensure we are immersing ourselves in scripture — not just the parts of it we're familiar with, too. So read the Bible deeply. Study it at length. Invest in a study Bible that will help explain complex ideas to you and show you how biblical passages are connected. Consider committing to reading the Bible through once a year, every year, so you that you become more acquainted with the whole of scripture.

6. Stay Humble

In all of this, remember that evangelism and apologetics is ultimately God's work. Indeed, 1 Peter 3:15, I quoted earlier, begins with the phrase 'in your hearts, set apart Christ as Lord.' Unless our evangelism is rooted firmly in Christ's lordship, then ultimately it will be ineffective. Admit that the reason you are a Christian is that you know you've fallen short and need someone to rescue you. That someone is Jesus.

Remember the "Three A's"

Ask

Ask them questions about what they believe, not to trap them, but to understand them and break down any relational barriers that are keeping them from considering Jesus.

Admire

Admire everything you can about what they believe in order to help people open up. Don't affirm their heresy but their honesty. Find areas of common ground you can compliment them on.

Admit

Admit that the reason you are a Christian is that you know you've fallen short and need someone to rescue you. That someone is Jesus.



RECOMMENDED RESOURCES for Sharing your Faith

Steps to Peace with God by Billy Graham

A 6-page pamphlet, published by Crossway, 2008

Available through Website: <http://www.amazon.com>

The Bridge to Life by the Navigators

A 16-page pamphlet available from NavPress, 2007

Available through Website: <http://www.navpress.com>

Have you heard of the Four Spiritual Laws?

A 15 page pamphlet from Campus Crusade for Christ

Available online: <http://crustore.org/four-laws/four-laws-products.html>

D2S Dare2Share website

<http://www.dare2share.org/products-resources/worldviews/>

Book - How to Give Away Your Faith, 2008 by Paul Little (Author)