

SHARING THE GOSPEL

★ We are commanded to share the gospel (Mark 16:15; Matt. 28:19-20; Eze. 33:1-6; Rom. 1:16)

★ What is the Gospel? Gospel means "Good News" (1 Cor. 15:1-4; John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 6:23; 10:9-10, 13)

★ How does someone receive the gift of salvation? (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 6:23; 10:9-10, 13)

Follow what the verses above say to do. It's about what you believe in your heart more than what you say/pray. However, a good way to remember is ABC

Admit that you are a sinner in need of a savior (Rom. 3:23)

Believe that Jesus died and rose again 3 days later in order to satisfy the payment for your sin (John 3:16; Rom. 6:23; 10:9-10)

Call out to God in prayer, telling him these things and ask him to save you (Rom. 10:13)

★ Sharing the gospel with the ASK method

Ask questions- Asking questions can help lead to a conversation about spiritual things: life, death, beliefs about God/religion, current world events, etc... this can lead to an opportunity to share the gospel

Share the gospel- The gospel message is powerful, share it as soon as you can, whenever you can, and let God work. We are just seed planters

Keep the conversation going- We don't want to just share the gospel and never mention it again. If we follow up on the conversation. There is a much greater chance that the seeds planted won't just fall to the wayside. The devil will try and come in and ruin the seeds planted in their lives right away, so this step is crucial to help combat that (Luke 8:4-15)

GOSPEL SHARING CHEAT SHEET

ASK QUESTIONS

Who do you believe that Jesus is?

Do you believe in God?

FOR "RELIGIOUS PEOPLE" WHO THINK THEY ARE OK

Where would you go if you died tonight?

Do you go to church anywhere?

KEY TRANSITIONS-

"Well, The Bible says..."

"Do you mind if I share with you what the Bible says about this stuff?"

SHARE THE GOSPEL

The Bible says "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God," Romans 3:23

It also tells us that the payment for our sin is death. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23

But the good news is that God did not want us to die and go to hell so he paid for our sin for us. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

All that we have to do is pray to receive the gift of salvation that God has offered us through his son Jesus Christ. By believing that he died for our sins and rose again and asking him to save us. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:9,13

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

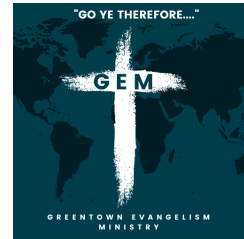
"Would you be interested in getting together with me/someone over coffee to talk more about this?"

Exchange contact information

Invite to church/youth group

LEAVE WITH TRACT

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Personal Evangelism Help

When it comes to personal evangelism in our everyday lives at our workplaces, schools, places where we interact with people doing our hobbies, etc. the most common way that most people do personal evangelism is through waiting for open “doors of utterance” (**Col 4:3**). These are very exciting when they happen, and they are often the best kind of opportunities because they are divine appointments that God has put in front of us. However most of us can find ourselves constantly waiting for these, and sometimes months can go by without these kinds of opportunities presenting themselves to us. Because of this fact, the most important thing we can do in our personal evangelism is to pray for these opportunities. It is sad that even a day can go by without us praying for an open door to share the gospel with our lost friends and family. We can get so busy in our lives that we can forget to do it, or we’re just scared and it takes time to build up courage. However, we need to be praying for these opportunities every day. This guide was written to help us get past these halted times of evangelism in our lives, and to equip us to start more of these conversations and help us share the gospel effectively when we do.

The common saying of “waiting for open doors” to share the gospel is part of the biggest issue with why we don’t share it as often as we should. There are times for these miraculous open doors of opportunity, the majority of the chances we have to share the gospel should come from proactive thinking, strategic planning, and intentionality. A good way of seeing it would be: none of us have ever stood in front of a door in our home and waited for it to open before we walked through. When we come to a door we don’t expect it to miraculously open itself; we expect we need to open the door. Similarly, the Lord calls us to be fishers of men. Fishermen do not simply wait for fish to jump into the boat, they must think ahead, make a plan, and intentionally go fishing. In the same way, we need to be actively seeking out opportunities to share the

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gospel, and people that we can try to initiate conversations with in our everyday lives. We can use world events and/or major news that most people are aware of and try to find a spiritual aspect of it to ask people about. An example could be some sort of tragedy that struck where there was a loss of life. Simply asking somebody what they think of this scenario can by nature lead to spiritual conversations. A specific example could be asking about a recent shooting. If you ask someone what they think of the situation/tragedy, it could very well turn into a conversation about death and what happens when we die. These events and the crazy things going on in the world are running through the minds of all people and they will talk about it if provoked. Another example could be as simple as asking someone what they're doing this weekend or what they did last weekend. They will tell you what they did or what they are going to do and then return the question in kind. Now, you have a very natural transition into talking about church and then asking them if/where they go to church. This will enter you into a conversation about church, God, spiritual things, the Bible, etc. Knowing your friends and family and the people that you are acquainted with, you should be able to think ahead before you see them and think of different questions or conversation pieces you could bring up that very well may lead to a spiritual conversation with them. From here just see where it goes. If they are short and uninterested, don't force the issue, but if they will engage, take the conversation as far as they will go and simply find time to share the gospel in the conversation.

The most common fear that people have when it comes to these conversations is usually not so much the fear of how people will react, but whether or not they will have answers for questions that those people may have. When it comes to this issue, the Bible says to always be ready to give an answer, however we will not always have all the answers. Have comfort in knowing that you can and will do your best and the spirit of God will give you what you need to say in the moment. Even beyond that, just simply sticking to what you know and sharing the gospel that saved your soul will never be a failure. **Romans 1:16** says that the gospel has POWER and when people hear it, it pierces them and they never forget it (**Heb.4:12**). Sharing your testimony and incorporating the gospel, sharing the gospel in a way you are familiar with, or even leaving someone a tract are ALL wins and better than doing nothing at all! If you need to

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search out some answers to their questions, you can always leave the conversation by telling them that you will go home and seek out those answers. When you are opening doors and going fishing with the gospel as “fishers of men” for the Lord, you will be more successful even if you're not a good “fisherman” than if you simply sit in the boat always waiting for a miracle of fish leaping into the boat.

Corporate/Street Evangelism Help

When it comes to corporate evangelism (evangelism that is done through church events or just simply on the streets) people can get very nervous. However, corporate evangelism and going out into our community is an absolutely essential part of sharing the gospel in our lives. This is how Jesus sent out the disciples to preach when he was here and this is how they preached and went about sharing the gospel in the book of Acts. It can be so effective at reaching many people in our surrounding areas with the gospel, and it can reach so many people that we otherwise would not reach. Because of this, it is very important to know and have a guide to a few things when it comes to this kind of evangelism. The first thing to mention is that the greatest victory the devil will ever have when it comes to this kind of evangelism is getting people too scared to join in and simply do it. Once you decide to go out and participate, there is very little that comes against you as the Lord is on your side. The Lord blesses it and gives you the words to say and gives you those divine appointments as you go out and do this. It really is just a myth that we make up in our heads that people will get angry and will not want anything to do with what we're telling them. 99% of the people you go up to or talk to you will be either apathetic or interested in what you have to say, and almost nobody will get angry or aggressive toward you. The devil truly loses the battle when trust the Lord, face our fears, and obey his commission to “go ye therefore” into the world and preach the gospel. The only way he wins is getting us to stay home and not be involved. Remembering this, and remembering that the Lord has commanded us to do it and will give us the ability to do it when we obey, we know that we must go.

A very common method for sharing the gospel is the ASK method:

A stands for **Ask questions**

S stands for **Share the gospel**

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K stands for **Keep the conversation going**

Asking questions is the first thing you will do. Simply stopping someone and asking “do you have a minute for a question?” is the first step. If you get rejected here that will be pretty much the only place you get rejection. Once someone says yes, you have an amazing opportunity to share the gospel and they will almost never leave the conversation until you’ve had the chance to share the gospel with them or give them a tract (both are a victory). Once they’ve stopped and said they have a minute for a question, a good following question to ask is “Who do you think Jesus is?”. Based on their answer the conversation could really go many ways, but the best thing to do is continue to ask them questions. Many people will say who they think he is and then follow that up with what belief system they align themselves with (Catholic, Christian, Muslim, Atheist, etc...). This really does not mean much since when you dig into it more and ask them more about what they believe you’ll find that they typically don’t align with what their religious system would believe and they’ve usually made up their own opinion about who they think Jesus is. This is why it’s very important that you continue to ask them questions. Ask them if they think there’s an afterlife, if they think there’s a heaven/hell, where they think they would go if they die today, etc. These questions will get them thinking and it will get you a good idea of where they stand with the Lord. From here, no matter what they have said, even if they’ve said that they are saved and they know the Lord, you were going to want to **share the gospel** with them. If they said they were saved (not many people will) then I would reiterate the gospel to them and say “these are the things that you and I both believe and that’s what I’m going around sharing with people today”. Sometimes they will say that what you’ve shared is actually not what they believe. Now both you and them have established that you are not in agreement about some important issues, and you can share with them what the Bible says. Also, because you don’t want to keep people too long or lose their interest in the conversation you’re going to want to just keep the gospel short and simple. A good thing to always remember is that when you are stuck and maybe don’t know where to go next in the conversation, just say “Let me share with you what the Bible says”. From here you have a chance to go into the gospel. All of these conversations are just that; conversations, they are not presentations. They are all different and can go many

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directions, but we want to direct the conversations toward the gospel and this is a way to do that. Also, don't avoid questions, but always direct the conversation back to where the power is (the gospel) and don't miss your chance to share the gospel just to answer all the many questions they may have. Answer their questions, but only after the gospel has been made clear. Make them understand that they have sinned and come short of the glory of God like the Bible says (Rom. 3:23) and because of that they cannot be with God in their natural state. Then share with them that the payment for their sin is death according to Romans 6:23. Now the good news: the Bible says that Jesus died on the cross and paid that price for their sin and for the sins of the entire world. It then says that if we believe that Jesus did this for us, and that he rose from the dead three days later, and call out to God and ask him to save us that he will save us (Rom. 10:9-10,13), and it's that simple. This is the gospel: they have a problem, sin; and God has a solution, his son Jesus Christ who paid the price for sin, and that we can't just know that but we have to do something about it and accept that gift. He died for all but not all are saved because not all have believed and accepted that gift. Always leave a person with a tract if you can, almost everybody will accept the tract. They can look it over when they go home and continue to think about these things. They can also look at it for clarification if there's anything they didn't understand or that they forgot. And then finally you're going to want to **keep the conversation going**. If they have more questions or if there's more intricate details or problems that they might have or want answered, then we want to take the time to answer those questions if they're interested. We don't want to simply cast out the seed of the gospel and hope it falls onto good soil; we want to make sure the seeds planted do not fall to the wayside and get snatched up by the devil and taken away. If they say yes then give them your contact information and be ready to sit down with them in the future and keep the conversation going.

Many people also like the good test method of sharing the gospel. It's very similar to the ASK method. You are going to start out by asking someone if they have a minute for a question and from there you're going to ask them who they think Jesus is (just like the ASK method). The difference in this method is that from here the conversation will shift to a focus on the commandments and showing them through the commandments that they will be guilty on judgment day, and that they need to do

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something to get that corrected. The gospel is the same presentation as always, the answer to the issue of being guilty on that day is Jesus Christ and his satisfactory payment for those sins on the cross.

There are many different methods and ways to go about doing these things. However, when it comes to this type of evangelism the bottom line is that at some point you have to step out and reach out to strangers and ask them if they are interested in having a conversation with you. You will then at some point have to share the gospel with them and/or give them a tract. Even for the people who say they don't have time for a conversation, ask if they would at least take a tract and most will. Handing out a tract is always a victory because God uses those to change lives and there are many testimonies of that. Remember that doing something is always better than doing nothing. Showing up and stepping out in obedience to the Lord is always better than staying home and doing nothing, even if you feel you don't have all the answers or you're not very well trained. The great commission is for all, not just for those who feel they are good at it or who feel comfortable doing it. Use whatever method or presentation of the gospel you know how to use. Use your testimony, a tract, a story, Romans road, ASK method, good test, etc... it doesn't matter. We are all called to be fishers of men and these corporate/street evangelism opportunities are oceans full of fish for us to go out and fish in.

FAQ'S

- **What kind of tracts should I use?**
 - There is no right answer to this. Just make sure that whatever you are handing out has a clear, concise, and correct gospel presentation on it. Preferably make sure that there is some contact information on it for them to be able to reach out to you/your church with questions. Some good tracts we use are: What If, Good Test, Million Dollar question, Romans Road pamphlets, and Chick tracts. Also, for people who are more interested, rather than giving them an entire book to read, a more thorough and yet short read would be Mark Cahill's booklets. His booklets are "One Second After You" and "The Second Greatest Lie Ever Told".

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- **How do you know who to talk to/approach on the streets to share the gospel with?**
 - Use your best judgment. There is no perfect way to do it, just pray before and during your time out there for God to lead you to the right people. You will know when you see them. Typically speaking you want to find people who seem not too busy or in a rush, people who aren't in line for something, people who aren't otherwise too preoccupied to listen to you.
- **What are some more conversation pieces for starting a spiritual conversation with friends/family?**
 - Big news, political issues, tragedies, weekend/wednesday night plans, meaning of names, meaning of tattoos, meaning of cross/other religious symbol jewelry, etc... anything that you can "cast out your net" with and see if they are willing to enter into a spiritual conversation or if it leads there naturally.
- **What if someone stumps me and brings up bible passages that "contradict", arguments against creation, or their opposing biblical beliefs that I don't know how to refute?**
 - Simply share the gospel and the truths of the Bible you know. Go home and find these answers for them and for future conversations you will have. The Bible says that the words of God are powerful and that it is within all mankind to know that there is a God. No matter what they tell you, the word of God being shared with them is going to affect their heart and plant a seed that they will not forget. Don't underestimate the Holy Ghost working through you and giving you help as you need it, and working in them about the truths you are sharing with them. Beside all that, most people you meet don't know nearly as much as they let on, and they aren't even making true statements 99% of the time.
- **I feel like I should become friends with or at least build a foundation of a relationship with someone before I evangelize to them. What does the bible say about this?**

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- **Matt. 28:19-20**- Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
- **Mark 16:15**- And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
- **Acts 1:8**- But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
- **Mark 6:7-12**- And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse: But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats. And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment, than for that city. And they went out, and preached that men should repent.
- Jesus sent the disciples out into the world to preach the gospel when he was here and commanded them to do the same when he left. No doubt the implication is that they were preaching to strangers and people they never met before. The message may have been a little different back then, but the message is generally the same; repent and trust in Jesus!
- **What if I become a part of that 1% of people who get yelled at and someone is very angry with me?**
 - **Prov. 15:1**- A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.
 - Don't answer their anger with more anger, defuse the situation and show them you are only sharing this with them because of a

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genuine love/care for their soul. You are not there for yourself, but for God and for them.

- **1 Pet. 4:14-** If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.
- **Luke 6:22-23-** Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.
 - Even if this happens, since they are not interested and you are not interested in a confrontation, it will only last as long as it takes for you to say “Thanks for your time.”. However, evangelism is a win, win, win situation as Mark Cahill always says. When we evangelize people can either accept Christ, reject Christ (reject your message/get angry with you), or a seed is planted. A seed being planted and people accepting Christ are both obvious wins, but getting rejected or someone being angry with you is a win as well according to the above verses. It brings glory to God! God tells us to be happy and LEAP FOR JOY when this happens because we are suffering for his name’s sake and it glorifies him.

KEY VERSES TO MEMORIZE FOR EVANGELISM

Sin and Its Consequences

- **Romans 3:23-** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- **Romans 5:12-** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
- **Romans 6:23-** For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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The Good News and How to Receive It

- **Romans 5:8-** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- **Romans 10:9-10, 13-** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
- **John 3:16-** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- **1 Cor. 15:1-4-** Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
- **Ephesians 2:8-9-** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- **2 Peter 3:9-** The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

COMMON CHARACTERS AND APPROACHES

1. Cultural Christian

- **Background:** Grew up in a Christian family, attends church on holidays, and identifies as Christian culturally but may not have a personal relationship with Christ.
- **Perspective:** Believes in God and values Christian morals but may not understand or prioritize the gospel message. They might assume they're "good enough" for heaven.
- **Approach:** Asking the Question, "If you were to die tonight, where would you go and why?" This draws the line in the sand of where they stand with the gospel and if they have ever truly received Jesus Christ. If they are saved and they have received Christ, their answer will show you very clearly. Some common responses to this question are: "I THINK I would go to Heaven", "I am not sure", "Hopefully Heaven because I am a good person", etc. These are telling answers that show they are likely not saved because they don't know WHY or HOW they would be with God according to the Bible.

2. Agnostic or Atheist

- **Background:** Does not believe in God or is unsure of God's existence. They may rely on science and reason, often skeptical of religious beliefs.
- **Perspective:** Views faith as irrational or irrelevant. May have had negative experiences with religion or simply see no need for it.
- **Approach:** Focus on the fact that whether they believe in God or not, the Bible teaches that there is a God and that when we die we will face him in judgement of our sin, then get into the gospel. Maybe give a few quick reasons why you believe there is a God, but DON'T focus on converting them from atheism, focus on the gospel message and the power in it! God says they already know there is a God in their heart, no matter what they "say".

COMMON CHARACTERS AND APPROACHES

3. Nominal Christian

- **Background:** Attends church occasionally, believes in God, but doesn't see the need for a deep commitment. Faith might be more of a tradition than a personal conviction.
- **Perspective:** Believes in God but doesn't see the relevance of a personal relationship with Christ. May think that simply being a good person is enough.
- **Approach:** Asking the Question, "If you were to die tonight, where would you go and why?" This draws the line in the sand of where they stand with the gospel and if they have ever truly received Jesus Christ. If they are saved and they have received Christ, their answer will show you very clearly. Some common responses to this question are: "I THINK I would go to Heaven", "I am not sure", "Hopefully Heaven because I am a good person", etc. These are telling answers that show they are likely not saved because they don't know WHY or HOW they would be with God according to the Bible.

4. Spiritual but Not Religious

- **Background:** Interested in spirituality and may believe in a higher power, but rejects organized religion. They may explore various spiritual practices (meditation, energy healing, etc.).
- **Perspective:** Open to spiritual discussions but skeptical of traditional Christian beliefs. They might think all paths lead to God or that personal spiritual experiences are most important.
- **Approach:** Acknowledge that religion often disappoints us, people are hypocrites and imperfect. That is why the Bible does not emphasize "religion" but a "relationship" with Jesus Christ. HE WAS NOT A HYPOCRITE. He was perfect and died for imperfect people. Go into the gospel from here.

5. Former Churchgoer

- **Background:** Grew up in the church or used to attend regularly but has since left due to hurt, disillusionment, or simply drifting away.

COMMON CHARACTERS AND APPROACHES

- **Perspective:** Feels disconnected from the church and might harbor bitterness or skepticism towards organized religion. However, they may still believe in God or hold some Christian values.

- **Approach:** Acknowledge that religion often disappoints us, people are hypocrites and imperfect. That is why the Bible does not emphasize “religion” but a “relationship” with Jesus Christ. HE WAS NOT A HYPOCRITE. He was perfect and died for imperfect people. Go into the gospel from here.

6. Religious Skeptic

- **Background:** Actively questions and debates religious beliefs. They might have studied various religions and have a strong intellectual opposition to Christianity.

- **Perspective:** Believes that religion is a human construct and often seeks logical arguments against faith.

- **Approach:** Speak confidently about the Bible and the FACT that it is the MOST HISTORICALLY ACCURATE BOOK IN THE WORLD. It is not a “religious” book but rather a book of true and accurate historical events. Offer them to challenge this idea by researching for themselves. NOW share the gospel with them as historical TRUTH, not religious jargon and opinion.

7. Seeking but Uncertain

- **Background:** Open to exploring different beliefs and is genuinely seeking truth but is unsure where to find it. They may have been exposed to Christianity but haven’t made a commitment.

- **Perspective:** Curious about faith but hesitant to fully commit. They may be exploring different philosophies or religions to find answers.

- **Approach:** Encourage them in their search and offer to explore the Bible. Example: "It sounds like you’re really searching for answers. Have you ever looked into what Jesus says about Himself? I’d love to go through it with you if you’re interested." Speak confidently about the Bible and the FACT that it is the MOST HISTORICALLY ACCURATE BOOK IN THE WORLD. It is not a

COMMON CHARACTERS AND APPROACHES

“religious” book but rather a book of true and accurate historical events. Offer them to challenge this idea by researching for themselves. NOW share the gospel with them as historical TRUTH, not religious jargon and opinion.

8. Moral Relativist

- **Background:** Believes that truth and morality are subjective and that everyone should follow their own path. They might see Christianity as too exclusive.

- **Perspective:** Prefers to avoid absolute claims about truth and may see all religions as equally valid. They value tolerance and inclusivity.

- **Approach:** First, ask them if that statement they made is true? If there is no truth, that is not possible for them to say. Engage in a conversation about the nature of truth and morality. Example: "I understand your perspective. What if there is a truth that isn't just about personal preference but about what's ultimately real? At the end of the day, there has to be ONE truth. Jesus says of himself, "I am THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." Speak confidently about the Bible and the FACT that it is the MOST HISTORICALLY ACCURATE BOOK IN THE WORLD. It is not a “religious” book but rather a book of true and accurate historical events. Offer them to challenge this idea by researching for themselves. NOW share the gospel with them as historical TRUTH, not religious jargon and opinion. This makes it different from other religions and opinions, IT IS THE TRUTH.

9. Reluctant Believer

- **Background:** Believes in God but struggles with doubts, fears, or past failures. They may feel unworthy of God's love or skeptical about their ability to live out the faith.

- **Perspective:** Feels inadequate or fearful of fully committing to Christ. They might be hesitant to engage deeply with their faith due to personal struggles.

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- **Approach:** Your personal testimony will be helpful here. Relating to them on a personal level as humans who struggle and doubt and question. "I've had doubts too, but what's kept me going is the understanding that Jesus loves us even when we struggle. Can I share how I've found peace in Him?" Go into the gospel and hope that can only be found in Jesus Christ!

10. Devout Believer from Another Faith

- **Background:** Devout in another religion (e.g., Islam, Hinduism, etc.) and committed to their faith practices. They may respect Christianity but believe in their own religious path.

- **Perspective:** Strongly adheres to their religious beliefs and may see Christianity as incompatible with their faith.

- **Approach:** Emphasize the distinction from Christianity vs all other religions. Their SOURCES! Speak confidently about the Bible and the FACT that it is the MOST HISTORICALLY ACCURATE BOOK IN THE WORLD. Other religious writings are PACKED FULL of errors and contradictions and historically inaccurate statements, proven to be so. NOW share the gospel with them as historical TRUTH, not religious jargon and opinion. This makes it different from other religions and opinions, IT IS THE TRUTH.

11. Universalist

- **Background:** Believes that all people will eventually be saved, regardless of their faith or beliefs. They may see all religions as different paths to the same God.
- **Perspective:** Values inclusivity and may struggle with the exclusivity of the gospel message. Believes in a loving God who wouldn't condemn anyone.
- **Approach:** Challenge their views by focusing on the unique claims of Jesus. Example: "I used to think all paths led to God too. But what stood out to me was Jesus' claim that He is the way, the truth, and the life." Jesus was exclusive. Other religions believe that you can honor Jesus and still

COMMON CHARACTERS AND APPROACHES

be saved in some ways, but Jesus and the Bible teach that he is the ONLY WAY. Your opinion that he will just accept you anyway does not change what he said. Share the gospel.

12. Pentecostal/Charismatic Christian

- **Background:** Believes in the active gifts of the Holy Spirit, including speaking in tongues, healing, and prophecy. Emphasizes the experience of the Holy Spirit in daily life.
- **Perspective:** May have a strong faith in Jesus but could emphasize spiritual experiences over sound doctrine.
- **Approach:** Do not get into theological debates. Focus on the question: “If you died tonight, where would you go and why?” Focus on if they are truly saved and trusting in Jesus death and resurrection ALONE as the payment for their sin. Are they trusting a false gospel? (baptism, good works, baptism of the Holy Ghost as evidenced by speaking in tongues, etc.) Preach the biblical gospel using SCRIPTURE as the power. The word of God speaks for itself.

13. Mainline Protestant (e.g., Methodist, Episcopalian, Lutheran)

- **Background:** Attends a traditional church with a focus on liturgy, social justice, and historical Christian practices. May value ritual and tradition but have varying beliefs about the gospel.
- **Perspective:** May emphasize good works and social action, sometimes at the expense of a clear understanding of salvation through faith alone.
- **Approach:** Do not get into theological debates. Focus on the question: “If you died tonight, where would you go and why?” Focus on if they are truly saved and trusting in Jesus death and resurrection ALONE as the payment for their sin. Are they trusting a false gospel? (baptism, good works, baptism of the Holy Ghost as evidenced by speaking in tongues, etc.) Preach the biblical gospel using SCRIPTURE as the power. The word of God speaks for itself.

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14. Catholic

- **Background:** Raised in the Catholic Church, attends Mass regularly, and adheres to sacraments. Their faith is deeply rooted in tradition.
- **Perspective:** Values the teachings of the Church and the sacraments, but may not fully grasp the concept of salvation by grace through faith alone.
- **Approach:** Do not get into theological debates. Focus on the question: “If you died tonight, where would you go and why?” Focus on if they are truly saved and trusting in Jesus death and resurrection ALONE as the payment for their sin. Are they trusting a false gospel? (baptism, good works, baptism of the Holy Ghost as evidenced by speaking in tongues, etc.) Preach the biblical gospel using SCRIPTURE as the power. The word of God speaks for itself.