



Personal Evangelism, the Art of Conversational Questioning and Servanthood

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The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

Matthew 11:19 (NIV)

Of all the methods and models of evangelism; personal evangelism is the one that stands out amongst the rest. Jesus modeled, taught and commanded that His gospel should be shared personally.

Remember, Jesus chose just twelve men to disciple. Why? Because evangelizing and discipling takes effort, commitment and focus; so smaller numbers is better.

Today, let us consider two proven, biblically modeled approaches to unbelievers to enhance your efforts when you personally evangelize; Conversational Questioning and Servanthood.

Conversational Questioning or dialoguing the gospel:

- applying ourselves to the skill of give and take conversation. Good dialogue means listening more than talking, asking questions, and inviting people to think things over rather than demand immediate answers from them. Allow moments of silence and freely bounce ideas back and forth. Listen to their thoughts and perspectives, stay engaged and when it's time, share your story.
- ask questions - the more questions you ask, the more information you get.
- ask a question when a question is asked of you. (Jesus' model)
- delay giving answers. Moves a person to think about their own unique circumstances.
- when you do look to answer questions, answer the question *behind* the question(s).

Servanthood: a mixed salad of servant and compassion evangelism with acts of kindness. Jesus modeled and taught that serving others is the key to life.

Philippians 2:6-8; *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!*

Servanthood is God's love being poured out personally through us in kindness, caring for others, and helping to meet their needs so they may see God's kindness and have hope.

Our humble service has the potential to soften people's hearts, enabling them to hear and receive the gospel of Jesus Christ.

As the church serves together, we show people who are outside the church, that God cares and hopefully it gives them a reason to want to come inside.