

**Illustration:** Water vs \_\_\_\_\_ // Truth vs Error // Similarities vs Differences

**Review:** Wrapping up series – answering questions – go online if missed some of the weeks

**Today:** we're talking about ...

### How do I witness to people from other religions?

1. I need to know who I am, in light of who He is, first!

Matthew 4:19 "Jesus said to them, "Come follow Me and I will make you fishers of men"

- Am I a biblical Christian? A disciple? Then committed to Following, Being Changed, on His Mission

2. I need to live for His mission and purpose, not my own anymore.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." NLT

- He came to save the lost, make disciples and equip us to do the same (Matt 28:18-20)
- The harvest/opportunities are great (Matt 9:35-38)
  - Of the approximately 7,000 languages in our world, fewer than 600 have a completed Bible.

3. I need to know His message, the Gospel.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4<sup>3</sup> I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. <sup>4</sup>He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. NLT

- Good News, Bad News, Best News
- Not all paths lead to the same destination – there might be some similarities but the differences are too extreme to reconcile (ie – Mormons, Muslims, Hindu, Catholics, etc)
- God's way of salvation is His way, and there is no other way! (John 14:6)

4. I need to follow His method [Show & Tell]

- We follow after Christ, His example – He demonstrated SHOW and TELL – living and speaking forth the good news of God's way of life and salvation

2 Timothy 2:23-26 Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. <sup>24</sup>A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. <sup>25</sup>Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. <sup>26</sup>Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants. NLT

- SHOW that God's way of life has changed how we live and interact and treat others
- TELL others the good news of who He is and how He designed life to be lived

### A few PRACTICAL things to keep in mind:

1- Remember the goal – to be FAITHFUL [faithful > fruitful//progress>perfection]

1 Cor 3:6-8 <sup>6</sup>I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. <sup>7</sup>It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. NLT

- We are to do our part: some plant, some water, all tend the soil, God does the growing!
- We're to be faithful to Show and Tell His truth and seek to help people progress/move/grow towards Him – first to conversion then to maturity in Him [ladder illustration]

2 – See a third category in the conversation [Secular → Spiritual → the Gospel]

- Secular: Weather, news, kids, work, etc
- Spiritual: Morality, Church, Prayer, God, Faith, Religion, etc
- Gospel: Jesus, Salvation, sin, hell, resurrection, etc
- If talking with another religious person (Mormon, Catholic, JW, Muslim, etc), focus on 2 key areas:
  - 1-Who is Jesus
  - 2-How do you receive or earn or get Salvation?

3- Learn to share your TESTIMONY

1 Peter 3:15-16 Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. <sup>16</sup>But do this in a gentle and respectful way. <sup>[c]</sup> Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. NLT

- Be READY (reactive) to share and SEEK (proactive) ways to share
- Our part, be a faithful “witness”, testifying to what you’ve seen and heard (Acts 1:8; 1 Jn 1:3)
- God works powerfully through our testimony (Rev 12:11)

#### Practical Next Steps

- 1- If you haven't yet, Accept Christ – become a disciple of His
- 2- Get more equipped in sharing your faith and answering people's questions
- 3- Craft your testimony: your BC, point of Decision, and your AD
- 4- Share your testimony with someone and get feedback (friend, family, small group, etc)
- 5- Pray and seek to engage in a “spiritual” conversation this week

#### For Group Discussion:

What stood out to you the most from the sermon this week? Is there something new or challenging you heard?

**Opening Question:** Have you ever gone street witnessing? How do you respond to people of any faith, knocking on your door?

**Main Point:** Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.

**Main Scripture:** Acts 17:16-31

#### Questions:

##### Head

- What was going on in Athens that Paul was distressed about?
- How did Paul enter into a conversation with this group of people?

##### Heart

- What might earn you the influence to tell others about Jesus?

##### Hands

- Who comes to mind when you think about sharing Jesus with someone from another religion?
- How can you be a witness for Jesus in your spheres of influence with both truth and grace?

**Additional Scripture:** John 14:6, John 4:1-26

**Tips and Resources:** Be a kind human.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-only-way.html>

For resources, podcasts and more, go to <https://realliferesources.org/current-series/>

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