

## ***How To Improve At Having Spiritual Conversations***

1. Talk to \_\_\_\_\_ about it before you talk to others.

*"[Pray] for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly as I ought to speak." – Ephesians 6:19-20*

2. Look for \_\_\_\_\_ to speak.

*"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it...Pray also for us that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ on account of which I am in prison – that I may make it clear which is how I ought to speak." – Colossians 4:2-4*

*"We are...created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand." – Ephesians 2:10*

Examples: Jesus with the Samaritan woman (John 4); Philip with the Ethiopian official (Acts 8:26ff); Paul with Lydia (Acts 16:13-15)

3. Speak \_\_\_\_\_, with grace and humor. Enter into their world. To win some you ought to be \_\_\_\_\_.

*"To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews...To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some." – 1 Corinthians 9:20-22*

*"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person." – Colossians 4:5-6*

4. Avoid \_\_\_\_\_ and being \_\_\_\_\_.

*"The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will." – 2 Timothy 2:23-26*

5. \_\_\_\_\_, ask \_\_\_\_\_, tell \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.” – James 1:19*

*“A lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, ‘Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ Jesus said to him, ‘What is written in the law? How do you read it?’...But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’ Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem...’” – Luke 10:26-37 [How many times did Jesus do this?]*

6. Be \_\_\_\_\_ to give \_\_\_\_\_ for what you share.

*“Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.” – 1 Peter 3:15*

We recommend that you begin to think of possible questions in advance that might come up in conversations. Then try to come up with 2 to 3 reasons for why you think as you do. Consider this ‘soundbite training’. Even write these things down and review them. Practice is good!

7. Be discerning of when to \_\_\_\_\_. Keep in mind “the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_”.

*“A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path...Other seeds fell on rocky ground...Other seeds fell among thorns...Other seeds fell on good soil.” – Matthew 13:1-9*

8. Don’t be \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord and Christian friends afterwards. Keep growing in grace and knowledge.

*“The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.” – Isaiah 50:4*

*“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” – 2 Peter 3:18*