

Faith: Know it. Share it. Live it.

Engaging Skeptics

Colossians 4:2-6

May 19, 2019

There's a sensible, spiritual way to share your faith

When sharing your faith with skeptics:

1) Prepare with _____ (vs. 2-4)2

2) _____ are required (vs. 5)

Reality: How do we explain what takes place around us?

Human Beings (Anthropology) – What is a human being?

What happens to a person at death?

What is the meaning of human history?

Ethics – How do we know what is right and wrong?

Knowledge – Why is it possible to know anything at all?

3) _____ is critical (vs. 6)

- Communicate _____
- Communicate _____
- Communicate _____

4) Individualize your _____ (vs. 6)

Relationships are required

Communication is critical

Individualize your invitation

Thoughts for discussion...

How often do you pray for open doors through which the message about Jesus will go out (via your own personal engagements, Calvary's ministries or the people and organizations we support locally and globally)?

What are some practical ways to incorporate praying for open doors into your routine?

What are simple steps you could take to get to know your neighbours, acquaintances and coworkers better?

Are there questions or topics you have found helpful as you engage your friends about their worldviews?

Review John 1:35-41, Luke 19:1-10, Acts 17:16-34; 26 and/or 1 Corinthians 9:19-23. Were any of these examples helpful as you share your faith?

Explain how they helped or hindered you.

Are there other examples of sharing your faith that have helped you?

So, what's your defense? When someone asks you to give the reason for the hope you have (1 Peter 3:15), where do you take the conversation?

- Do you jump to Jesus' claims, or His life, death and resurrection?
- Do you back things up to creation?
- Do you try to make a case for the existence of God?
- Do you help them to see why it's even possible to *know* anything?
- Do you make a plea to their sense of beauty, truth or morality?
- Do you show them how science and faith can go together quite nicely?
- Do you flip the question of evil and suffering on its head?
- Do you simply tell them God's story through Scripture?
- Do you show them why the Bible is reliable?

Here are some of those resources we suggested again:

- Focus on the Family (www.focusonthefamily.com/faith/faith-in-life/defending-the-faith)
- Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (<https://www.rzim.org/>)
- *The Reason for God* (Timothy Keller)
- *The Problem of God* (Mark Clark)
- *Mere Christianity* (C.S. Lewis)
- Christianity Explored (<https://www.christianityexplored.org>)
- Cross Examined (<https://crossexamined.org/>)