



Next Sunday



### "HOW TO PRESENT THE GOSPEL"

December 4, 2011

- 1. Witnessing and the Holy Spirit.
- 2. What do Paul, Lydia, the 600,000 in Nineveh, and every converted unbeliever have in common?
- 3. Witnessing and the Word of God.
- 4. Why the negative first and not the positive?
- 5. Weak/shallow gospel.
- 6. Justification vs. sanctification.
- 7. Lordship salvation.
- 8. Religious people.
- 9. Witnessing to people at different relationship levels.
- 10. Terminology.
- 11. How to handle objections.
- 12. Witnessing to Jews.
- 13. Transitions.
- 14. The importance of pre-witnessing training.
- 15. Observer/Presenter.
- 16. Memorization

## Witnessing to Religious People:

- 1. They can be the most difficult people to witness to. Why? Because they believe their religious system will save them.
- 2. 95% of getting them saved is to get them unsaved.
- 3. They must get to the point of abandoning their religious system "putting no confidence in the flesh" (Phil. 3:3).

#### Matt 5:20

20 "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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## Witnessing to People at Different Relationship Levels:

1. Your world has different relationships – family, neighbors, work, community, casual, brief.

2. In general, gauge your presentation based on the frequency, depth, length, and urgency of the relationship.

3. Think of your relationships as "bridge building" – some small and quick, others large and slow.

## Rom 6:23

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of

God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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# **Terminology**

1. Put yourself in the shoes of the unbeliever — "What does he understand?" sin, righteousness, saved, prayer, Jesus Christ, Hell, Heaven, receive Christ, repent, etc.

2. If you use a particular term, define it, explain it – keep it short.

3. Don't assume they understand.

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# How to Handle Objections:

1. Don't get sidetracked or bogged down — "That's a really good question/point and if you can hold that for just a minute, I'll answer it when I've finished".

2. Sometimes they will leave it and not bring it up again. If they do then you can answer/discuss it.

3. Don't argue. No one has ever been argued into heaven.

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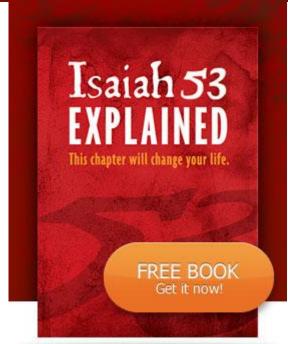
# Witnessing to Jews:

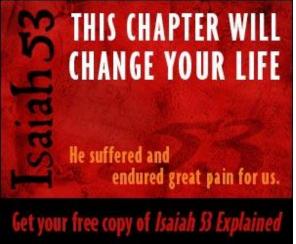
- 1. Try to determine if they are a Ultra-Orthodox, Orthodox, Reformed, Reconstructionist, or Humanistic Jew.
- Ultra-Orthodox strictly observe Jewish law and do not integrate into society. Dress distinctively and live separately.
   Orthodox strictly observe Jewish law but do integrate into
- society.

  \*\*Reformed\* do not strictly observe Jewish law. They do however retain much of the values and ethics of Judaism as well as
- some of the practices and culture. **Reconstructionist** Judaism is evolving. God is not active in history and is not relevant.
- Humanistic Do not believe in God. Believe in creating a Jewish lifestyle and culture free from supernatural authority.
- \*Use a tract or booklet designed especially for witnessing to Jews.
- \*Or be familiar with O.T. passages which present the gospel.

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### I'm Jewish... Now What?

When someone suggested to me that Jesus was the promised Messiah of Israel, I thought: "You will never get me to believe that unless you demonstrate it to me from within the Jewish world. Show it to me from our own sacred writings, and then I'll look at it more closely. Don't quote the New Testament to me!"

#### My unspoken challenge was answered.

- One of the pivotal passages of the Hebrew Bible that revolutionized my thinking on the subject was the 53rd chapter of the Book of Isaiah. Believe me, it was not easy to believe that Jesus was the Messiah and the fulfillment of all we hoped for as Jews throughout the centuries! It was a struggle—especially because this ancient prophecy describes the Messiah in a way that I did not expect.
- In this book, we will examine the historical trustworthiness of the Old and New Testaments, learn about the nature of prophecy and the concept of atonement and compare the life and character of Yeshua with the specific details found in Isaiah chapter 53. Come on this journey with me—all you need is an open mind and an open heart!

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#### **Transitions**

- 1. It takes time and practice.
- - crises/tragedy → everything has a purpose → God → gospel
- 3. A relationship doesn't mean you must become best friends before you can share, but take a moment to be more than a stranger and show concern for them as a person. When this is established it's time to transition the conversation to a spiritual level.

#### 4. Transitional questions:

"Are you interested in spiritual things?"

"Do you ever think about eternity?"

"Do you attend a church?"

"What would you say is the most significant thing that has happened to you in your life?"

"Do you ever wonder what will happen to you after you die?"

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## The Importance of Pre-Witnessing Training

- 1. By practicing over and over, the presentation will become second nature and will enable you to concentrate on how the person is reacting, am I going too fast or too slow, do I need to pause and ask a question, etc.
- 2. I need to feel comfortable and relaxed which will be evident to the unbeliever.

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# Observer/Presenter

- 1. Go with someone and watch them present the gospel.
- 2. This takes the pressure off of you and frees you up to observe.
- 3. You will learn how to share the gospel and how to handle different situations.

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### **Memorization**

- 1. Memorize a gospel presentation.
- 2. Memorize the key points that must be included in every gospel presentation. (sin, God, Jesus Christ, faith, repentance, etc.)
- 3. Memorize your 3 minute testimony.
- 4. This will make you "armed and dangerous"!