

## PERSONAL EVANGELISM #7 - PREPARING FOR THE UNREADY

### 1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-27

We must prepare to meet the unready in the place of their unbelief and ANSWER appropriately. Even the shortest journey must map the beginning point to arrive at the destination.

#### I. PEOPLE ALREADY POSSESS PARADIGMS

- A. A paradigm is a "world view" - the way we see things
  - 1. Ex: Atheists believe in the "physical realm"
  - 2. Use Four Filter Questions to find common belief
- B. Paul threw away pride and boasting to win the lost
  - 1. Jews considered themselves "better" 1 COR. 9:20
  - 2. He was free but made himself servant (vs.19)
  - 3. Why? To "by all means" SAVE SOME (vs.22-23)
  - 4. Don't waste time and opportunity (vs.26)
- C. Jesus used questions like these in Samaria JOHN 4:4
  - 1. Admits something beyond the senses (vs. 11&15)
  - 2. She admits there is a higher power (vs. 19-20)
  - 3. She admits that God exists (vs. 25)
  - 4. She has final authority on her beliefs (vs. 26)

#### II. QUESTION 1: DOES ANYTHING EXIST BEYOND OUR SENSES?

- 1. Can be hard: Use Bible, don't argue ISA. 55:11
  - 2. Die-hard atheists will NOT accept Bible
- B. You will not win "scientific" discussion with a verse
  - 1. It's their hobbyhorse: they'll have more "facts"
  - 2. Topic-jumpers and intellectuals 1 TIM. 6:20
  - 3. If you make a point, they'll change the topic!
- C. Learn a few "impossible" prophecies to give them
  - 1. Ask about the horns in Daniel 8:8
  - 2. Alexander the Great / Alexander's four captains

#### III. QUESTION 2: IF SO, DOES A HIGHER POWER EXIST?

- A. Psychic phenomenon, impersonal force, OR knowable God?
- B. Perfect design requires designer PSA. 139:14

#### IV. QUESTION 3: IF SO, WHICH HIGHER POWER OR POWERS?

- A. Paul met Athenians on their level ACTS 17:22-34
- B. He didn't compromise nor issue an ultimatum

#### V. QUESTION 4: IF SO, HOW DO YOU KNOW?

- A. What is the basis of your authority or knowledge?
- B. Inspiration of God 2 PETER 1:21 / 2 TIM. 3:16

CONCLUSION: Be prepared to meet those "unready" to hear.