

PERSONAL EVANGELISM #8 - 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. PERSONAL PARADIGMS

- A. 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)
- B. Jesus must needs go through 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)
- C. A paradigm is a "world view" - the way we see things
 - 1. Ex: Atheists believe in the planet earth
 - 2. Use Four Filter Questions to find common belief

II. 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. IF SO, DOES A HIGHER POWER EXIST?

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

IV. 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. 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.