

From Author William Fay:

A series of non-threatening questions.

- Just curious, do you have any kind of spiritual beliefs?
- What do you think happens when we die?
- What about Jesus, who do you think He was?
- If you died today, where would you go?
- If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it?
 - Have some key Scriptures like the Romans Road highlighted so you can show them what God says.

5. Other Thoughts:

- **Don't be afraid of questions** about things you don't know. Simply say, "That's a really good question. Let me find out and get back to you."
- **Practice with a friend or spouse** – not to memorize script, but to just get more used to getting the words out.
- **Keep the conversation relaxed** – A soft answer turns away wrath (Proverbs 15:1). Keep it soft - keep it light.
- **Take advantage of natural opportunities.** People are usually not shy about sharing their troubles.
 - Let them know you will be praying for them.
 - Make sure you DO pray.
 - Follow up with them in the future. "How is that situation?"
 - If appropriate, offer to pray for them right there. Nothing flowery or

churchy. Just pray sincerely that God would help them.

- Again.... follow up with them.
- **Only go through the door if it opens and keep going only if it widens.** If they look or sound interested – then continue on. If they change the subject, *drop it* for now.
 - If someone gets upset or says, "I don't want to hear this." Don't push. Just say, "I'm sorry, I didn't mean to upset you." Remember – You don't have to close the deal.

6. Remember:

- **Why we do this.** People will either have a life of grace in relationship with God and an eternity with Him OR a life separated from God and an eternity of suffering. God loves them and has given us good news to share.
- **The power is in the gospel.** Not in our perfect presentation of it.
- **It's the Holy Spirit's job to convince people in their heart** – not ours!
- **Our job is only to share.**
- **At best we will get the minority.** Jesus said narrow is the way that leads to life and few there are that find it. Don't hold yourself to expectations the Lord does not have. Just plant seeds that God can use to make a difference in the future. And know that you have given another human being the chance at the greatest opportunity they could ever know.

Sharing Jesus Without Being Condescending, Pushy, or Just Plain Weird.

1. **Pray** – This is a work of God not us. It must be bathed in prayer. Pray:
 - For God's burden for the lost,
 - For a love and concern that overcomes fear.
 - In advance for people,
 - In the moment. (See Nehemiah 2:1-5)
2. **Build Relationships.** People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.
 - **Get to know people by asking questions.** Take the time to notice things about people. Find something positive about someone to comment on and ask about it.
 - **A physical feature** -
 - Ladies - hair, nails, "Where do you get them done?"
 - Foreign Accent – "Where's that from?" "How long have you been here?" "How did your journey lead you here?"
 - **Who they are** -
 - Quick witted, "Have you always been like that?"
 - Hard worker, "Where'd you get your work ethic?"
 - **Something they have** -
 - "Nice car...hybrid, right? Do you like it?"
 - "Nice outfit, where did you get it?"

- **Something they do -**
 - “What made you decide to get into teaching?”
 - “Your garden always looks nice, how’d you learn to do that?”
- **Listen to their response.** There will probably be other things in that response to ask about.
 - Example: “I’ve wanted to teach since I was little.”
 - “Was it a particular teacher who inspired you?”
 - “Where did you go to college?”
- **Build a reputation for being a blessing.** Serve, help, encourage, be positive. When people are used to receiving good from you, they will be much more apt to receive what you say in a positive light.
- 3. **Prepare to share** – not a polished word for word script but do put some thought into this beforehand. What kinds of things you want to say? Jot down your ideas and organize your thoughts so there is a flow to what you share. Prepare to share:
 - **Your own personal story.**
 - **The difference that knowing Christ has made in your life.** Example: “I’m much more at peace because I know He’s with me.”
 - **How God has worked in your life.** Think about some past experiences where God has revealed His presence and working in your life.
- **How you yourself came to Christ.** What was your journey like? When did it finally click for you?

From Pastor Greg Laurie:

 - **Lead ins:** “Let tell you what God did for me.” “Can I tell you my story?” “This is who I was... And here’s what happened to me.”
 - **Bring people into your story.** “When I heard about Jesus for the first time, I didn’t really want to hear it, you know? But then this happened...”
 - **Stay away from “Christianese”** (I repented, was washed in the blood, and became part of the body) Say, “I asked the Lord to forgive me, and I felt like a weight was lifted.” “Church is like a family now.”
 - Again- Put your thoughts together so that it flows naturally.
- **The Gospel.** Everyone should have a basic knowledge of the gospel. Remember, the gospel is the power of God for salvation. (Romans 1:16)
- I. A “Handy” Way
 - a. Thumb (think fatter) = God’s love for us.
 - b. Pointer = all of us have sinned.
 - c. Middle (a curse) = sin separates us from God.
 - d. Ring (think wedding) God made a way to bring us into a close relationship with Him. How? Through Jesus’s death on the cross for our sins.
- e. Pinky (think pinky swear) = God’s promise of eternal life.
- II. **Romans Road.** Copy these Scriptures or highlight them in your Bible or app. Romans 3:23, 6:23a, 5:8, 6:23b, 10:9
- III. **Gospel tracts.** Especially useful if there is not time to share personally. (Personal is always best)
 - a. *4 Spiritual Laws* by Bill Bright
 - b. *Steps to Peace with God* by Billy Graham.
- **Put yourself in the other person’s shoes.** If something sounds weird to you, it probably will to them too.
- **Find what works for YOU.** Look up sharing Christ online or on YouTube. Find something you really connect with that is “gentle and respectful” (1 Peter 3:15) and that sounds like you. Find something you can really get behind.
- 4. Use Relevant and Natural Spiritual Conversation Starters.
 - “You know, I’ve noticed especially since Covid a lot of people seem to be on edge - what centers you?” “What keeps you going?”
 - If they have one - just listen. Don’t debate. Chances are they will follow up with “What about you?” If not and the conversation is still flowing, say, “You know what does it for me is my relationship with God. Can I tell you my story?”