

How To Give Away Your Faith

HANDOUT #3

41. While these subjects may seem like interesting topics only for pastors and theologians, we will see that our belief on how we view Israel will determine how we will define “**election**” & how we will do evangelism.
42. As we will see in this course on evangelism, whether you side with Calvin or Arminius or somewhere in between will flavor how you view lost people and how you will share the gospel.

IV. Transitional Questions Leading into the Gospel

A. Some helpful questions:

1. “Tell me _____, is Christianity something new to you or is it something that you _____ up with?”
2. “Did you grow up in any particular denomination or _____?”
3. “Do you _____ to church anywhere?”
4. “Are you interested in spiritual _____?”
5. “I like to encourage people spiritually when I am given that privilege. To help me understand where you are in your spiritual journey, let me ask this: If you were to place yourself on a scale from 0 to 100 — with 0 meaning unsure and 100 meaning absolutely certain — how sure are you, if you were to die right now, that you would go to heaven? Would you say 25%, 50%, 75%, or 100%? Where would you place yourself on that _____?”
6. “If your life were to end today and you suddenly found yourself standing before God, and He asked, ‘Why should I let you into heaven?’—how would you _____ Him?”
7. “_____, from what you understand about Christianity as of now, what do you believe God requires for someone to _____ heaven?”
8. “If you are not 100% certain what do you think you would have to _____ in order to change your current status?”
9. “In the church you were raised in, what is your understanding as to _____ a person is able to go to heaven when they die?”
10. What do you think it _____ to be a Christian?
11. “If your way *to heaven* contradicts the Bible, would you want to _____?”

B. Transitioning into the gospel.

1. “_____, this Sunday/Thursday at _____ my pastor will be sharing an outline and overview of the entire Bible — among other things it explains how you can be 100% certain that when you die, or if Christ were to come back today that you would go to heaven. Would you like to _____ with me?”
2. “Our church has a podcast/internet link that explains directly _____ the Bible how you can be 100% sure that when you die you would go to heaven. Would you be willing to give me your opinion on it?”
3. “_____, I have a little booklet that is a collection of key verses from the Bible that summarizes its message from beginning to _____. Among other things it explains how you can be 100% certain that when you die, or when Christ comes back that you will go to heaven. May I share it with you?”

V. Introducing the “Red Booklet”

A. Advantages to using “*Would You Like To Have God As Your Friend?*”

1. While this booklet can certainly be given to someone to read on their own or to watch it by scanning the QR code on the back—it is ideally written so that one individual can _____ another person through it.
2. A personal presentation of the gospel allows for the opportunity to answer someone’s questions and to encourage him to _____ Christ as their personal Savior (Acts 8:26-35; 2 Cor. 5:20).

18 Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:18–20).

3. The booklet contains everything a person needs to know about sin, salvation and the Savior in order to _____ a Christian.
4. It will help you not to _____ from the subject (John 4:19-23).
5. The booklet presents the gospel in a logical order which will make sense to the _____.

6. This booklet contains all the Scripture needed for someone to understand in order to become a Christian, so that even if you do not have a Bible with you, you can still _____ the gospel (2 Timothy 3:14-17; Romans 10:12-15).

14 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:14–17).

7. This booklet will enable you to tactfully help the person admit his need for Christ and then to lead him to make the decision to _____ Jesus as their Savior (Proverbs 27:1; Isaiah 55:6; Luke 12:19-21; 2 Cor. 6:2; 2 Peter 3:9-10; Heb. 3:7-8).

2 for He says, “AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU, AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU.” Behold, now is “THE ACCEPTABLE TIME,” behold, now is “THE DAY OF SALVATION”— (2 Corinthians 6:2)

8. It provides a prayer that the person can use to express _____ in Christ as Savior and Lord (Romans 10:10-13).
9. It provides some introductory concepts on _____ of salvation.
10. It can be a lead in to _____ New Testament baptism (Matthew 10:32; Matthew 28:19; Acts 16:31-33).

31 They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” 32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house. 33 And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household (Acts 16:31–33).

11. It can also provide an opportunity to present the need to understand principles of spiritual _____ like finding a local church, utilizing prayer & reading the Bible (Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Peter 5:7).

24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near (Hebrews 10:24–25).

B. Advantages to the theological perspective behind the red booklet.

1. Years ago, most gospel tracts presupposed that the average person, at least in America, had some _____ knowledge of Christianity.
2. And so, during the 60's, 70's & 80's — most gospel presentations that were either memorized — or in booklet form — were considered an Acts 2 presentation of “**the gospel**” or an Acts _____ presentation.
3. When discussing evangelistic presentations—the distinction between an Acts 2 & an Acts 17 presentation of the gospel is centered around around the different _____ points in which the gospel is shared.
4. In Acts chapter 2, on the Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem, Peter’s listeners _____ primarily “**Jews and proselytes**” (Acts 2:10).
5. These individuals already believed in the God of Israel, they _____ much of the Old Testament, not to mention they understood much about sin, sacrifice, the promised Messiah & the coming judgment.
6. For this reason, the Apostle Peter could begin with Scripture, cite certain prophecies & then show how _____ fulfilled them.
7. He did not need to explain the origin and consequences of sin, he only needed to show how Jesus _____ the promised Christ.
8. The traditional Acts 2 gospel presentation that was “safe” to use with most people—as it assumed biblical literacy and a theistic worldview which is why _____ assumed their knowledge of Joel 2 & Psalm 16.
9. Today, especially if an individual is under the age of 40, it is not safe to assume that—they know or embrace—basic truths of the _____.
10. In Acts 17, when Paul gives his sermon at **Mars Hill** or the **Areopagus**, his audience are Greeks—who are ignorant of biblical truth but who are highly in tuned with _____ philosophy, polytheism and idolatry.
11. Apart from general revelation — (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:18-20; Genesis 3:6-13; 4:4-7; Romans 2:14-16) — the people in **Athens** did _____ share the Jewish worldview of God, sin & the Messiah.
12. For this reason, before speaking about Jesus & the resurrection, Paul began further back, by first presenting God as the sovereign Creator, exposing the futility of their idols & warning of the judgment to _____.

13. In Athens, the Greek philosophers & idol worshipers were biblically illiterate which is why the Apostle Paul first built a _____ by referring to their altar “**To the unknown god**” (17:22–23).
14. He appealed to what they knew in both creation & conscience, such that he established in their thinking what they knew to be true, that there is ____ God who made heaven, earth, and all people (17:24–26).
15. He reminds them that the creation itself shouts that God is not part of the creation but over it & He does not live in man-made temples ____ does he need to be served by men for He is self-sustaining (17:24–29).
16. Sadly, this is the spiritual state of many people across the globe, for most who have been raised—with an evolutionary world view ____ in ignorance not knowing & having ever been taught the Bible.
17. While some people you share “**the gospel**” with—may already ____ some background, ‘the red booklet’ assumes no biblical foundation.
18. Instead — ‘the red booklet’ — presents the message chronologically, building an historical framework for understanding the _____.
19. In post-Christian America and in most non-Christian cultures, an Acts 17 approach is needed—starting with who God is, why we are accountable to Him, and why Jesus even _____.
20. In Athens, Paul cannot appeal to their knowledge of Scripture because they had none — but then having laid the foundation he presents biblical truth calling ____ to repent and to believe.
21. Unlike most modern apologists—who often only give information, he assumes people can process these truths because of the Spirit’s help and so they must prepare to meet the ____ Judge (17:30–31).
22. The Acts 2 vs. the Acts 17 distinction is hugely relevant in evangelism today because people’s background knowledge varies so _____.
23. Please know the gospel is the ____ in both—Jesus crucified and risen.
24. The only difference in terms of what changes concerns how far _____ you must go in order to make that message intelligible.
25. America is becoming more like Athens than Jerusalem and so we need to how to start in Genesis before proclaiming _____.

C. Pointers when sharing the “Red Booklet”

1. Expect God to use you if you are _____ with the Spirit.
2. Pray for God’s _____ to be expressed through you when you are sharing the greatest news they will ever hear.
3. Hold the booklet so that the other person can _____ it.
4. Try to familiarize yourself with the content so that you do not have to hold the booklet close to you and so that your presentation is _____ mechanical.
5. Read through the booklet, pausing occasionally to ask, “Does this make _____ to you?”
6. When questions come up that could change the subject, explain that most questions are answered as you go through the booklet, so try to _____ answering question until you have completed the booklet.
7. Be sensitive to the person’s needs yet try not to depart from reading the booklet only if _____.
8. Read through the prayer providing an opportunity for the person to _____ on the Lord Jesus in faith.

Assignment: Memorize the transitional questions until you can say them in your sleep!

15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).