

Talk to People about Right Division

One Solution for Shy, Lonely, or Unmotivated Saints

“But if any man love God, the same is known of him.” – 1 Corinthians 8:3

1. Shy? Lonely? Unmotivated? Do the Work of an Evangelist!

- a. Evangelism comes from love for God, his truth, & his will plus a heart for others – 1Thes 4:9
- b. Communicating comes very naturally for some people, but we should all strive for 1Cor 8:3
- c. If grace isn’t working *in* you, don’t expect it to easily come *out* of you – Mat 15:18, Phm 1:5-6

2. Beware of Common Pitfalls

- a. Don’t be a heart-hardener (don’t pick fights & instigate disputes) – Rom 14:1&19, Gal 5:26
 - i. Being an ambassador or evangelist is different than playing doctrinal whack-a-mole
 - ii. No need to push hot-button topics and slaughter sacred cows, especially with family
- b. Be a copycat if it works, but don’t if what you’re copying doesn’t work well for you
- c. Try not to be a one-trick pony (easier for you, not always effective for others) – 1Co 9:19-23
 - i. A person’s ability to grow & understand the scripture will be directly related to their past experience (Hint: the less baggage there is, the quicker & easier it is to grow).
- d. Avoid right division talks with unsaved people (you’re wasting everyone’s time) – 1Cor 2:14
 - i. Do not assume or accept “close enough” (this is hard with people you are closer to)
 - ii. Most “yes or no” questions or those with rote answers do not convey understanding
 - iii. Ask deeper questions. Get them to talk. Be quiet. Listen. Get salvation down pat first.
 - 1. *“What makes a person a Christian?”; “What does it mean to be saved?”; “How do you think a person gets saved?”; “How do you know you’re going to heaven when you die?”; “Why do you thin faith without works is dead?”*

3. Ideas for Helping People You Know Come unto the Knowledge of Truth

- a. Add more God & Bible into your conversations and responses
 - i. *“I’m glad/thankful that God...”; “The Bible says...”; “Yes—I just read in the Bible...”*
- b. Build credibility with Bible fun facts – *“Hey, did you know...”*
- c. Comment on mainstream Christian media/music/materials/etc. instead of your people
- d. Ask people to explain what they mean when they say something about God or the Bible
- e. Affirm correct commonalities of faith to build rapport & give them something to stand on
- f. Genuinely celebrate baby steps as success. Any move in the right direction is a step closer.
- g. Explain what you know or what you’re learning to yourself (recording, in writing, a mirror?)
- h. Write encouraging/testimonial letters (indiv. or en masse) to people at strategic times
- i. Give gifts that promote Bible study and communicate sound doctrine
- j. Place sound doctrine in plain sight around your home, car, desk at work for others to see
- k. Hand out resources with right doctrine and ask for feedback (instead of “learn this!”)
- l. Design your own resources (tracts, charts, lessons, articles, summaries) & ask for feedback

- m. Plan lessons/devotionals for your marriage, kids, friends, your pretend Bible-study, inmates
- n. Ask questions about contradictions in the Bible or in Bible translations
- o. The Missing Gospel Game – 1Cor 15:1-4 → Luke 9:1 → Luke 9:22 → Luke 18:31-34
- p. Learn about *other* churches'/denominations' doctrines and use it as a springboard
- q. Stop going to (or decline attending) their church/Bible study & tell them it's the doctrine
- r. Host a Bible study—it doesn't have to be deep, but must be defined (subject, length, purpose)
- s. Let them use their wrong translations. They'll come around if you're a model Bible believer.
- t. Pray for the people you know
- u. Support the people you know: if they're saved, they're in Christ. If they need to grow in truth, you may be the only chance they have to do that. Be there for them.
- v. Learn to discern the lines between patience, compromise, and deceit
- w. Have an honest, serious, heart-to-heart conversation expressing your thoughts & concerns
- x. Remember you stand before God and answer to him, not anyone else – Rom 14:12
- y. Step out of your comfort zone for Christ's sake and for the sake of others – Phi 2:3-4
- z. Confidence in what you believe = strength of faith → a very powerful influencer Eph6:19-20
- aa. Be faithful – consistency with any of these things over time will have immeasurable impact