

Commanded

Matt. 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Crucial

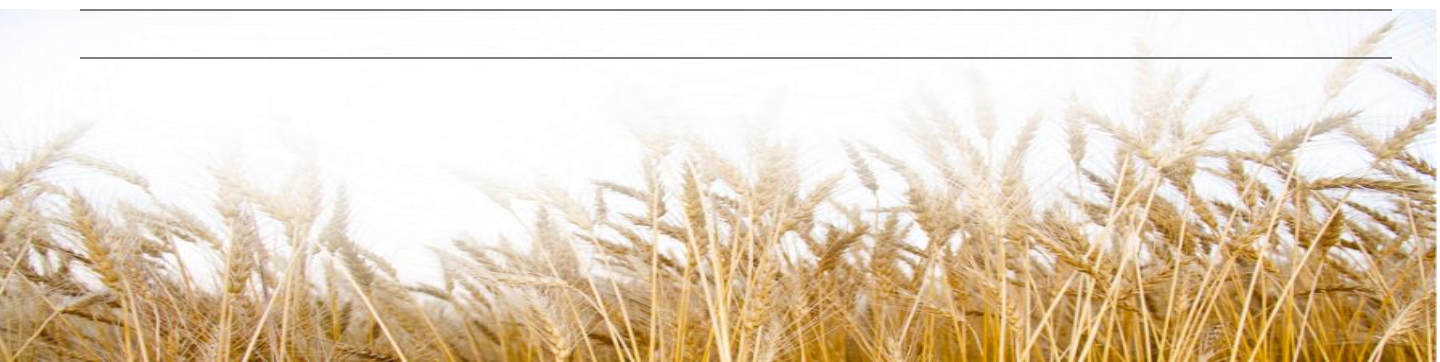
Rom. 10:13-14 "For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching (proclaiming)?"

Captivating

Matt. 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Convincing

1 Peter 3:15. "...but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to give and answer to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect..."



Commanded

Matt. 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Celebrated

Is. 52:7 "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns!"

S – SHORT (< 5 minutes)

H – HUMBLE (it's not about you)

A – AND

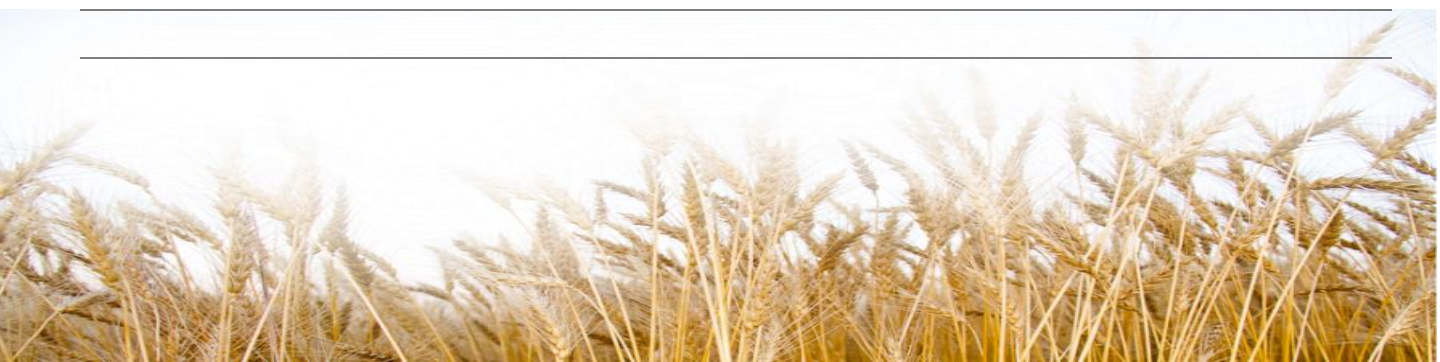
R – RESPECTFUL (not "R" rated)

E – EXAMPLARY (what God can do)

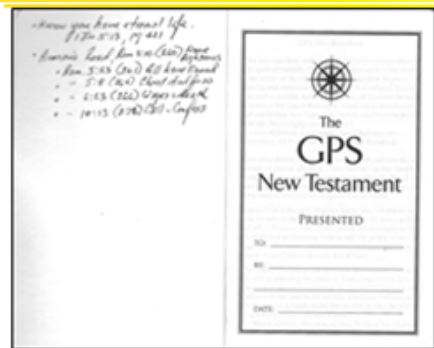
Sharing your story

"For we cannot but **SPEAK** the things which we have seen and **heard**," Acts 4:20

What is your story?



- **Know you have eternal life**
 - **1 Jn 5:13 (421)**
- **Roman's Road**
 - **Rm 3:10 (261) None righteous**
 - **" 3:23 (261) All have sinned**
 - **" 5:8 (264) Christ died for us**
 - **" 6:23 (266) Wages = death**
 - **" 10:13 (272) Call - confess**



"Rules of Engagement" when witnessing using the Bible

"Never use threatening or forceful or combative dialog when witnessing.

Always be gentle.

Don't argue.

Don't get distracted or re-directed. Be polite.

Always have them read the scripture for themselves – out loud.

Never have them repeat a prayer for salvation

Never pray their prayer for them.

Stop when you feel resistance.

Invite them to church and offer to meet them there.

Share your new Believer's story with me, Pastor Andy or one of the church elders

Opening Questions for Starting the conversation

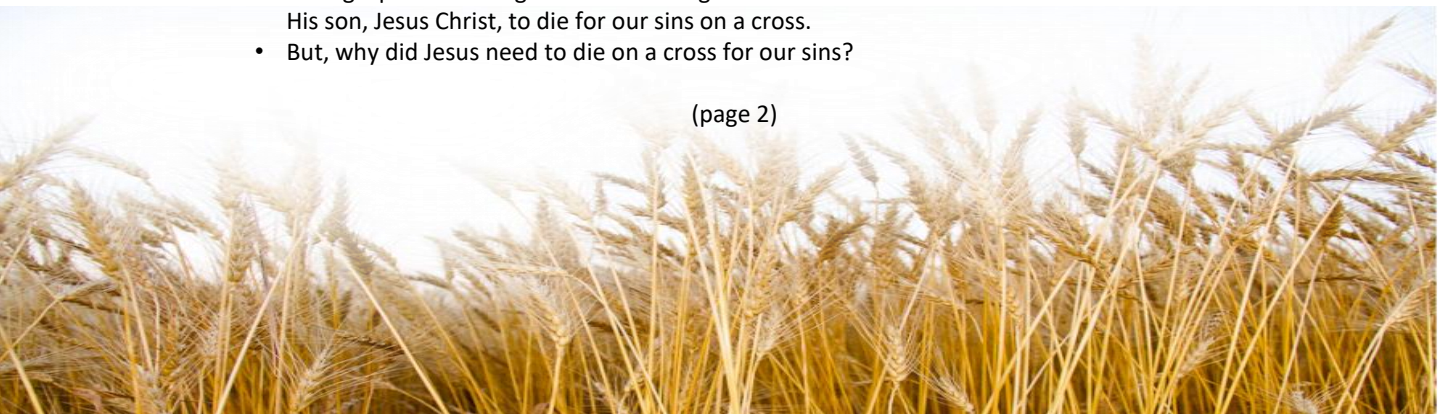
There are a multitude of ways to start. Here are a few that I've used the most (no particular order – depends on the circumstances).

1. "Do you go to church?"
2. "Do you ever think about spiritual things?"
3. "Did you ever want to know what happens after death?"
4. "Did you think it's possible to know for absolute certainty you're going to Heaven when you die?"
5. "If I could show you, in the Bible, where it says you can 'know for sure you're going to Heaven when you die', would you like to see it?"
6. "If you were to die and find yourself face to face with God, and He were to ask you why he should let you into Heaven, what do you think you'd tell him?"
7. "Do you believe mankind is basically good?"
8. "Did you ever wonder what the phrase "born again" means?"
9. "Did you ever wonder why there is so much evil in the world?"
10. "If I could show you the answer in the Bible, would you want to see it?"

How to walk someone down the Roman's Road

At any time if they don't want to go on, leave them a tract and offer for them to call the church if they have any questions or would like to reach you to talk further (feel free to give them your name, but use good judgement if you leave them your phone number)

- 1Jn. 5:13 "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."
 - John is writing to tell everyone that they can know for sure if you are going to Heaven when you die. He says things have been written in the Bible to show you how you can know for sure where you will go when you die. Do you want me to show these to you so you can know?
- Rom. 3:10 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one"
 - This Bible verse is simply telling us that nobody is perfect. Would you agree with that?
- Rom. 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"
 - This verse tells us why nobody is perfect. It's because we all sin. Some may sin worse than others, but that fact is that we all sin. That makes us all sinners. Does that make sense to you?
 - The glory of God is referring to God's perfection. He is perfect in every way. Since God's home is in Heaven, all those who live in Heaven must also be perfect like Him. Sin and sinners fall short of perfection and are not allowed into Heaven unless their sin is totally forgiven.
 - So, how can we be totally forgiven and perfect enough to get into Heaven?
- Rom. 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
 - The "gospel" means "good news". The good news is that God wants us to live with Him and sent His son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins on a cross.
 - But, why did Jesus need to die on a cross for our sins?



How to walk someone down the Roman's Road (Con't)

- Rom. 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
 - This verse tells us why Christ had to die for us. It says that the wages (payment) for sin is death. Not just physical death, but eternal death. Eternal separation from God in Hell.
 - It also says that eternal life (eternity in Heaven with God) is a "gift" through Jesus Christ.
 - A gift is not something you pay for, nor is it something you can earn. It is something offered to you and your sole responsibility is to receive it.
 - So how do you receive it?
- Rom. 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."
 - "Saved" is an interesting word and you may have heard it used before. Saved from what? Saved from an eternity in Hell because of your sins.
 - If someone is drowning or caught in their house when their house is on fire, you would probably hear them call out to be saved. It is the same thing for us, we are drowning in our sin and only a breath away from spending eternity in Hell fire.
 - This verse tells us to call upon Jesus Christ to save us from our sins.
 - So, how do we do that?
- Rom. 10:9-10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
 - This verse tells us to be saved, there are three things we need to do:
 - Confess to God that we are a sinner. That means to acknowledge to God that you are a sinner and ask Him to forgive you of your sins.
 - Next, we need to surrender to Jesus Christ as "Lord". That means we turn our life over to Him as our Lord.
 - Last, we need to believe in your heart that Jesus is God and that He is alive and in Heaven today so, when we die, He will take us to where He is.
- Do you believe you are a sinner?
 - If "yes", continue. If "no" or "not sure", go back.
- Do you believe Jesus died for your sins as we've read?
 - If "yes", continue. If "no" or "not sure", go back.
- Do you want to be saved so you can spend eternity in Heaven with Christ?
 - If "yes", continue. If "no" or "not sure", go back.
- To get saved, you need to talk to God. He's the only one who can save you.
- Would you like me to pray with you so you can ask God to forgive you and come into your life and save you?
 - If "yes", continue. If "no" or "not now", Reassure them that there is nothing to be afraid of and that you will guide them through it.



How to walk someone down the Roman's Road (Con't)

- Let's pray. I'll start out and then I'll help you.
 - Dear Heavenly Father, I am so glad that I have been able to spend this time with _____. He wants to be saved today and wants to ask you to forgive him of his sins and come into his life and save him and take him to Heaven when he dies.
 - Now _____, in your own words, ask God to forgive you and save you from your sins and give your life to Him as your Lord.
 - Usually, you won't need to give them any more guidance. But, if they don't know what to say, sometimes I will tell them "all you need to do is talk to God like you've been talking to me... First, just tell him you know you've sinned and ask Him to forgive you of your sins". (Once they've done that)... "Next, ask Him to save you and take you to Heaven when you die".

After someone receives Christ as their savior, reassure them that they can never lose their salvation.

- This is a wonderful thing that you've done today. I want you to know that God says once you are saved, you can never be un-saved. There is nothing anyone (including you) or anything that can keep you from going to Heaven when you die.
- Romans 8:38-39 "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."
 - This means that there is nothing you can do in this life, there is nothing anyone else can do (including demons and angels) and there is nothing that can happen to ever separate you from God again. You are headed for Heaven when you die and there is nothing that can change that.

After all this, you want to be sure to invite them to visit your church with you and make sure you sit with them. Introduce them to Pastor Andy and to me if you can.

Make sure you give Pastor and me their name and contact information. We'd like your permission to follow up on them and, of course, you are encouraged to go with.



How to walk someone down the John's Road.

At any time if they don't want to go on, leave them a tract and offer for them to call the church if they have any questions or would like to reach you to talk further (feel free to give them your name, but use good judgement if you leave them your phone number)

I use John's road when I encounter someone who has difficulty accepting the idea that their sins are enough to condemn them or they are holding on to weighing the good against the bad.

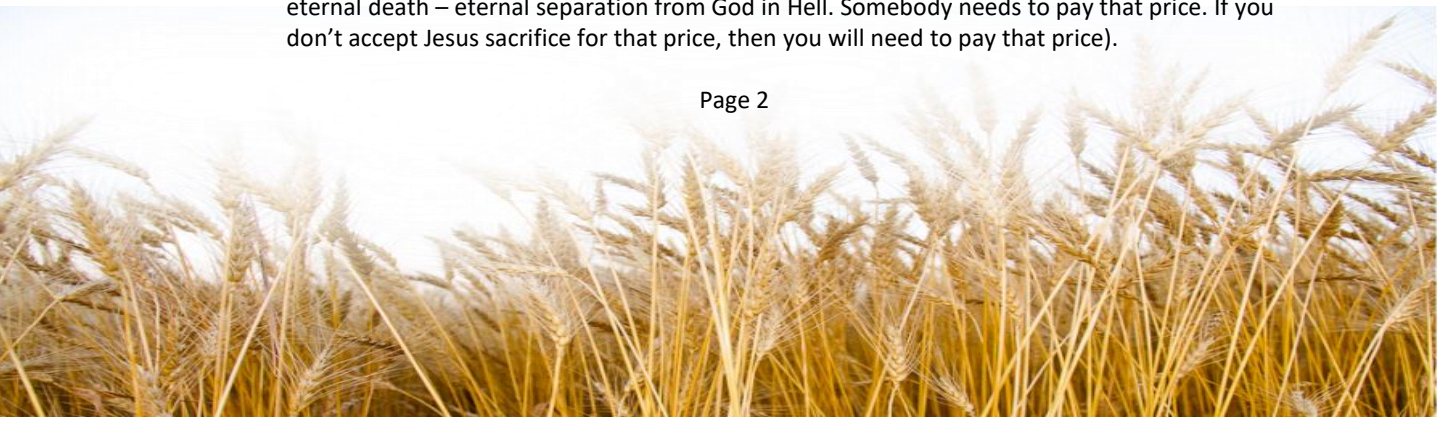
I explain to them that the sins we commit are the outward proof our sinful condition just like chicken pox is the outward evidence of the sickness in our body. I tell them that one of the smartest and holiest leaders of Israel had the same question in Jesus' time.

- When Jesus was ministering on the earth, one of the Jewish leaders came to him and asked Him about His teaching. The man was Nicodemus, Nicodemus was the chief teacher among the Jews in the Israel capitol of Jerusalem. Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be "born again" to enter into Heaven. John chapter 3 records the conversation.
- John 3:1-3: 1) There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2) The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. 3) Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
 - This is the first time in the Bible that the term "born again" is used. And, it is used by Jesus to explain that no-one can go to Heaven unless they are born again.
 - This puzzled Nicodemus. He had never heard this term before even though he was the "master teacher" in Israel. So, he asked...
- 4) Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
 - Good question. How can you be born twice?
- 5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
 - Jesus tells Nicodemus that a person must be born physically AND spiritually. Just because you are alive physically, doesn't mean that you are alive spiritually.
 - Then Jesus repeats it saying "you must be born again". Jesus is clearly saying that when we are born physically, we are dead spiritually and must be born again (or "made alive") spiritually. Let me help illustrate why this is the case.



How to walk someone down the John's Road (cont'd)

- It goes all the way back to Genesis chapter 2 (vs. 16-17) when God made man. He put them in this beautiful paradise called the Garden of Eden and He told them "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.
 - Well, we all know the story. They ate of the forbidden tree.
 - But, did they die that day? No. So, either God is a liar or something else happened. That is what I want to show you.
- (Hold your hands with the last 3 fingers on each hand up and your little fingers touching).
 - When God made man, He made man in His image. Now, God doesn't look like us and we don't look like Him. But, God is a trinity and he made us a trinity. This is the "image" that we reflect of God.
 - (using your fingers)... God is three-in-one. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We are also a trinity: Soul, Body and Spirit (three-in-one).
 - When Adam and Eve were created, they were connected to God by their spirit with the Holy Spirit (touching little fingers).
 - But, when they ate of the forbidden tree, something must have died.
 - Their body didn't die because we know they lived for a long time.
 - Their soul didn't die because God tells us that man has a never-dying soul that will live forever in either Heaven or Hell.
 - The only thing left is the spirit. That day, their spirit became separate from God. Since the Bible tells us that God is life, when their spirit separated from God, their spirit died.
 - That is why Jesus says, you must be born again, spiritually.
 - No-one can go to Heaven with a spirit that is separated from God.
 - We all must have our spirit reconnected to God. When our spirit is reconnected to God, our spirit is made alive or "born again".
- So, how do we become "born again"?
- Jesus answers that question in the same conversation with Nicodemus in verse 16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
 - The key point Jesus makes to Nicodemus is, that to have everlasting life (life in Heaven forever) and to not perish (life in Hell – tormented for ever), you must believe that God "gave" His only begotten son, Jesus Christ.
- So the big question is: why did God send Jesus to die on a cross for us?
 - The Apostle Paul answers this question in Romans 6:23.
 - (now you move to the Romans road and pick up there explaining that the price for sin is death – eternal death – eternal separation from God in Hell. Somebody needs to pay that price. If you don't accept Jesus sacrifice for that price, then you will need to pay that price).



Do's and Don'ts and Difficult questions

One of the main fears that we all have about sharing our faith in Christ is that the person with whom we are sharing will ask a question or raise an objection that we cannot answer. What will I say if he says, "I don't believe in God"? Or, what if he says, "If God is all-powerful and loving, why does He allow innocent children to suffer"? And so, rather than causing embarrassment to the cause of Christ by not knowing what to say or by giving a dumb answer, we play it safe by keeping quiet about Jesus Christ.

A few guidelines

- Always be gentle and do not argue. It is the Holy Spirit's job to soften their heart – it is not your job to break it open. Remember my illustration of picking apples.
- The first response is to try to stay on task and not let their questions head you in a different direction. Their question is important to them so be careful not to dismiss it or sound like you don't care about their question. Rather, tell them "that's a very good question and, I promise I will try to answer your question as soon as we're done". If you don't know the answer to their question, simply tell them "I'm not sure how to answer that, but I will ask my Pastor and get back to you on it."
- If someone says they are not interested or don't want to discuss this any further, just stop and tell them "I understand. I'd be glad to discuss this with you when you're ready – just let me know." You can leave them a tract and (if you feel safe doing so), leave them your name and phone number. If not, you can always leave them your name and the name and phone number of your church.
- Remember that your primary objective is to introduce them to Christ. Always be looking for ways to bring the conversation back to Him. Knowing Christ intimately is the answer to all our anxiety, concern and worry. Often, when a person trusts in Christ, many of their other questions evaporate quickly. They just don't know the root answer to all their questions lies in Him.

"I DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD."

Very few people are really atheists. Usually, they had a bad experience with someone who claimed to be a Christian or they have lost confidence in religion in general. Usually, they are not rejecting the God of the Bible because they don't even know him. Rather, they are rejecting those who believe in the God of the Bible.

A couple questions you can ask them are, "Have you held this view for a long time? How did you arrive at that conclusion?" Usually, their answer will be because of some bad event they blame on God or a bad experience with a professing Christian.

Deal with the questions of why God allows bad things to happen later in the conversation. Initially, respond with sympathy to the person's pain: "I'm terribly sorry that that happened to you and I can certainly understand your position and I would probably feel the same way. But, could I share with you my story of why I believe God exists?" This is where you share your testimony.



("I DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD. cont'd)

After you share your testimony, Ask them "if I could show you how you could also know for certain that, when you die, you will spend eternity in Heaven, would you like to see it?". Then take them through the Roman's road or John's road.

My experience had been that rarely is it fruitful to try to prove the existence of God to a true atheist. If they do not listen to your testimony, they will usually not listen to the Word of God and, if they won't listen to the Word of God, they won't believe in God.

I always try to be polite when I'm done so the door is always open for them to ask me anything they want. But, sometimes I will say to them "I understand what your saying. But just think about this for a moment, if I'm wrong, I have nothing to lose, if you're wrong and there really is a God, you have everything to lose". I usually leave them a tract with my name and the church's name and phone number on it.

"HOW CAN A LOVING GOD SEND PEOPLE TO HELL?"

My response to this is, "The truth is, God doesn't send people to Hell, they send themselves. Let me illustrate it like this: say you went to the doctor and were diagnosed with a terminal cancer. The doctor told you he could remove the cancer if you would submit to an operation. If you refuse the operation, whose fault is it if the cancer kills you?"

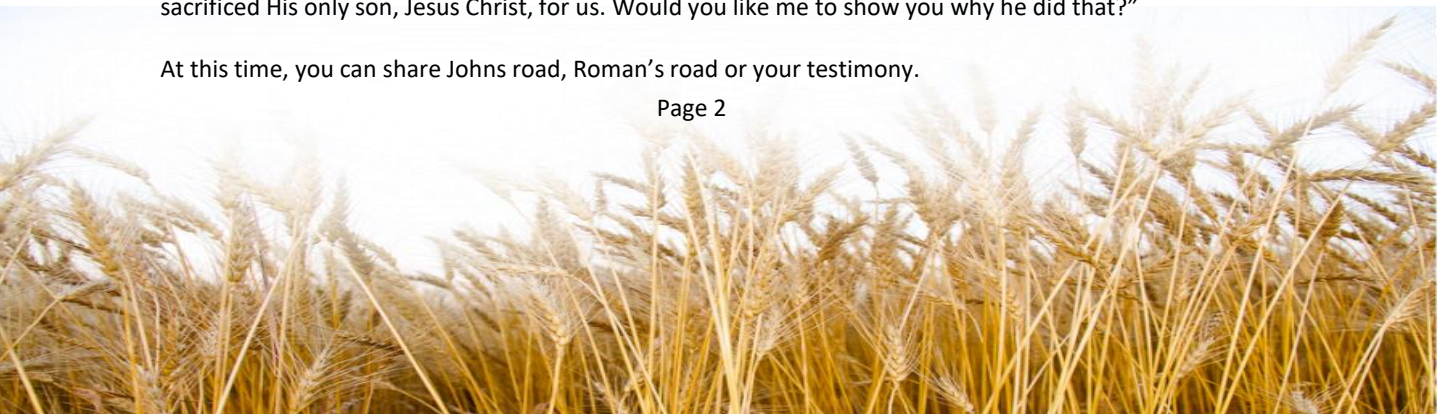
Most of the time, people would admit it would be their own fault to which I reply "God is the same way as your doctor, he doesn't want anyone to die and go to hell. Sin is the cancer that sends people to hell, not God. God has provided a way for you to have a spiritual operation that cures you forever. When Jesus was ministering on the earth, one of the Jewish leaders came to him and asked about the same thing. Can I share with you that story?".

At this time, you can share Johns road or your testimony if you think that would be better.

"IF GOD IS GOOD OR A LOVING GOD, THEN WHY DOES HE ALLOW... ?"

"The truth is that God hates all of this evil, suffering and the natural disasters that destroy and take lives. He promises that he will eventually end it all and create a new heaven and new earth where there is no pain and death. But, for now, the world is under a curse because of sin. And, because of sin, we have wickedness, suffering and, eventually, we will all die. Sin is the reason all this exists, not because of God. As a matter of fact, God, tells us in John 3:16 'For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him, should not parish, but have everlasting life.' God loves us so much, that He even sacrificed His only son, Jesus Christ, for us. Would you like me to show you why he did that?"

At this time, you can share Johns road, Roman's road or your testimony.



“WHAT ABOUT PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER HEARD ABOUT JESUS CHRIST? DOES GOD SEND THEM TO HELL?”

The Bible does not directly answer that specific question. But it does answer some questions that relate to that and can point us in the right direction. For example:

“Is God Fair?” Of course the answer to that is “Yes”. Since the Bible tells us over and over again that God is righteous, just and can do no wrong and, since he is perfect, then He must be perfectly fair. Our definition of fair and God’s definition of fair may not be the same, but God’s definition is the only one that matters when it comes to eternal things.

“Will anyone go to hell by accident?” Certainly the answer to that is “No”. God simply does not make mistakes. If He made mistakes, He wouldn’t be God. God also reminds us that His intellect is far above out intellect and there are many things He has chosen not to share with us. How he determines why someone goes to Hell who has never heard the name Jesus Christ, is His problem, not ours. And he doesn’t share that with us. What He does share is that no-one will go to Hell who does not deserve to go there.

For those who have heard about Jesus, He is very clear about why they go to Hell. John 3:18 says, “He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” This unbelief is called sin. Sin is what makes it impossible to go to Heaven. Fortunately, God tells us how He can remove our sin and we can know for sure we’re going to Heaven when we die. Would you like me to show that to you?

(This is where you start with the Roman’s road).

“I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GOD.”

Often times, people say this because they don’t want to get into a discussion with you or they don’t believe the Bible. I usually qualify if we should continue by asking them, “If I could show you in the Bible where God says there is only one way to Heaven, would you be willing to look at it?”

If they say “No”, then we’re pretty much done and I try to leave them a tract.

If they say “Yes”, then I take them to John 14:6, where Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

- I explain that Jesus is saying He is the only way, there is no other way. He is saying the only way to Heaven is through Him – not through anyone or anything else.



("I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GOD." cont'd.)

Peter also reiterated this in Acts 4:12 when he said, "there is salvation in no one else (speaking of Jesus); for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved." Peter was adamant that Jesus is the only way of salvation. There is no other way.

At this point, I usually ask, "If I could show you where the Bible says you can know for absolute certain you would go to Heaven when you die, would you like to see it?"

If they answer "No", we're pretty much done and I leave them a tract.

If they answer "Yes", I take them to 1 John 5:13 and then I start them down the Roman's road.

"JESUS NEVER CLAIMED TO BE GOD."

The first thing I ask is, "Can you help me understand how you came to that conclusion?"

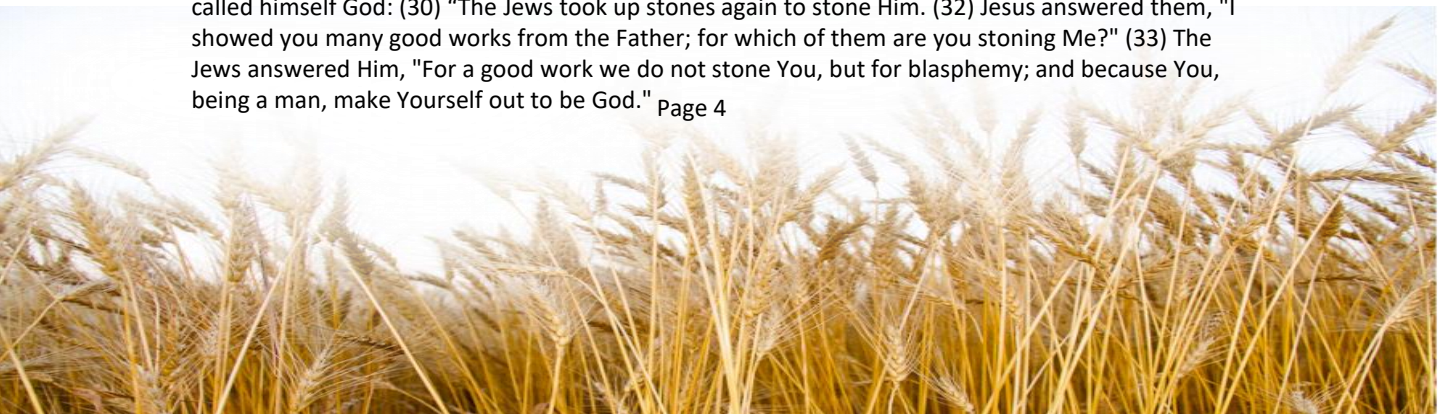
I want to understand more about how they are thinking before I start answering. Sometimes, it's because somebody told them or they just believe it and have never read anything in the Bible about it.

Either way, I ask them, "If I could show you in the Bible where people clearly believed Jesus claimed to be God, would you like to see it?"

If they so "No", we're pretty much done and I leave them a tract.

If they say "Yes", I will show them some of these verses:

- John 1:1 and 14, (1) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (14) "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." (The "Word" is referring to Jesus).
- John 5:18, "For this cause therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God."
- John 8:24, "I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins." In the original Greek manuscripts, the word "he" is omitted. Jesus is saying "I AM" which is the same name God give for Himself when he is talking to Moses in Exodus 3:14, "And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM'; and He said, Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"). Jesus calls himself God again in John 8:58, "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I AM.'"
- In John 10:30, Jesus says, "I and the Father are one." In verses 31 thru 33, the Jews admit that Jesus called himself God: (30) "The Jews took up stones again to stone Him. (32) Jesus answered them, 'I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?' (33) The Jews answered Him, 'For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God.'" Page 4



“ISN’T CHRISTIANITY JUST A CRUTCH?”

I usually answer, “Yes. But if someone is lame, a crutch will get them where they want to go. Assuming we all want to go to Heaven when we die, the Bible tells us that we are all lame because of sin but God made a way for us to be able to go to Heaven. If I could show you from the Bible how you could know for sure you’re going to Heaven when you die, would you like to see it?”

(This is where you start with the Roman’s road).

“I’VE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN GOD AND TRIED TO LIVE A GOOD LIFE.”

People usually say this when they hope their good works will outweigh the bad or they just don’t want to have a conversation. So, I usually just jump right into it and ask, “If I could show you where the Bible says you can know for absolute certain you would go to Heaven when you die, would you like to see it?”

If they answer “No”, we’re pretty much done and I leave them a tract.

If they answer “Yes”, I take them to 1 John 5:13 and then I start them down the Roman’s road.

“I DON’T BELIEVE IN THE BIBLE. THE BIBLE IS FULL OF ERRORS AND CONTRADICTIONS. THE BIBLE HAS BEEN THROUGH SO MANY TRANSLATIONS, I BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION”

I usually address this statement by asking, “Do you believe in God?”

If they say “No”, I usually ask, “Then, what do you believe in?” Depending on what they answer, it could go a number of directions. But, most of the time I ask them “Then, do you believe you are going to Heaven when you die?”

This could also lead to a bunch of directions, but whether their original answer was “No” or “Yes”, I usually ask, “If I could show you in the Bible where God says you can absolutely know for sure you’re going to Heaven when you die, would you like to see it?”

If they answer “No”, we’re pretty much done and I leave them a tract.

If they answer “Yes”, I take them to 1 John 5:13 and then I start them down the Roman’s road.

THE CHURCH IS FULL OF HYPOCRITES

I usually don’t dispute this. I just say “You may be right, but I’m not a hypocrite. I really believe what the Bible says and that you can know for absolutely sure you’re going to Heaven when you die. If I could show you where the Bible tells you that, would you like to see it?”

If they answer “No”, we’re pretty much done and I leave them a tract.

If they answer “Yes”, I take them to 1 John 5:13 and then I start them down the Roman’s road.

