

Is Sharing the Gospel More than One Conversation?

1. John 3:1-21 - One conversation can portray biblical knowledge but further conversation will show if there is saving faith in Christ.
 - a. vs 1 - Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a religious leader of Israel having a great deal of biblical knowledge.
 - b. vs 4 - Nicodemus did not understand the language Christ was using even though Nicodemus studied the Bible thoroughly.
 - c. vs 16 - Christ gave Nicodemus the truth without any complicated language.
2. II Cor. 3:18 - True belief in Christ will be evident in a person's actions.
 - a. II Cor. 13:5-7 - A persons actions must be tested according to the Bible.
 - b. John 19:39-42 - Nicodemus came and helped Joseph of Arimathea bury Jesus showing that Nicodemus had faith in Christ.
3. Matt. 26:47-50 - Even those that have biblical knowledge and act like a Christian may not be saved.
 - a. Matt. 7:21-23 - Some will say they know God but God never knew them.
 - b. James 2:19 - Even demons believe there is a God and fear God, but that does not save them.

Discussion Questions

Ice breaker: What is a good and bad first question to ask someone that you do not know? (“What is your name?” does not count)

- Do you know anyone that you believed to be a Christian but later walked away from the faith (I John 2:19)? What caused the change? What do we do when someone walks away from the faith (I Cor. 7:12-16, John 3:16-21, Luke 15:11-24)?
- How can someone say they know God but God never knew them (Matt. 7:21-23)? Is there a difference between knowing God and having saving faith (Rom. 1:18-21, Rom. 10:9-10, Acts 4:12)?
- Why are demons afraid of God (James 2:19)? Why is the fear of God not enough for salvation (Eph. 2:1-5)? Does salvation require repentance (Acts 2:38, 26:20)?
- Should we be aware of our actions (II Cor. 3:18)? Is it possible to be overly critical of our own or others actions (Gal. 5:14-15)? How do you make sure doubt does not occur because of self examination (I John 3:18-22)?

Digging Deeper: How many time should you share the Gospel with the same person? (Acts 4:20, 8:1-4, Matt 5:13-16)