

I. Note to the Leaders

- A. If evangelism is discussed regularly and emphasized as being indispensable, it will occur. If it is not discussed very much, it will slip to a low priority and cease to occur.
- B. These are ideas that you as leaders can use in discussing evangelism if you want to. This outline can be spread out over several weeks, mixing lecture with discussion.
- C. We recommend that each of your workers learn about half a dozen good salvation verses to use in witnessing.

II. The "why" and "how" behind inviting unbelievers to home church or a central meeting.

- A. It is sometimes more effective to bring an unbeliever to a home church or central meeting than it is to try to lay out the gospel to them in 5 or 10 minutes at work or school. Such a small amount of time is rarely as effective as a full length well reasoned teaching. In addition, the atmosphere at a meeting often says as much as the teaching.
 1. A scriptural example of this is Andrew. (jn.1;40-51/12;20-26) Andrew brought many to Christ by asking them to check out Christ for themselves. "Come and see." (see also ICor. 14;23-25)

B. How to invite them

1. Try to make the meeting sound appealing (not why I like it, but why they might)
2. Don't say "Would you like to go to church?"
3. Tell them it is Christian. Don't lie, or bait and switch. At the same time, let them know that there is no pressure at the meeting. The people are nice, there is an interesting talk by a good speaker, and afterwards the people go home (or whatever) if they want to go.
4. Important-- Offer to pick up rather than expecting them to show up by themselves. Few people are willing to go to a strange place alone.
5. If you accept invitations from them (to a movie, game, party*, etc.), they will be more likely to come to your meeting.

III. How to give a defense of your faith--(Look up IPet. 3;15/ Col.4;5,6)

A. Grace vs. Law

1. Let witnessing center around grace, Christ's free gift, and how they can receive it. Let the cross be the center, along with the difference between being religious and a personal relationship. Use contemporary language--not Churchy or theological words. Have in mind beforehand how you can explain salvation in normal language. (I Cor 2:1-5)
2. Personal testimony of your own conversion--secondary to #1
 - a. We suggest that every worker write a one page personal testimony with appropriate content, and learn it. This is a good outline:
 - 1) Your life before you met Christ
 - 2) How and why you received Christ
 - 3) The specific changes that have occurred in your life since then--Key words such as purpose, meaning, direction, loneliness, fears etc. should be considered and remembered.

B. Things to avoid in witnessing

1. Refutation and argumentation -- The first time you talk to someone, allow them to express their own views. Argumentation and put-downs don't help, but hinder witnessing. We have never seen anyone accept Christ because they lost an argument.
2. Shame and defensiveness on your part. (see Rom.1;16/ICor.1;18 ff) Express openness without fear. A salesman can't be ashamed of his product if he is to survive. Neither can we. We have to be convinced of the truth to convince others.
Don't take rejection personally.
3. Condemnation and self-righteousness. Communicate love!
 - a. Notice the young believer. He is rarely ashamed, defensive or argumentative. Even when he is put down by an intellectual argument, they will respond, "I don't know about that, but you should still check out what I'm into."

IV. Approaching visitors at a meeting.

- A. Find out if they believe--Possible tactful questions "How did you like the meeting?" "Is this the first time you've been to a meeting like this?" "Did you like the teaching?"
- B. Discern their attitude--What did they like or dislike about the teaching? If they are indifferent or uncomfortable, ease off until later--discuss their interests. (work, school, family, who they came with, goals, etc.)
- C. If the person is open or asking questions, share with them immediately- before Satan snatches the seed away. (Mk4;1ff) In any event, invite them back.

V. Working in depth, through your disciples.

- A. If possible, allow your disciple to accompany you when you witness. (learning by example--ICor.4;16/11;1)
- B. Ask your disciple if he has any evangelistic projects going. If not, Why? This will contribute to your disciple's growth by increasing his responsibility and through the advice you can give him. Try to meet your disciple's friends & help.

VI. Which meeting to invite an unbeliever to.

- A. The more cynical the person is, the better it is to take him to a central meeting. There, he won't be subjected to a lot of Christian activities (giving of \$, singing, sharing, etc.). In other words, it will be less like a church. Also, there is more anonymity at the large meeting, so they will feel less "on the spot".
- B. The home church is geared towards someone who has nothing against Christians or Christ. Don't bring scoffers unless necessary.

Suggested Reading --- The master Planning of Evangelism -- R. Coleman
Evidence that Demands a Verdict -- McDowell
The Universe Next Door--- James Sire
Say It With Love --- H. Hendricks
Death In the City--- Francis Schaeffer

P.S. We ~~MAKX~~ believe that taking a guest to hear the band is not an effective evangelistic technique. We strongly recommend that you bring them to a meeting instead. The band should be seen as social activity rather than a means to salvation.