

Bible Trek Ministries

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HOW TO GIVE THE GOSPEL TO A FRIEND

By Scott Barkley

First of all there is no formula – let the Holy Spirit lead you. Realize that we are to always be prepared to give our testimony and the gospel. If you are asked a spiritual question it is because God is **already at work** in that persons life and that is your invitation to be a part of the process. You would not be asked the question if God wasn't already sure of your response, so relax – the pressure is not on you it is on the other person. If you feel inadequate to this task ...Congratulations that means you **ARE** qualified (The Holy Spirit will have to lead them into the kingdom not you...Ps. that's the only way it happens) If you are not specifically asked a spiritual question but want to sort of help the process along the following has been very helpful to me.

Step 1: Ask the following question: *"How would you describe a Christian?"* Why?

- This is a non threatening question
- It doesn't make them commit their own present condition
- It allows you to find out what they really know about REAL SALVATION
- Is it WORKS (non-biblical) ? *"A Christian is someone who is more good than bad."*

- Or is it Jesus *"A Christian is someone who has trusted in the saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross."*

Step 2: Do NOT give a theological explanation of what it means to be a Christian at this point....give them your testimony/story which should illustrate:

- What you were
- The point that you realized you needed a savior
- What you did to become a Christian
- What has happened since that day

Why?

- This illustrates that there is a LIVING difference AFTER knowing Jesus Christ – not just some head thing. Encapsulated in your testimony (story) should be the Gospel – what is the Gospel? Good news – we can have a relationship with God despite our sins.
- The gospel becomes "present day" verses ancient history.

(note: be brief – our attention spans are getting shorter – this should be always less than 8-10 minutes unless God leads you to be more explicit)

Step 3: Ask *"Would you like to know how a relationship with Jesus Christ can make a difference in your life?"*

Why?

- This is a non-threatening question and people are hard pressed to find a good reason (face to face) to say NO to this question.
- Now you can give the gospel with their permission. A good place to start is the following in SEQUENCE:

OR the Roman Road:

John 3; 16-18 Romans 3:23

Acts 4: 12 Romans 6:23

John 1:12 Romans 8:1

I John 1:9 Romans 10:9-10

Rev 3: 20

John 10:28

Note: I have my bible already marked with the above including page numbers at the bottom of the page (i.e. go to page 567)

Step 4: Ask *"Do you now know why Jesus died?"*

The answer must be that we are separated from God because of our sin. Jesus death on the cross is the solution for sin (by the way this is why you can't lose your salvation because of some future sin. If salvation is the solution for sin how can we say that some sin in the future is not part of this solution).

Step 5: Ask *"Why did Jesus come to earth?"*

The answer must be to die for our sin. We are on a path ALREADY to destruction. Jesus came to rescue us from a destiny already set in place when we are born.

Step 6: Now you are ready to ask the big question? *"Do you want to ask Jesus to come into your life and begin this relationship with him?"*

Steps of Salvation:

1. **Repentance:** Romans 3:23 - recognize you are a sinner, confess that (agree with God) and then turn the other way.
2. **Acceptance:** John 1:12 – you need to invite him in.
3. **Confession:** Romans 10; 9-10 confession is action
4. **Faith:** Ephesians 2:8-9 Even though we don't understand everything we are saved by faith (a position in Christ) not by works (our performance).

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