

Reaching Family Members with the Gospel in Today's Culture

One of the greatest burdens for a believer is to realize that individuals who are part of your family on earth may not become a part of your family in heaven. However, speaking to relatives about spiritual things can be difficult, especially when it is about the gospel of Jesus Christ.

How do you go about speaking to relatives about spiritual things, and specifically the gospel?

THE DON'TS

I. Don't be _____ by the _____.

A. No one knows you like your relatives.

They have seen and know your past: your selfishness, fits of anger, unkind attitude, hangups, and a host of other sins.

B. Satan is a _____. He loves to say, "What right do you have to talk to anyone? Remember when you used to..."

C. Bear in mind that God forgives, and you must forgive _____. Personalize Psalm 103:12: "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed my transgressions from me."

II. Don't take _____ on your shoulders.

A. Christ recognized the fact that His message was a divisive issue.

Matthew 10:34-36 – "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's foes will be those of his own household."

B. He also recognized that for your relatives to come to Christ, He had to bring them.

John 6:44 – "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him."

C. Know your role. Your job is _____. God's job is _____.

Acts 16:14-15 – "The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well."

- III. Don't allow your opinions about _____ affect your communication of the _____.

1 Corinthians 9:22 – "I have become all things to all men that I might by all means save some."

- IV. Don't be the _____.

Luke 18:11 – "The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even this tax collector'".

THE DO'S

- I. _____ for them and get several other people to commit to do the same. Ask God for:

1. _____

Luke 10:2 – "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Ask God to send someone _____ to you to speak to them.

2. _____

Colossians 4:3 – "Meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word."

In order to evangelize them, God has to provide an open ear and an open heart.

3. _____

Acts 4:29 – "Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word."

The one who shares the gospel needs the courage that overtakes fear instead of fear overtaking courage.

4. _____

1 Timothy 2:1, 4 – "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men . . . for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Pray and have others pray for your non-Christian family members.

- II. Recognize the balance needed between _____ and _____.
- A. Put yourself in their shoes.
 - B. Don't ambush them!
 - C. Listen and show respect.
 - D. Rely on the Holy Spirit.
 - E. There may be times when you need to "back-off" for a period of time. However, don't back-off in your prayers. Intensify your prayers asking God to send an _____ witness.
- III. Consider a _____.
- A. A verbal witness is not your only way to evangelize them.
 - B. The four C's of an effective letter:
 - 1. _____ anything you feel needs to be confessed.
 - 2. _____ them for what they have meant to you.
 - 3. Express your _____ for them.
 - 4. Talk about the _____.
- IV. Recognize that your _____ reinforce your _____.
- A. The witness of the lips, accompanied by the witness of the life, is powerful.

1 Thessalonians 2:10 – "You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe."
 - B. The BIG life item that communicates to non-Christians is _____.
 - C. When you do fail, recognize that _____ is the best _____.

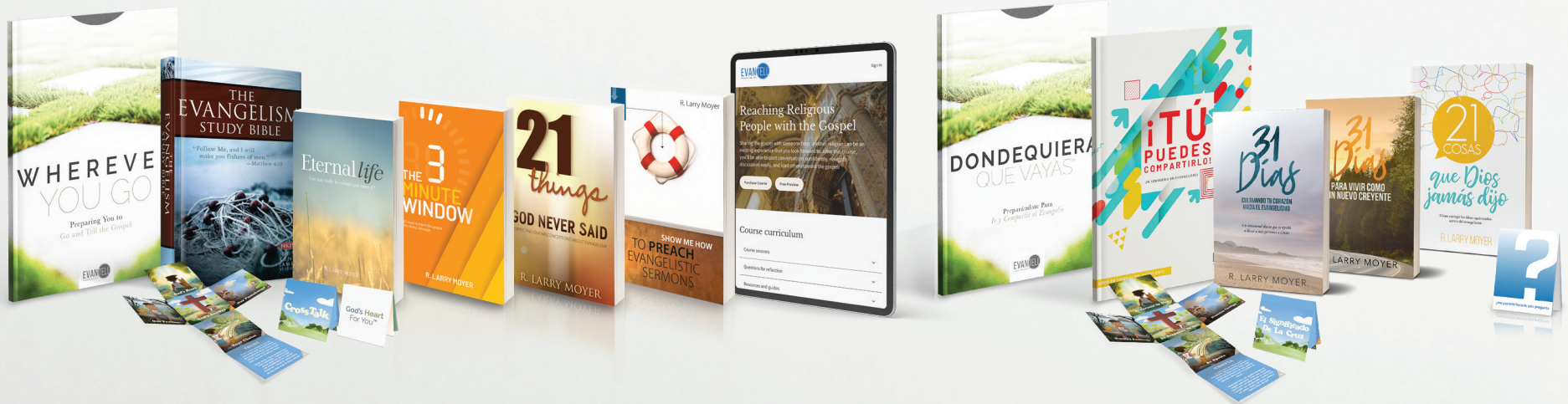
Conclusion

GOD HAS NEVER MET A PERSON HIS HEART DID NOT LOVE OR HIS
ARMS COULD NOT REACH. ASK GOD TO HELP YOU DO YOUR
PART AS HE DOES HIS.

RESOURCES

*for Outreach and Discipleship
available at evantell.org*

- PERSONAL EVANGELISM
- EVANGELISTIC SPEAKING
- EVENTS AND OUTREACH
- DEVOTIONALS
- DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES
- EVANGELISM CURRICULUM
- WORKPLACE EVANGELISM
- CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
- SPANISH RESOURCES



Ministry resources in
60 LANGUAGES



Visit evantell.org/store to browse all of our available resources.
Call us with any questions at **800-947-7359**.

www.evantell.org | Facebook.com/evantell | Twitter.com/evantell
Instagram.com/evantell.inc | YouTube.com/evantell