

Part 3

The Conversation

And Philip ran thither to *him*, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, **How can I, except some man should guide me?** And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. Acts 8:30-31 (Emphasis Added)

Chapter 9: How Do I Begin and End?

Up For Discussion:

1. Why is prayer so crucial when it comes to witnessing? (Pages 113-114)

2. What is the usual response when you do not show that you care, are not sensitive, nor use tact when witnessing? (Pages 115-117)

Crucial Point:

The Holy Spirit's job is to convict sinners and show them a need for a savior. For that reason, most people already feel guilty about sin when you start witnessing to them. In most cases, you do not need to convince them that they are sinners. (There are some exceptions.) Your job is to give them the Good News. Yes, it is important for them to realize that their sin separates them from God, but expounding on how wicked that person is can easily hurt favorable attention.

Make it a point to explain that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23) and that "the wages of sin is death," (Romans 6:23) but don't make them even think that you look down at "sinners like them." They are in the same boat we were in, and we need to show them we care for them enough to tell them the gospel.

Make It Personal:

1. Do you find it difficult to start talking with someone about the gospel?

2. Have you ever used food to share the gospel with someone you knew?

3. How has your "comfort zone" limited your witnessing?

Assignment:

Write down a transition from each of these topics to the gospel.
Recent News Story

Loved One Diagnosed with Cancer

Person Shares Same Hobby as You

Up For Discussion:

1. Give some examples of “carefully thought-out questions” you could ask that would show you what they believe gets them to Heaven. (Pages 119-120)

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____

2. Why is it not good to sound scripted? (Pages 120-121)

3. Why is it important to memorize salvation related Bible passages? (Page 121)

Crucial Point:

When witnessing, don’t forget the “real issue” is the gospel. The real issue is **not** to prove the Bible is scientifically correct, to prove the Bible has no mistakes in it, or to show the Bible’s incredible accuracy in prophecy. All of those things have their place, but the gospel is what saves a person.

If in a conversation you need to bring up one (or all) of those topics, don’t lose sight that you are giving the gospel. Always come back to gospel, or even tell them you will answer their question in a minute (depending on the question). God commands us to preach the gospel, so don’t let other important issues take the place of the gospel.

Make It Personal:

1. Do you stick to the gospel when you witness, or do you often let a question or statement side track your conversation, causing you to not finish the gospel presentation?

2. When you give the gospel, do you invite them right then to accept Christ as their Savior, or do you leave them hanging with the truth?

Assignment:

Write down these previous memory verses from this workbook. Knowing these and the following two memory verses will equip you to share the gospel with anyone.

Romans 3:23 _____

Romans 6:23 _____

Ephesians 2:8-9 _____

John 3:16 _____

1 John 5:13 _____

Memorize:

Colossians 4:3-4 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: ⁴ That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Take Test 6: Chapter 9