

Joshua Kwon

LE 6: Interview an irreligious person

First, the person that I interviewed was a 16-year-old girl I interviewed with a permission from her parents. First, she had a difficult time understanding the questions and kept asking under what context? Often, she expressed that the answers depend on the contexts. I patiently just told her there are no right or wrong answers and asked for her thoughts on the question. She said that it is an overwhelming question, and maybe “people don’t want to talk about God.” I gently reminded her how would she like me to represent God. Idea of God is complicated she expressed, but she wants to see objective representation of God according to the Bible. She said that God should be represented in the context of what I believe about God. She wanted not how I feel about God, but more of objective representation of who God is. Her reasoning was that everyone talks about God in a way that each perceives it and she wants me to represent the God in a more concrete ways rather than just expressing or sharing my opinions in it. She also wanted to hear about the spiritual aspects about God and thought it should be educational. Since I am a person in the ministry, she said that I should represent God from more “educational standpoint.” Furthermore, the takeaway was that she would like the presentation to make sense because she said people talk about God with no coherency and just express what they think about God. But since I am in ministry, she thinks that I should represent correctly and in a teaching manner. She also mentioned that with so much stuff going on, like bad things in the world, I should try to explain God’s role in all that is going on. It was interesting, since I am in ministry, I should talk about and represent spiritual

side of God though not just the objective sides. Nonetheless, this teenager thought it is very important that I describe God from my belief in the Bible since I am Christian. She also in our conversation said people talk about God and represent God only in good ways, but I should talk how bad things that she sees in the world are tied with God.

She wants objective representation, because “ you look at something objectively that's something that everyone will be able to relate to import I feel like if you're just approaching a random person on a bus objectively it wouldn't make much of a difference and like subjectively it might make a difference but if you're preaching to a congregation as a whole inserting so many personal experiences I don't think that's necessarily super helpful I feel like i don't know if that makes sense yeah so for it doesn't make a difference to me.” To be honest, it was hard to understand the teenager I interviewed, but she seems to say she wants God to be represented way it is. In my interview, I sense that she is frustrated that people or church have wrongly represented God and has hurt people. She expressed some people have their own agenda when they talk about God.

The interview or conversation ended with this, “No strong feelings, I feel like good representation is needed. So many people seem to misrepresent God. Just being a good person represent God, you don't need to preach. A good human being is a good representation.” Interviewing her was painful because she seems to have a grasp of who God is yet she doesn't want to commit to God's way.