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CD702: Working with People

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Interview with Irreligious Person Paper

I interviewed Sunny on March 3rd, 2023, from 1:30 pm to 2: 55pm. I knew Sunny from a previous company, and it's been around seven years to know her. Sunny doesn't believe in any religion yet, but she has a lot of philosophical thoughts and interests in religions, and she is open-minded to all faiths.

When I asked Sunny, "If I were to speak to you or your family about God, how would you like me to represent Him?" she started talking without hesitation or time to think. The truth is that she had been talking to a friend on a similar subject the other day. She said that many people, including her, grew up listening to stories about Jesus, the miracles of Moses, or celebrating Easter or Christmas from a young age, and many people perceive the story of Christianity and Jesus as a historical fact rather than a myth or legend. However, she often encountered cases where Christians forced their faith based on their personal experiences or experiences of the Holy Spirit when they tried to evangelize her. She said it would be more effective to start the story based on historical background or objective facts rather than stories such as the personal experience of miracles. She was curious and could not understand that since religion is related to people, objective stories must have developed and been transmitted through historical events, but how so many different denominations were created and developed in Christian history from the same words from one God.

She also said that it seems more important for those who are anti-Christianity to tell them what they can objectively judge rather than direct reasons why Christians are trying to preach the gospel to them. If we say, "Repent and believe Jesus Christ because you will go to hell if you don't believe Jesus," to evangelize people, even if the statement is true, it could have minimal impact on people's life or even cause more resentment toward Christianity. Some people need to hear the message and may return to Jesus. So, there is no black-and-white answer to this point of view. However, based on the interview with Sunny, I agree that even the statement is true if it is not much helping to bring people to Jesus and instead, if it causes more resentment, using another true message for the same purpose will be wise.

Sunny thinks that showing how Christians serve God through their lives helps to represent the image of God to the non-believers like her. Actions shown through life are more important than a few words. What she said during the interview was from her own experience. There were some Christians and the church community that hearted her feeling, and also, there were some other Christians that helped her to understand the core of Christianity better.

Many different people live in the world, and each has different thoughts and personalities. Therefore, the way to preach the gospel must also be applied differently to each person. A method of evangelism that is effective for one person may be repulsive to another, and a method that is repulsive to one person may be effective for another. Culture changes over time and the method of witnessing and preaching the gospel must also change accordingly. Still, the fundamental way of showing the love of Jesus to the world through the life of a Christian must be revealed more and more, as Sunny suggested.