

Hervé Talom

L6: Interview with an Irreligious Person

CD702: Working With People

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LE6: Interview an irreligious person - Identify yourself as someone preparing for ministry. Ask him/her to respond to this question: "If I were to speak to you or your family about God, how would you like me to represent Him?" Write a 2-page summary

On January 19th 2023 I had an opportunity to interview Henry (Irreligious Person)

What do you believe exists beyond the universe?

Everything that exists is what exists right here, right now, in this moment. I was raised in the Catholic community. I just remember the first thing we talked about was Adam and Eve, and I just feel like it's just like a little story culturally, where personally for me it felt like a lot of.

how do you feel about God?

I think it's very reassuring to me that after this is all work, there's something greater. I got kicked out of Sunday school because I was arguing with the teacher about the age of her six days, 6000 years.

How do you view God?

I feel like if there was a God, I think it would be something that kind of unimaginable that I could like process. You know, I don't know. Before I was like, I don't know, maybe like roll energy, like what happened somewhere that like. But very recently actually twin brother passed away this summer and so I but I've been you know like searching for him. I've been like trying to be kind of like open like if you know, if it is like a thing like please freaking talk to me.

If you believed in God, what would that affect you?

I feel like if there was a God, I think it would be something that kind of unimaginable that I couldn't like process would be.

We have freedom.

These are all good things that give our lives purposes, even if there is no God that exists. And I think as we look at human beings across different cultures, we find this common recognition that our lives can be purposeful even if there's no afterlife where they differ about God. So say if everything dies, everything eventually will end, then why continue at all? Why continue at all? Because I don't win in the end.

In fact, I would actually say as an atheist. My life is finite, it's not infinite. So I think this life has more value. Because this is all I have. So I don't get this morning back. I don't think I live from Infinity and I spent it with you guys. That tells you I think there's something important about thinking and relationships and growing. So not believing in God, I think, actually makes life more purposeful, meaningful.

Are you married?

This is getting really personal. Yes, I am married.

What is your standard for love?

Herve: *If you have no foundation in Jesus, I see no reason to love people at all. So what's your standard? I can tell you my standard is not Jesus. Because despite what people say, he didn't believe a lot of things we all know are not loving.*

Do you believe in creation from a scientific perspective?

Do I believe in creation from a scientific perspective? I don't believe creation from any perspective. The first law of Thermo Dynamics, which you call the law of Conservation of energy. Says that matter is neither created. Nor destroy it, correct? Yes, who believes matter was created? You or me? Well, I was thinking you because, you know, I I just said I don't believe matter was created. Because that implies a creator.

Do you believe in God?

No. I believe matter was created. The first law that you cited says matters neither created nor destroyed. Oh,

He struggles with the thought of, "How can a spiritual person be at peace if they are not representing who they claim to be? I have seen people from various religions who have done sinful things, but proclaim that they are good people. I have seen people do whatever they want, and if they confess their sins; they are forgiven?" The thought of being forgiven, or as he refers to "an escape card", compared to someone who is a hard worker and who consistently does good, makes their life feel as if they were being cheated.

The final question that I had asked Henry was, If everyone in the world has some bad qualities (along with the good), where do you think that they go after living? "I do not know if the people who are good will be conformed into different forms of matter or energy back into the world. The people who do evil, I am not sure if there is a place for them or if they are no more. I have presented Jesus to Henry. Nevertheless, Henry still hopes that if there is a "higher power" that he will consider the amount of good that he has done to accept him.

There's a truth to Christianity. But there's also a way we are supposed to communicate it. Jesus came in grace. And he came in truth. We're supposed to speak the truth. But do it in love. Truth in love? What is our culture lack today? Grace, patience, kindness. You're growing up in an unbelievably divided culture where there is hate and vitriol across the political and religious Isle. What's going to set Christianity? Part number one, Christianity is actually true. Proverb says a soft word. Breaks a bone. Scripture says a gentle word. Turns away wrath docketts enrollments where Paul says it's your kindness that leads to repentance.