

How to Share *Christ* With Your Friends



Debbie W. Wilson

Christ...sent me “to spread the Good News. I didn’t use intellectual arguments. That would have made the cross of Christ lose its meaning” (1 Cor. 1:17 GW).

Have you wanted to introduce your friends to Christ but been at a loss for how to broach the subject? Here are five tips to help you talk to your friends about Jesus.

1. Pray

Someone said, before you talk to people about God, talk to God about them. The Bible reminds us not to quarrel but gently instruct and give the Holy Spirit room to work ([2 Tim. 2:24-26](#)). We can’t control the soil of a person’s heart, but we can ask God to soften the hearts of our loved ones. Pray in faith, knowing God wants them to know Him ([2 Pet. 3:9](#)). Pray for divine appointments and boldness to walk through open doors.

2. Use Open-ended Questions

God has placed eternity into the human heart. We want to know why we're here and that our lives matter. In other words, people are naturally curious about eternity and finding meaning to life.



My sister and brother-in-law's ministry **The Great Exchange** uses a survey to tap into that natural curiosity on university campuses. You can find printable downloads of the survey [here](#).

Volunteers with The Great Exchange ask students if they would take a short spiritual interest **survey** with them. You can use the same technique with a friend. However, since pulling out a survey may not suit some settings, I suggest you memorize a few questions you feel comfortable using.

The idea is to engage in conversation, not to argue or coerce. Treat people with the respect you want to receive. Ask a question then listen without judgement to their answer. Don't correct them. Remember, Jesus called us to be fishers of men not hunters.

Follow up their answer with another question and listen again. Hopefully, you'll whet their appetite to learn more about Jesus and enjoy engaging in meaningful conversation.

You don't have to use all the survey questions. I've bolded a few you might use. You can choose other ones or add to these.

- For example, **"Can I get your thoughts on spiritual issues?"**
- "What's your spiritual background?"
- "Do you believe in God? If so, what do you think He's like?" No matter how they answer, listen politely and move to your next question.



- “What do you believe is humankind’s greatest problem?” Listen.
- “What’s the solution to our greatest problem?”
- **“What do you think happens after we die?”**
- “Who, in your opinion, is Jesus Christ?”
- **“If God asked you, ‘Why should I let you into heaven?’, what would you say?”**
- **“On a scale of 1-10, how good are you? (1 being evil and 10 being perfect).”**
- **“If you could know God personally would you like to?”**

Even those who doubt God’s existence often express an interest in knowing how to know Him. If they don’t, you haven’t failed. Some of us plant, some water, but God makes them grow ([1 Cor. 3:5-8](#)).

3. Share the Good News

If the person is open to hearing about how to know God, be ready to tell them. There are many little tracts you can easily carry with you. The late Bill Bright created one called [How To Know Christ Personally](#).

It shows how to begin a relationship with God through His Son. Of course, you can always share the gospel from memory or using the Scriptures. I’ve included links to two gospel resources under *Resources* at the end of this article. I find having a booklet to read makes it easy to stay on topic.

If they aren't ready to hear the gospel, offer them a tract to take so they'll have it if they become curious later. Thank them for the conversation.

4. Offer Them a Challenge

Whether they're ready to receive Christ, curious about Jesus, or want to know Him better, suggest they take **"The 21 Day Challenge."**

Read the gospel of John, one chapter a day, with a simple prayer—"God if you are real and Jesus is the answer, please show yourself to me in a way I will recognize."

5. Overcome Internal Resistance

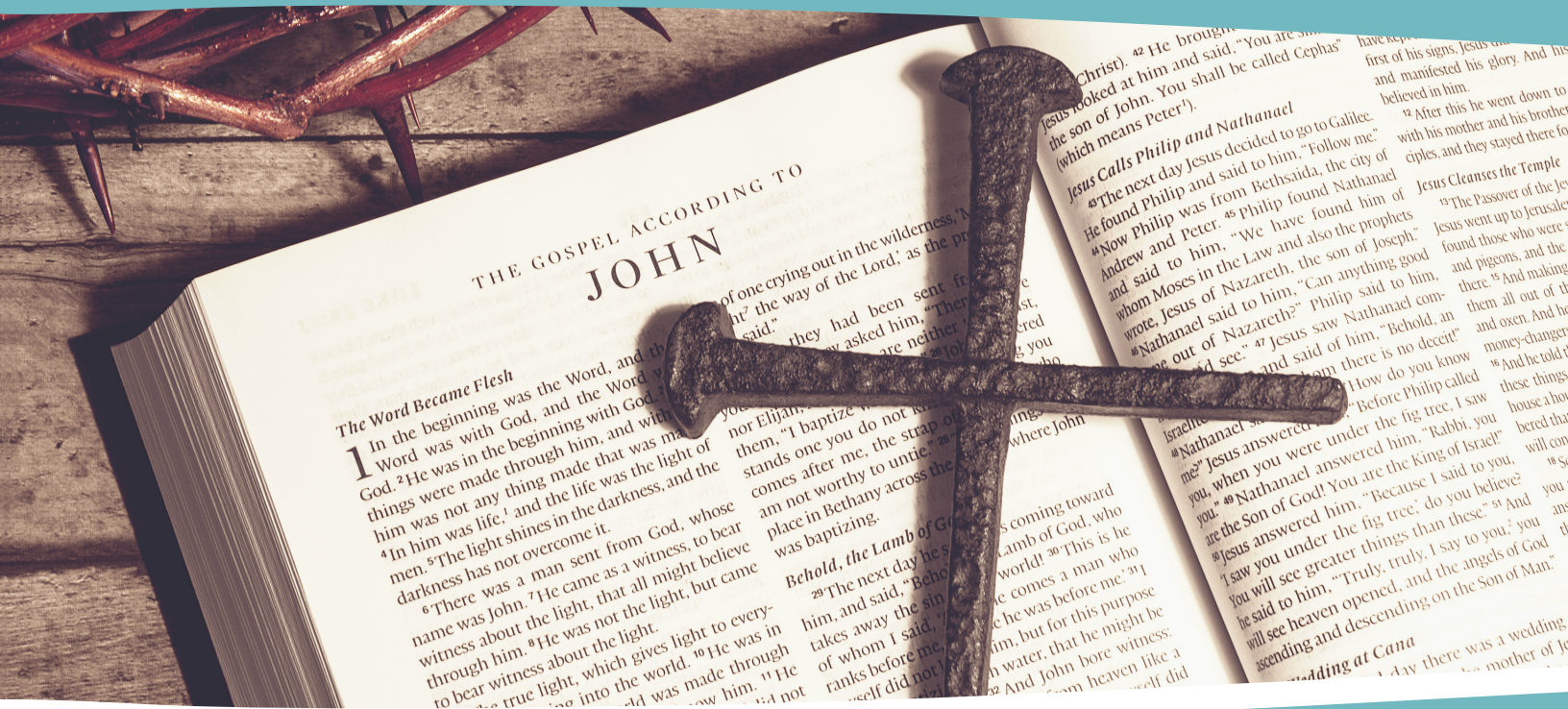
When I presented these tools to a group, some expressed concern that people, bombarded with information, require deeper answers to their complicated questions. They feared a simple message no longer works. And yet, many bright university students respond to this simple approach. Ten students prayed to receive Christ with my brother-in-law alone in the two days my son joined him.

The message of the cross has always looked foolish to the world, and yet it is "the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16 NIV). Despite the Apostle Paul's vast knowledge and religious education, he refused to use clever arguments. He preached Christ crucified (**1 Cor. 1:23**).

Remember, resistance is often a moral issue, not an intellectual one. Don't get sidetracked onto side issues. You can offer resources to those who have sincere questions. Below are some resources that address tough questions.

"For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith'" (Rom. 1:17 NIV).





Resources

I'm Glad You Asked by Ken Boa and Larry Moody

Evidence That Demands a Verdict by Josh and Sean McDowell

Know and practice biblical wisdom: [Psalm 119:99-104](#)

[What You Need to Know About Easter](#)

[How to Know Christ](#)

["Would You Like to Know God Personally."](#) To order.

[How to Know Christ Personally](#)



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