

Sharing Jesus without Freaking Out
More than Words
1 Peter 3:15-16

“Men like to become Christians without crossing racial, linguistic, or class barriers.” – Donald McGavran, *Understanding Church Growth*

One of the greatest hindrances to sharing Jesus is that many , if not most, believers don't know enough people who don't know Jesus. We tend to intentionally develop relationships with people who are of like mind.

1. Christ must be _____ in our hearts

- A. He alone affects our _____
- B. He alone affects our _____
- C. He alone affects our _____

Talk to the actual person in _____ of you about the Jesus _____ you;
let them _____ and _____ the change Jesus makes in you.

2. Christ must be _____ on our minds

- A. We _____ people think _____
- B. We _____ people to _____

3. Christ must be _____ in our speech

- A. Objections are more _____ in conversations
- B. We don't have to _____ every Bible answer
- C. The gospel is the _____ for salvation

Sharing Jesus involves our verbal witness, but it includes more. The greater the intimacy of the relationship, the more valuable your demonstration of a changed life becomes, the more we need to communicate the gospel through service and loving actions. Before we decide to let people “see a sermon rather than hear one,” we should realize that truly loving people to Christ may be far costlier than just saying words.

Reflection

When you think of evangelism what comes to mind? Do you think first of sharing the gospel with a stranger or with a family member? Which of these two choices seems more difficult? Reflect on the statement: *The closer you are to someone, the less your words matter and the more your actions matter.* What is one way you can better love those closest to you today? Instead of obsessing over how you can drop the gospel on them, what are some ways that you can serve them?