



PERSONAL EVANGELISM

It is sure
good to
know the Lord.

Joseph F. Pope
Helen Pope

LESSON 8



Personal Evangelism

Lesson 8

Talking to Different People About Jesus

Today we want to learn:

1. Some problems people have
2. Excuses of people who are weak and afraid
3. Excuses of those who are deceived
4. Excuses of those who do not want to believe
5. Excuses of those who backslide

In this lesson we also want to:

1. Memorize Bible verses
2. Do an assignment

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Talking to Different People About Jesus

There are many different people in this world. They have many different ideas on how to come to God. Some people do not understand how they can come to God. Some people do not really want to come to God. They have excuses.

When we want to talk to someone about Jesus, we should remember one rule: "Talk to God, then talk to people." We should ask the Lord to give us the right words to say. We should ask the Lord to overcome the problems people have.

Sometimes it is hard to know if a person has a problem or if he is using an excuse.

1. **Some problems people have:**

1) **A person says, “I don’t care.”**

First, we should find out how we can make friends with this person or how we can help this person. This person must see that we care about him. We must never do sinful things to be his friend.

Example

What was Paul willing to do to tell some people about Jesus Christ? 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Example

Abe was a farmer and a hunter. He never went to church. He was strong and rough. Everyone called him, “Big Abe.”

The minister wanted to talk to Abe about Jesus. One day, in winter, the minister went to visit Abe in his home. Abe was shovelling snow off the barn roof. Abe did not want to talk to the minister. He stayed on the roof.

Abe said, “Have to shovel the snow off. It’s too heavy for the roof.”

The minister said, “Yes, sometimes we have to get a load off.” Then the minister took another shovel and climbed onto the roof. He helped shovel the snow off the roof.

At noon, Abe said, “Maybe you should eat with us.”

After the meal, the minister said, “Abe, you know why I came to see you.”

That day Abe and his wife both came to Jesus. Because the minister helped Abe with the snow, he could talk to Abe about Jesus.

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When the person is ready to listen, we can tell him what Christ did for us. (If we are not really happy in the Lord, he will not believe us.)

We can tell the person how Jesus Christ took our burden of sin (Matthew 11:28,29).

We can tell him how Jesus Christ takes care of us (Philippians 4:19).

We can tell him how God answers our prayers (John 15:7).

We can tell how Jesus Christ gives us real joy (John 16:24).

Then we can encourage the person to come to Jesus Christ and to find peace (2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 5:1; John 16:33; Romans 8:1).

2) **A person says, "I am good enough."**

Show this person that no one is righteous before God. People can look good to other people, but they will not be good enough to please God (Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:10,23; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; James 2:10; Revelation 21:8; 1 John 1:8).

Show this person what God wants us to be like (1 Peter 1:16; Ephesians 1:4; 5:27; 2 Corinthians 7:1).

Show this person that salvation is by faith and not by the works we do (Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:5,6).

Example

A Pharisee went to the temple to pray. He told God how good he was. He did not ask God for anything. Jesus said that he was not forgiven (Luke 18:10-14).

3) **A person says, "I am too bad."**

Show this person that his greatest sin is not to believe (Mark 16:16; John 3:18,36).

Tell this person that Jesus died for all sinners (2 Peter 3:9; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Romans 10:13; 1 Timothy 2:4).

Example

Paul was a Pharisee. At first he believed the Christians were wrong. Paul was the leader when the people stoned Stephen (Acts 7:54-8:1).

Jesus forgave Paul. Later Paul said,

***“Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I
am the worst.”***

Timothy 1:15

4) A person says, “I can’t keep on being a Christian.”

Many people are afraid they will go back into sin. It is true that some people do go back into sin. This is because they do not know the Word of God and the promises of God.

Tell this person that God keeps us. God wants us to trust Him to keep us. We are like a little child who puts his hand into his father’s hand. The father holds on to the child.



“Who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.”

1 Peter 1:5

Some verses we can use are: John 10:28,29; Hebrews 7:25; 1 Peter 1:5; 1 John 4:4; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 1 John 5:4,5; Jude 24; 1 John 1:9; Philippians 1:6.

5) A person says, “I do not feel saved.”

Tell this person that he cannot trust his feelings. Feelings change very quickly. When we are well, and things go well, we are happy. When we are sick or the weather is bad, we can feel sad. When things are hard, we can feel sad.

Tell this person he can trust God’s Word. God’s Word says,

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:13

God does not change and He cannot lie.

Some verses we can use are: 1 John 5:12,13; Mark 16:16; John 1:12; John 3:16,17; Romans 1:16; 1 John 1:9; John 6:37; Ephesians 2:8,9.

A man said, "God said it. I believe it. That settles it."

6) **A person says, "My heart is hard and cold."**

Tell this person that God will give him a new heart (Ezekiel 36:26,27; 2 Corinthians 5:17,21).

Tell this person to believe on the Lord Jesus. Jesus will prove that He gives a new heart.

Verses we can use are: Acts 16:31; John 1:12; Acts 2:38,39; Acts 3:19; Romans 10:9,10.

Example

A woman had a cold and hard heart. She did not come to hear the Word of God. She was just like cold and hard ice in winter.

Her husband died. Then she let God change her heart.

Later this woman said, "I really opened my heart to God. I knew there was something more in this life than I had. I have never forgotten God since." There were tears in her eyes. God had given her a new heart that was soft.

7) **A person says, "I have sinned away my chance to be saved."**

The person who has sinned away his chance to be saved was at one time convicted of his sin by the Holy Spirit. He did not repent. He told the Holy Spirit to go away and leave him alone. When we meet a person like this, it is like talking to a dead person. A person who has sinned away his chance to be saved cannot repent. The Holy Spirit does not speak to him anymore. Read Matthew 12:31,32.

A person who says, "I have sinned away my chance to be saved" and is still sorry about his sin, has not sinned away his chance to be saved. We know this because the Holy Spirit is still speaking to him.

Tell this person that God wants to save everyone (2 Peter 3:9). If this person repents and calls to God, God will hear him (Romans 10:13).

Example

Peter said three times, "I do not know Jesus." But Peter knew he had told a lie and repented. He went and cried bitterly. Jesus forgave him.

Judas betrayed Jesus. Judas knew he had betrayed innocent blood. But Judas went and hanged himself.

When a person really repents, God will forgive him.

8) A person says, "I cannot believe."

We can tell this person that to believe is not only saying, "I believe something." To believe is to trust that Jesus took our place, and to trust in nothing else to make us right with God. When we believe, we do not doubt. We know it is true because God said it.

Example

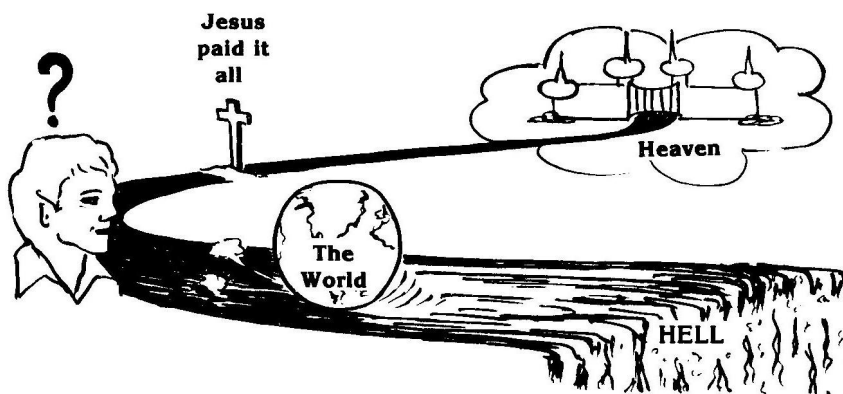
Sam wants to go in an airplane. If he trusts the plane, he gets into the plane. He believes the plane will take him where he wants to go. Sam shows he has faith when he gets into the plane.

When we put our trust in Jesus to save us, we show we believe.

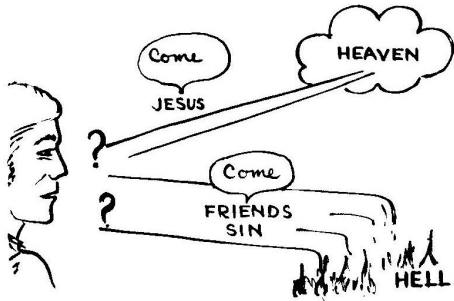
2. Excuses of people who are weak and afraid

1) "I will have to give up too much."

Matthew 6:33; Mark 8:36-38; 1 John 2:15-17.



2) "My friends and relatives will make fun of me."

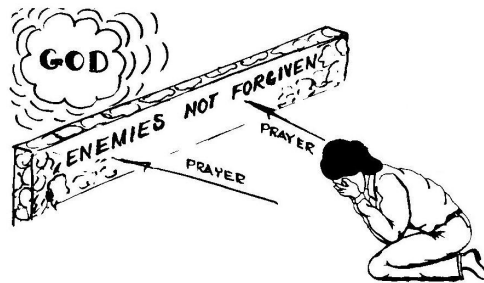


Maybe some of your friends and relatives will laugh at you. However, when you live for the Lord, they will want what you have (Matthew 5:10-12).

Matthew 10:36-38; John 15:18-20; Philippians 4:13; Hebrews 12:1,2; Romans 8:18.

3) **“I am afraid I cannot forgive my enemies.”**

Matthew 6:14,15; Matthew 18:21-35; Luke 17:1-5; Ephesians 4:32; Philippians 4:13; Colossians 3:13.



4) **“There are some sins I cannot give up.”**

Confess these sins to God. Ask Him to take them away. Romans 6:11; 2 Corinthians 5:17,21; Romans 8:1-5; Romans 8:12,13; Colossians 3:2,3; Titus 2:11-13; 1 John 1:9.



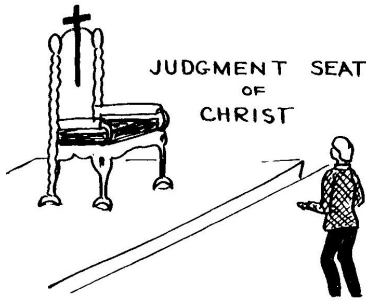
“Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.” Hebrews 12:1

5) **“There are too many churches. How can I know which is the right one?”**

A church cannot save you. Only Jesus Christ can make you right with God. John 3:19-21; John 14:6; John 7:16,17; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5.



6) **“There are too many hypocrites in the church.”**



Every man has to speak to God for himself. God will punish the hypocrites (Luke 17:1; Romans 2:1-5; Romans 14:12).

3. **Excuses of those who are deceived**

1)

If a man says:

“I believe every person will be saved.”

God says:

“Those who do not believe, shall be damned.”

Verses:

Matthew 7:13-23; Mark 16:16; John 3:18,36; 1 Corinthians 6:9,10; Galatians 5:19-21; Revelation 21:8; Psalm 9:17.

2)

If a man says

“Accept the Lord? Later! I have lots of time. I can do that after I die.”

God Says

“A man who remains stiffnecked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed without remedy.” Proverbs 29:1

Verses:

Proverbs 29:1; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; Luke 16:22-26; Matthew 25:1-13; Revelation 21:8; Revelation 20:14,15.

3)

If a man says

“I must become better before I become a Christian”

God Says

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.” Isaiah 1:18

Verses:

Isaiah 1:18; Isaiah 53:4-7; Isaiah 64:6; Jeremiah 13:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:5; 1 John 1:9.

4)

If a man says

"No person can really know that he is saved."

God Says

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." John 3:16

Verses:

John 3:36; Romans 8:14-16; 2 Corinthians 5:17,18; 1 John 5:12,13; 1 John 1:9.

5)

If a man says

"All people are children of God"

God Says

This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are." 1 John 3:10

Verses:

Matthew 13:41,42; John 8:44; Acts 13:10; Romans 8:14-17; John 1:12; 2 Timothy 2:19; 1 John 3:8-10.

6)

If a man says:

"God will save me when He wants to."

God Says

"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come and whoever wishes let him take the free gift of the water of life." Revelation 22:17

Verses:

Matthew 18:3; Mark 1:15; Mark 16:16; Luke 13:1-5; Revelation 22:17; 1 Timothy 2:4,5; 2 Peter 3:9.

7)

If a man says:

"God is too good to damn a person to hell."

God Says

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it." Matthew 7:13

Verses:

Matthew 7:13,14,21; Mark 1:15;
Mark 16:16; Luke 13:1-5; John 3:16-18; John 5:39,40; Proverbs 1:24-33.

8)

If a man says:

"There are too many things I cannot understand."

God Says

The way of salvation is simple. A child can understand it.

Verses:

John 1:12; John 3:16; Romans 10:9,10; 1 John 1:9.

9)

If a man says:

"There is no harm in living like the sinful people of the world."

God Says

"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him." 1 John 2:15

Verses:

John 15:18,19; John 17:15,16; Romans 12:1,2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4; Titus 2:12.

10)

If a man says:

"Salvation is not for everyone."

God Says

*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.:
2 Peter 3:9 "*

Verses:

John 3:16; John 6:37; Romans 1:16; Romans 10:9,13; Titus 2:11; 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 22:17.

11)

If a man says:

"If I live right, it does not matter what I believe."

God Says

*"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."
Proverbs 14:12*

Verses:

John 3:14-21; John 8:24; John 14:6; Proverbs 14:12; Proverbs 16:25; 1 Timothy 2:5; Acts 4:12.

4. Excuses of those who do not want to believe

1)

If a man says:

"I do not believe in God."

God Says

*"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'
Psalm 14:1*

Verses:

John 3:16-21; Romans 1:18-23; Romans 3:1-20; Revelation 21:8; Psalm 14:1; Psalm 53:1.

2)

If a man says:

"I do not believe the Bible is the Word of God."

God Says

The Bible was written by men from all kinds of life. More than 40 men wrote it in about 1800 years. They lived in different countries. Most of these men never saw each other, yet they wrote the same thing. They all told that God would bring people back to Himself. They said that a Savior would come.

The best answer is that God says the Bible is His Word. Most people who say that the Bible is not the Word of God want to have an excuse for the way they live.

Verses:

John 20:31; Hebrews 1:2; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; Matthew 24:35; 2 Peter 1:20,21.

3)

If a man says:

"I do not believe in hell."

God Says

*"Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."
Revelation 20:14,15*

Jesus talked more about hell than heaven.

Verses:

Matthew 13:38-50; Matthew 25:41,46; Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 14:9-11; Revelation 19:20; Revelation 20:11-15.

4)

If a man says:

"I do not believe the blood of Jesus Christ brings us into fellowship with God."

God Says

*"The blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, purifies us from all sin."
1 John 1:7*

Verses:

Leviticus 17:11; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:20; 1 Peter 1:18,19; Romans 5:9; 1 John 1:7.

5)

If a man says:

"I do not believe in any church."

God Says

*The church does not save. Jesus Christ saves. "Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God Through him, because he always lives to intercede for them."
Hebrews 7:25*

Verses:

Mark 16:16; John 3:16; Romans 1:16; Galatians 1:4; Ephesians 2:8,9; 1 John 1:7-9.

6)

If a man says:

"I do not believe in the virgin birth of Jesus."

God Says

*"Joseph . . . took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus."
Matthew 1:24,25*

Verses:

Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6,7; Luke 1:31-35; Romans 8:3; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 2:9-18.

7)

If a man says:

"I do not believe Jesus Christ is God."

God Says

*"I and the Father are one."
John 10:30*

Verses:

Isaiah 9:6,7; Matthew 1:23; John 1:1-5; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-18; Colossians 2:9,10; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 10:30.

8)

If a man says:

"I do not believe in life after death."

God Says

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
John 11:25,26*

Verses:

Matthew 17:1-3; Luke 16:19-31; Luke 23:43; 1 Corinthians 15; John 11:25,26; Revelation 20:11-15.

5. Excuses of those who backslide

1)

If a man says:

"I have gone too far into sin; God will not take me back."

God Says

*If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."
2 Chronicles 7:14*

Verses:

2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalm 51; Luke 15:11-32; Galatians 6:1; 1 John 1:9; 1 John 2:1,2; James 5:19,20.

2)

If a man says:

"It does not matter if I sin; God will forgive me."

God Says

"What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" Romans 6:1,2

Verses:

Romans 6:1,2,6,11-13,15,16.

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Verses to learn:

Psalm 14:1 - **God says:**

"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'"

2 Chronicles 7:14

God says:

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Assignment:

1. Write out what you would say to a person who says, "All people are children of God."

2. Write out what you would say to a person who says, “I do not believe in a hell.”

3. Write out what you would say to a person who says, “If I live right, it does not matter what I believe.”

4. Write out the verses you memorized in this lesson.

Psalm 14:1

2 Chronicles 7:14

If you have questions, you may contact Tribal Trails at 306-961-2588 or by email at tribaltrails@ncem.ca or website at <http://www.tribaltrails.org/>.

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