

## “Refocus Gospel Conversations”

Dr. Timothy Beougher

### 1. Preparing for Gospel Conversations

#### a. Preparing our hearts

- 1) Devote yourself to prayer (Col. 4:2)
- 2) Devote yourself to Christ (Matt. 12:34)
- 3) Pray for compassion (Matt. 9:36)
- 4) Pray for open doors (Col. 4:3)
- 5) Pray for open hearts (Rom. 10:1; Acts 16:14; 2 Cor. 4:5-6)
- 6) Pray for spiritual sensitivity (Acts 8)

#### b. Preparing our eyes

Concentric Circles of Concern



\*W. Oscar Thompson, Concentric Circles of Concern, p. 21

## 2. Pursuing Gospel Conversations

- a. A Process to Follow

### **EXPLORE – STIMULATE – SHARE**

- b. “Bridges to the Gospel”: Bridging from the “Secular” to the “Sacred”

### 1. Church Bridge

"Were you brought up in a particular religious tradition?"

"What does your church teach about the way a person becomes a Christian?"

### 2. Personal Experience Bridge

"Through the years have you come to know Christ in a personal way, or are you still on the way?"

"What is your current level of interest in spiritual things?"

### 3. Intellectual Bridge

"Is there a specific question or concern that is hanging you up in your spiritual journey?"

"Has anyone ever shared with you how to have a personal relationship with God?"

### 4. Personal Opinion Bridge

"In your personal opinion, what is a Christian?"

"What do you think of \_\_\_\_\_?" (God, Jesus Christ, religion, the Bible, meaning of life, etc.)

### 5. Current Issues Bridge

"Bob, the Bible is a remarkably relevant book. Would you like to see what it has to say about this issue?"

### 6. Sports Bridge

"Did you know that \_\_\_\_\_ (name of well-known athlete) is a Christian?"

### 7. Felt Needs Bridge

(Used to show how the Gospel answers the deepest needs of people)

"You know, I still have my share of problems, but having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ has made all the difference in how I handle them! I used to worry myself sick; God is teaching me how to have peace in the midst of the storms of life."

**8. Prayer Bridge**

"Is there something I could pray about for you?"

**9. Relationship Bridge**

"Bill, we've been friends for a while now. We have talked together about so many things, yet there is a very important part of my life I have never shared with you. Could I share with you about my spiritual pilgrimage?"

**10. History Bridge**

In all of history, what person has had the greatest impact on the world? Why?

**11. Heaven Bridge**

- 1) Do you think heaven is a perfect place?
- 2) How close have you come to living a perfect life?
- 3) If God lets you go to heaven as you are, what will happen to heaven's perfect record?
- 4) Do you see any hope in the Bible verse, 2 Cor. 5:17?

**12. Profanity Bridge**

I've heard you mention Jesus Christ's name 3 times. Do you know Him?

**13. Responsibility Bridge**

I'm a follower of Jesus, and one of our responsibilities is to tell others about Him. May I take a few minutes to tell you who He is and what He means to me?