

Transitioning Normal Conversations to a Gospel Appointments

Imagine having a twenty-minute conversation with a non-Christian in which you discuss spiritual things for only 45 seconds but you can leave your conversation with an appointment to share the Gospel with them the next day. Sound too good to be true? It can be a reality and a lifestyle.

Making the most of opportunities (Colossians 4:5-6)

The Gospel is the power of God (Romans 1:16) for salvation and you can't make more of an opportunity with it than to present it from the Word of God. In a target ministry context, it is usually not the most effective way to share the Gospel the first time you bring up spiritual issues. You may overwhelm them and the message doesn't get the hearing it deserves. Therefore, having an objective of getting the most effective way to present the Gospel in a target ministry context. Be aggressive in getting appointments.

The following give instructions to prompt your thinking with a tried and true example of how to transition a conversation to get a Gospel appointment. Start with one approach and perfect it, but plan to develop several different approaches so that you can adapt to people and situations.

How

What are some simple and natural ways you can identify with Christ while in a conversation with a non-Christian.? (Example: "Do you know Jim down the hall? He's a cool guy. We are in Bible study together.")

Once you have identified with Christ, how can you use this topic to ask them where they are spiritually? (Example: "Would you be interested in being in the Bible study? Do you have much spiritual interest?")

If from their responses, you think they ARE a Christian, ask them if they are and how they became one. If a person doesn't have much spiritual interest, or if they do and you don't totally know if they have received Christ, what are some ways you can introduce the Gospel as something you would like to show them? (Example: "I never used to have any spiritual interest either until I really understood the main theme of the Bible. There is this diagram that helped me understand it. It's pretty cool. Maybe I could show it to you sometime.")

End the transition with, "Maybe I could show it to you sometime." Once they respond to this, change the subject to non-spiritual topics.

When you are ending the conversation, be sure and ask, "When can we get together and look at that diagram I was telling you about?" Set up a specific time or if they don't know their schedule, tell them you will call or check back later to set it up. Be laid-back and not pushy about it.

Action Steps

- Role play the whole scenario
- Make a list of non-Christian friends and think of the most natural way to identify with Christ and transition to the Gospel with each one.
- Pray over the list and get someone to hold you accountable to setting up Gospel appointments with each person on the list.
- Try it!