

Outreach





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Reaching Those Who Are In Doubt



What would you say to an agnostic to lead them to Christ?

Would you seek to prove the historicity and deity of Jesus?

Would you address the philosophical objections such as the problem of evil?

How would you
approach an Evangelical?

Would you address Bible
authority?

How about the Work and
Worship of the church?





How would you approach teenagers?

Their place in the universe?

The purpose of following God's will?

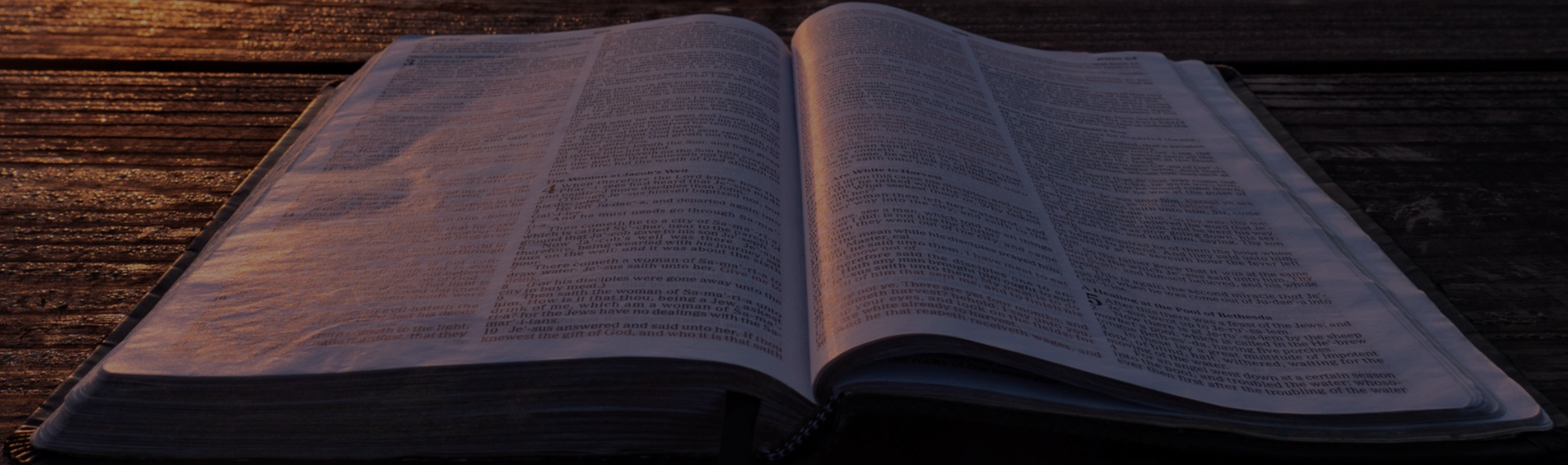



For I am not ashamed

OF THIS GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHRIST.

ROMANS 1:16

1 Cor. 2:1-2 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

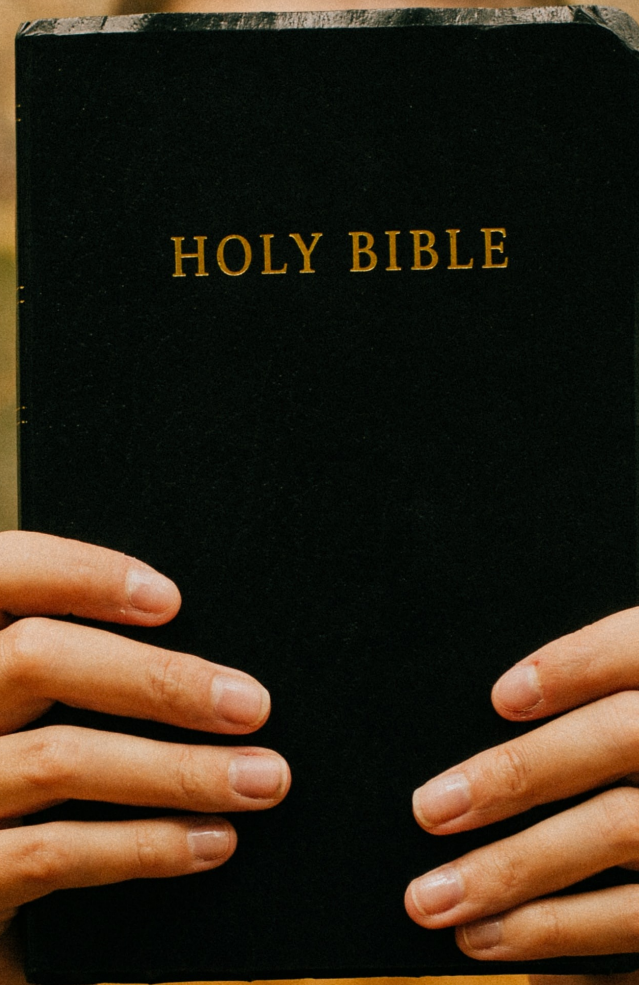


A close-up photograph of two hands held palm-up, with numerous small, round, brown seeds scattered across the palms and fingers. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

1 Cor. 3:6
I planted, Apollos
watered, but God
gave the growth.

Our duty is to sow the seed not to be a soil inspector!

- Many have doubts because they do not know the story of the Bible.
- We cannot improve it by our wisdom, techniques or methods.
- Trying to do so diminishes the power of the Gospel.



- What they need is to have the simplicity of the Gospel presented to them.
- When people are converted by the Gospel, God receives the glory.
- The Gospel accomplishes God's intended purpose.

The size of the congregation endeavoring to spread the Gospel does not matter.
God gave Gideon victory with 300 men. Judges 7

The Gospel doesn't need our help!

The Gospel is Empowering

- Paul affirmed he trusted in his knowledge of Christ alone.
- We are expected to do the same:
 - 1 Pet. 3:15 “But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”
- The hope we have is the Gospel. Col. 1:23
- The Gospel converted us, we should be able to explain that to others – no special wisdom or skill is required.




Lead with the Gospel

- If we understand the objective is for others to hear the Gospel and that is where the power of salvation resides – we should let nothing keep us from sharing it!
- When in Athens, in front of the philosophers, Paul lead with the message of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
 - Some thought he was crazy.
 - Others responded that they wanted to hear more.
- Paul did not argue with them about the philosophical differences they had, he preached Jesus to them.
- Authors discussion with the Pentecostal lawyer.

The Gospel is a Positive Message

- Too often we seek to “inspect the soil” looking for believers we can straighten out by fixing their error in work or worship.
- This keeps us from sharing the Gospel message of salvation, the unity of the Bible, the Love of our Savior.



and burdened,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you
and learn from me,
for I am gentle
and humble in heart,
and you will find
rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy
and my burden is light.

-Jesus in
Matthew 11v28-30

A close-up photograph of a hand with light-colored hair adjusting a projector lens. A bright beam of light is projected from the lens, illuminating the scene. The background is dark with a red glow, suggesting a stage or presentation environment. The projector has a textured grille and a small circular button next to the lens.

Make the Gospel a Presentation

- The aim is for them to hear the Gospel, not impress them with our knowledge of scripture.
- Defer questions about doctrinal differences until after the Gospel message is shared.



They will know the Gospel is true

- It is not about us or them – it is about the Gospel.
- They may need to count the cost and it may take time for them to respond.
- Isa. 55:11 “So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

Conclusion

- Ken Craig, the author of this lesson, offers suggestions on books that can further explore philosophical or scientific questions raised by those that may doubt.
- The primary appeal here is to the Gospel and its life changing message.
 - It contains all things that we need. **1 Pet. 1:3**
- **John 1:29** “...Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”