

Counter Current

Part 5: Sharing Is Caring

WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 2021

Christians are stuck between two powerful influences: Jesus saying, “Go and share” and American culture saying, “Don’t talk about that.” So how do we share our faith in a culture that frowns upon people talking about their faith?

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Sharing our faith can be uncomfortable for many people, but it doesn’t have to be.
- Sharing is caring.
- How and when you share your faith is just as important as anything else.
- **Check your motivation** - The motivation for sharing our faith needs to be love for God and love for others.
- **Be in prayer** - We need to invite God in on the process.
- **Relationships are key** - You’ve been placed within your circles with purpose from God.
- “You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” | Matthew 5:14-16
- **Listen, and listen some more.**
- On spending an hour with someone who doesn’t follow Jesus: “...listen for fifty-five minutes, and then, in the last five minutes I would have something to say.” | Francis Schaeffer
- One of the best ways you serve someone is to give them your full attention, caring about what they have to say, and asking good questions.
- **Share your story.**
- “... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” | 1 Peter 3:15
- Our job isn’t to convince people. It’s just to share as God provides the opportunity.
- “But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? | Romans 10:14

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Virtually all Christians agree that the best thing that could happen to someone is that they know Jesus BUT almost 50% think it’s wrong to share their faith. **Why do you think that is?**
2. What challenges or obstacles do you face in sharing your faith?
3. We can all think of examples of how *not* to share your faith. Have you experienced or witnessed someone share their faith in a way that left a positive, lasting impression on you?
4. Peter writes, “... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” What would your answer be? If it helps, think of a specific person in your life and how you’d answer.
5. What do you think are the most effective, most genuine ways to share your faith and what God’s done for you?