

THIS IS LOVE

Sharing Your Faith

JULY 30, 2023

For followers of Jesus, our faith isn't just for us—we're meant to share the good stuff with others. How do we get better at sharing our faith?

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- If you could be good at something you're not, what would it be?
 - "Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." | Mark 1:17
 - God took four fishermen, and with them, started a movement that would shape history.
 - If you're a follower of Jesus, you're not just called to follow. You're called to fish—to share your faith with the people God brings into your life.
 - Many of us don't share our faith because we don't feel prepared or equipped to do so.
 - But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. | 1 Peter 3:15
 - You don't have to prepare a defense case. You should be prepared to share why you personally have chosen to follow Jesus.
 - But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. | 1 Peter 3:15-16
 - Sharing your faith starts with living it.
 - Once you're living it, you're in a good position to share your faith. Use BLESS.
 - B = Be in prayer. Pray that God would help you to see the opportunities you have.
 - L = Listen. Listen and strive to understand people.
 - E = Eat. Share meals with people. Spend quality time with them.
 - S = Serve. Model a life of service and generosity.
 - S = Share your story. Share what God has done in your life.
 - Live in such a way that others want what you have (and what your faith does for you).
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you could be good at something you're not, what would it be?
2. What are some of the reasons you find it challenging to share your faith with others?
3. The apostle Peter writes that we should be prepared to "give the reason for the hope you have." Can you state the reason you follow Jesus in a few sentences?
4. Peter also writes that we should do this with "gentleness and respect." How important is that? What do you think is the ideal way for someone to share their faith?
5. "Sharing your faith starts with living it." In what ways can people see your faith at work in your lifestyle, your choices, your behaviors?