



CHURCH COMMUNICATION NETWORK
PRESENTS

Going Public with Your Faith Part 2

Featuring

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Earning the Right to Be Heard

I. What does it mean to do your work “as unto the Lord”?

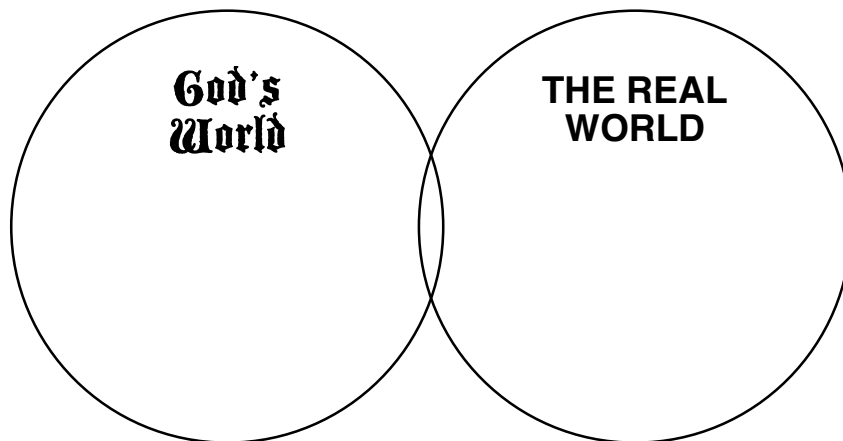
- Why do so few people even ask this question?
- How can you talk about your faith without alienating people?

II. The Great Divide

Ordinary men and women can't seem to make the connection between God and their work

“Following Christ means quitting business and going to _____”

This is based on a dualistic belief:
that the real world and God's world never come in contact



This dualistic view reflects a _____ mindset, not a Judeo-Christian mindset

III. The results of this faulty thinking

Men and women go to work feeling _____ to
live for Christ

One's faith has become a _____ matter and
Christianity is marginalized

Men and women see their daily work as _____
to God

The church's approach to an intelligent carpenter is usually confined to exhorting him not to be drunk and disorderly in his leisure hours, and to come to church on Sundays. What the church should be telling him is this: that the very first demand that his religion makes on him is to make good tables.
—Dorothy Sayers, “Why Work?”

IV. Examining the emotional barrier

Emotional barrier: A set of negative feelings toward Christianity or Christians that a person has allowed to develop

Characterized by denial, indifference, fear/mistrust, antagonism/anger

Our response

Before people trust Jesus, they have to trust _____

What you do is more important than _____—at first

But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
—2 Timothy 4:5

V. Spiritual capital in the workplace

Recognize the difference between witnessing and being a witness

Witnessing

Witness

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
—Colossians 3:17

The four foundations to influence

- Competence: Colossians 3:17,
Titus 2:9-10

¹⁴*Do everything without complaining or arguing, ¹⁵so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe*
—Philippians 2:14-15

- Character: Philippians 2:14-15,
Galatians 5:22-23

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.
—Ephesians 4:29

- Consideration: Ephesians 4:29,
Philippians 2:4

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.
—Philippians 2:4

- Communication:

The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.
—Proverbs 15:4

Truthful: Proverbs 15:4

A gentle answer turns away wrath but a harsh word stirs up anger.
—Proverbs 15:1

Gentle: Proverbs 15:1

He who conceals his hatred has lying lips, and whoever spreads slander is a fool.
—Proverbs 10:18

Candid: Proverbs 10:18

Appropriate: Proverbs 10:19,
Proverbs 12:18

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.
—Proverbs 10:19

Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
—Proverbs 12:18

What do you think?

What is the importance of being competent at your work? Does that have value where you work? If so, how does that allow you to be a witness (as opposed to witnessing)?

What about character? What difference does it make specifically at your work, and how does it help you be a witness?

As to consideration, what have you done that has borne fruit?

As to wise communication, what has the Lord said to you about how you could apply these principles at work?

VI. Final thoughts

Where is God calling you to make a difference in people's lives? And how?

Are your words building walls or tearing them down?

Break—15 minutes

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Cultivating and Communicating Wisely

VII. Raising faith flags

Good faith flags

- occur as a natural part of _____
- take no more than _____ seconds
- help you identify yourself as a member of _____
- look for, but do not demand, a _____
- will create _____

Faith flags avoid

- becoming a spiritual _____
- religious _____
- identifying you as a member of a _____ denomination or church
- identifying faith as a reason for _____ something

| |
|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Notes on the role play: Bad faith flags</p> |
|---|

Faith stories avoid

- pushing for a _____
- becoming a _____
- identifying you as a member of a specific denomination
- identifying _____ as a reason for not doing something

VIII. Telling your story

Sharing your testimony

It helps to be _____ (Acts 25)

Be _____ to your listener

Keep it personal and fun, not _____

Point out the specific needs or circumstances that made you aware of _____
for _____

Avoid religious _____

Not every detail needs to be told

Avoid mentioning specific groups or denominations

Give them a picture of what it's like to meet Christ

IX. Telling His story

Who is Christ?

Who are we?

What did Christ do?

What do we not do?

What do we have to do?

What does God promise to those who believe?

Workshop: What are your faith stories?

What are the biggest struggles your pre-Christian friends bring up in conversation?

Of those things, where are my stories? Where has God spoken to me?

X. Final thoughts

If you spend any time with non-Christians, live a Christ-like life and intentionally turn on the light by raising faith flags and faith stories, you will at some point have the opportunity to tell the best story ever.

If people aren't noticing your faith, take a look at the salt and light.

Resources

***Going Public with Your Faith:
Becoming a Spiritual Influence at
Work***

by William Carr Peel and Walt
Larimore, M.D.
www.24sevenfaith.com

24Seven Project
www.24sevenfaith.com

“Dr. Walt Larimore”
www.drwalt.com

***Going Public with Your Faith Video
Curriculum***

www.24sevenfaith.com

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Organic Evangelism

| CYNIC | SKEPTIC | SPECTATOR | SEEKER | BELIEVER | DISCIPLE | MICRO-DECISIONS | | | |
|-------|---------|-----------|--------|----------|----------|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| | | | | | | SCORE | DESCRIPTION | | |
| | | | | | | +5 | Chooses to live by faith | MULTIPLYING | Speaks to the Whole Person Focus: Practicality Obstacle: Social barriers (isolation, independence & ignorance) Goal: Grow & reproduce Key activity: Integration |
| | | | | | +4 | Makes Christ-like choices | | | |
| | | | | | +3 | Chooses to share his/her faith | | | |
| | | | | | +2 | Joins in community life | | | |
| | | | | | +1 | Assimilates God's Word | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | Trusts in Christ | HARVESTING | Speaks to the Will Focus: Reliability Obstacle: Volitional barriers (cultural pressure, indecision, rejection & spiritual deadness) Goal: Trust Jesus Key activities: encouragement, persuasion & prayer | |
| | | | | | -1 | Turns from self-trust | | | |
| | | | | | -2 | Sees Jesus as the answer | | | |
| | | | | | -3 | Recognizes his/her need | SOWING | Speaks to the Mind Focus: Intelligibility & plausibility Obstacle: Intellectual barriers (ignorance, misinformation, cultural assumptions & error) Goal: Understand the message Key activities: Storytelling, explanation, & clarification | |
| | | | | | -4 | Considers the truth of the gospel | | | |
| | | | | | -5 | Understands the implications | | | |
| | | | | | -6 | Aware of the gospel | | | |
| | | | | | -7 | Recognizes relevance of the Bible | CULTIVATING | Speaks to the Heart Focus: Credibility Obstacle: Emotional barriers (denial, indifference, fear, mistrust & antagonism) Goal: Personal trust Key activities: Connection & attraction | |
| | | | | | -8 | Looks positively at the Bible | | | |
| | | | | | -9 | Recognizes difference in the messenger | | | |
| | | | | | -10 | Aware of the messenger | | | |
| | | | | | -11 | Avoids the truth | | | |
| | | | | | -12 | Hostile to the truth | | | |

Adapted from *Going Public with Your Faith*, © 2003, and *The Saline Solution* © 1995, William Carr Peel and Walt Larimore, *Living Proof: A Small Group Video Series Discussion Guide* and *What's Gone Wrong with the Harvest*, James F. Engle and Wilbert Norton.