

Initiating Conversations about Jesus Christ

So many barriers exist for having conversations with others about Jesus! For starters, we fear at times turning someone off, who we think might have an openness to Christ apart from our words. More fears revolve around not knowing what best to say. Interestingly enough, *it almost never bothers strangers or friends like we've feared*. It also doesn't take big explanations to help people process Christianity. Simply **sharing the difference Jesus Christ has made** in us or also using a **3-minute testimony** of putting our faith in Him causes interactions. Many don't mind hearing that Jesus died for our sins!!

As a simple example, Darin plays basketball with a former Houston Rocket and good players who bond together in games. He often finishes group texts by mentioning Christ and talks about their lives during casual times of comradery. One early morning @6:30 after the battles had ended, Darin's short but **prepared testimony in the parking lot had a good effect on one of the participants**. Basically Darin shared having a lack of peace before Christ in high school, then choosing to believe in Jesus as he tried out for Stanford's hoop team, which resulted in life-changing peace afterwards on and off the court!

This conversation happened through sports-bonding, but **spiritual sharing can happen anywhere by initiating comments about life**. At a restaurant or in a breakroom at work, Christians can ask a new or old friend, "How would you describe your spiritual pilgrimage going thru this world?" Listening will allow the Holy Spirit to guide talks into NICE EXCHANGES. For example (back to sports!), D disciples a godly attorney who included him in a tennis time with some men. Probably because this lawyer spends mornings in the Word, he didn't feel embarrassed by a deep moment during the match, and immediately wrote after: "So great to see you Darin!!! You are great at tennis! It's such a blessing I saw you today cause I read proverbs 5 this morning prompted by your daily email. You really are amazingly consistent with that email! Also you are inspiring to me. Bringing up That you are a Christian is so natural to you to people you just meet. It's really impressive!"

Scaring as it seems, each of us can talk spiritually with those around us. Try today preparing a brief testimony and ask if a family member would listen for 3 min: then start asking those you encounter about their lives! As we listen it works to say comments about believing in Jesus and using Scripture to process worldly events. No better time than now for doing this!

During the year everyone receiving this gets prayed for still by name at least once for each letter, so please request prayers about anything going on or others you know with needs whenever you'd like to have something special offered.

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