



BEGINNING TO SPEAK ABOUT GOD

Sharing Your Faith
Part 2

LOVE, TRUST, AND RESPECT



Love

- Love should be the foundation of all our communal life
- 1 Cor. 13:4-5 — “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love **does not parade itself**, is **not puffed up**; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, **is not provoked**, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth.”
- Be genuine

LOVE, TRUST, AND RESPECT

Trust

- People will not seriously listen to you if they do not trust you
- Trust is built with honesty
- Free of ulterior motives
- Free of personal interest



LOVE, TRUST, AND RESPECT

Respect

- Cultural differences
- Be an open listener
- EX: St. Paul
 - In Athens
 - With his disciple Philemon
- “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.” (1 Pet. 2:17)



SEARCH FOR A SEGUE

Involves listening and assessing a person's need

Acts 17:22-23 – “Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you...”



WHAT DO I TALK ABOUT?

Avoid useless debating

- “But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless.” (Tit. 3:9)

Personal Experiences

- How has your relationship with God through the Church changed your life?
- Samaritan Woman: “Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ.” (Jn. 4:29)
- St. Paul recounts his encounter with the risen Lord
 - Before the Jerusalem Mob (Acts 22)
 - Before King Agrippa and Festus (Acts 26)

WHAT DO I TALK ABOUT?

The Church

- The life of the Church - feasts, fasts, seasons, etc.
- How has the Church affected your life?
- Prayers of Holy Week, confessions, retreats, a service that changed your life, etc.

History of the authentic ancient Church



TO-DO LIST

Ourselves be transformed by the Holy Spirit

- Consistent prayer, Bible reading, fasting, and communion
- Service – learn self-sacrifice

Become more knowledgeable about your faith

- Scripture
- Church Fathers
- Writings and lives of saints

Do not be shy or embarrassed

- By reaching out to others you take part in their salvation