

QUESTIONING EVANGELISM GUIDE

God tends to open doors to the gospel not always by what statements we make, but rather through the questions we ask of other people. Below is a brief guide that will help you ask questions of people as you engage in conversations.

This guide has been adapted from a portion of Randy Newman's book, Questioning Evangelism.

1. "REALLY?"

This is not a snarky or sarcastic "really," but rather a genuine question to explore the credibility of a statement of belief. This question invites people to wake up from using cliché statements to avoid genuine conversations and dialogue.

"I think all religions are the same." Really? Let's explore the major tenets of some major religions in the world today. As you explore, you'll discover there is little credibility to this statement.

2. "CAN YOU EXPLAIN THAT [YOUR STATEMENT] TO ME?"

This question can actually soften hearts, preparing them to engage in discussions about truth. It opens the door to consider that the statement or argument they just made may not be as plainly acceptable to others as it is to them. It welcomes them to think about the rationale and thoughtfulness behind the statement.

3. "SO?"

Asking "so" is a way to show that other religions or philosophies contain some elements of truth. Buddhists are right about the reality of a spiritual realm. That is something Christians would agree with. So?

This question doesn't attack the other person's views but rather raises the reality that some things can be partially true without being fully true.

4. "ISN'T IT POSSIBLE...?"

Asking "Isn't it possible..." is typically followed with a biblical claim like: Isn't it possible that Jesus did rise from the dead?

You're asking your friend to deal honestly with the question: Would I like for there to be a God? Do I really want Jesus to be Lord over all, including me? Some will use intellectualism as a smoke screen to cover their personal desires.

5. "HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?"

This question gets to the core of truth and where someone places the authority for their source of truth. You are welcoming your friend to consider how they know something before they decide what they know.

Other forms of this question are: What makes you believe that? Where have you heard that?