FEARS IN SHARING THE GOSPEL
HOW TO COPE WITH THESE TYPES OF FEARS

FEAR NUMBER ONE - AROUSING RESENTMENT IN A PERSON.

The answer to this fear is to discover and practice the principles of making folks like you. Here are **10 ways** that anybody can make people like them.

1. Become genuinely interested in the person, as though you're for them.
2. Be friendly (Proverbs 18:24).
3. Smile.
4. Be a good hearer and let them speak freely at first.
5. Talk about their interests (job, family, home, hobbies, etc.)
6. Be complimentary. Show sincere appreciation. Brag on something.
7. Make them feel significant and important, and do it sincerely.
8. Use their name often and pronounce it correctly.
9. Be aware and try to see things from their perspective.
10. Be clean and neat.

Following are 10 "don'ts" to heed if you want to make headway with the person you are talking to.

1. Don't argue. If you cannot agree with a person, "*set it on the shelf*" and promise to return later to answer their question. Remember, folks will try to side-track you. The other day standing in line with someone, he wanted to talk about evangelists with their own jets. Instead of engaging, I discussed the opposite view of Christians that do right.
2. Don't embarrass the person by dealing with them in front of others.
3. Don't put them on the defense by condemning their religion or opinion.
4. Don't be self-righteous or Pharisaical by "talking down" to the sinner and giving the impression that you are better than them.
5. Don't be guilty of having bad breath.
6. Don't be rude or blunt like a lawyer on cross-examination.
7. Don't lean on the person while dealing with them.
8. Don't be a spiritual psycho (religious nut). Don't be hollering, jerking, shouting, etc. Exhibit a sane, sensible, pleasing disposition.
9. Don't wear out your welcome. Don't remain so long that you make them hate you. (Proverbs. 25:17)
10. Don't rush them. Lead gently.

FEAR NUMBER TWO - MAKING THE SPIRITUAL APPROACH.

So, how do you shift a conversation of speaking with friends, family members, or someone you just met about general things to talk about an intimate relationship with God and the assurance of salvation? The solution for this fear is to have your approach questions mastered. Here are some excellent approach questions to lead to spiritual conversation.

General Questions In Talking To Someone About Jesus Christ.

1. Keeping it simple without being forceful and judgemental by asking, "Is spirituality important to you?"
a) Usually, this question can open up doors very quickly to share the Gospel.
b) After they respond, another question is: "Do you believe spiritual growth is going on in your daily life?"
2. "Is spirituality, religion, or God important to you?"
a) "In what ways?" If they answer, not really, or never.
b) Respond with, "Is there any specific reason why not?"
3. "What gives your life the most significance and meaning?"
4. "When you have trouble or crises, how do you cope with it?"
5. "What are your driving forces for living each day?"

God Questions.

1. "Do you feel close to or a long way from God?"
2. "Does God or a higher power seem very personal to you?"
3. "Have you ever been very upset or mad with God?"
4. "Do you feel obstacles separate you from God?"
5. "Do you think God has a plan of action for every person's life?"

If They Say, They Are A Christian Or Are Attending Church Ask These Questions.

1. "How is God working in your life now?"
2. "What are some things God has done for you?" Or What are your most exciting spiritual experiences?"
3. "Do you know about God's forgiveness and what it means?"
4. "Do you read much of the Bible?"
a) If they say yes, ask, "Does your Bible reading help you in your everyday living?"
b) "How?"
5. "Are you involved in a church?" or "How does your church help you grow spiritually?"
6. "Do you depend on God for your future?"
7. "Can you explain to me all about your church background?"
a) "Did you go to church as a child or a teen?" This would lead to . . .
b) "What do you think about your childhood and your understanding of spiritual things?"
c) "How would you define your way of life with God right now?"

Questions On Knowing God Personally.

1. "If you were to drop dead today, are you sure you would go to heaven?"
2. "In your opinion, what would you say a person must do to inherit eternal life and go to heaven?"
3. "My friend, can you tell me the way to heaven?"

When you ask the question, listen carefully to the person's response before you respond. It is easy to be concerned with what to say next and not listen to what the person is saying.

IMPORTANT:
This list is not as much about what to say but more about demonstrating unique ways to talk about spiritual matters, as every person and situation is different. Mix up the questions to fit the individual's personality and circumstances. Be flexible in your approach and silently ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

FEAR NUMBER THREE - NOT KNOWING HOW TO PRESENT THEM TO CHRIST.

The solution to this fear is to decide what the soul winner's message is and then develop a plan for presenting it.

When conversing with those searching or having a hard time in their spiritual journey. In your presentation, one visit or discussion will not complete your sharing and caring; it will be **more of a process** than a one-time event.

Always ask questions that are related to recent discussions. Listen carefully and be sensitive to the person's responses. Keep going as long as the person shows interest. Highlight any truth or insight the person offers, and interjecting the right question can make a difference.

FEAR NUMBER FOUR – HOW TO LEAD THEM TO CHRIST.

Questions On How to Present And Lead A Person To Christ.

1. "Would you like to have faith in something?"
2. "Can you admit that there may be a God?"
3. "What would a purposeful life look like?"
4. "Do you give much consideration to spiritual things and God?"
5. "What do you believe is a person's most significant spiritual need?"
6. "How do you think a man or woman begins a personal relationship with our Lord?"
7. "When do you feel nearest to God?"

a) "What things or changes brought you nearer to God?"
b) "What would reawaken that awareness of closeness to God?"

8. "Where do you see yourself in relation to God?"

a) "Where do you desire to be?"
b) "How do you see yourself progressing deeper to God?"
c) "How can I encourage you to get where you would like to be?"

Please print out these questions and look at them from time to time as a refresher.