

BEYOND

MYSELF, THIS MOMENT, THESE WALLS

Engaging with People

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4-Week Outline

Week 1 – Our World

Understanding the Cultural & Spiritual
Landscape of Our Times

Week 2 – Our Lives

Living Holy in an Unholy World

Week 3 – God's Power/Our Message

Cooperating with God the Holy Spirit



Week 4 – Our Relationships

Sharpening Our Life Skills for Engagement

Skills for Engaging

Why should we engage?

- People matter to God.
- It can be an open door for God to work.
- Jesus calls us to it.

Skills for Engaging

Faith comes from hearing the Good News, and people hear the Good News when someone tells them about Christ.

Rom 10:17 (New Century Version)

Skills for Engaging

Skills for Engaging

Find common ground

Model Respect and humility

Make God's Word the reference point

Mention the "church" word

Look for open doors

Keep in step with the Holy Spirit

Active Listening Communicates:

You are known
You are welcome
You are redeemable

Active Listening

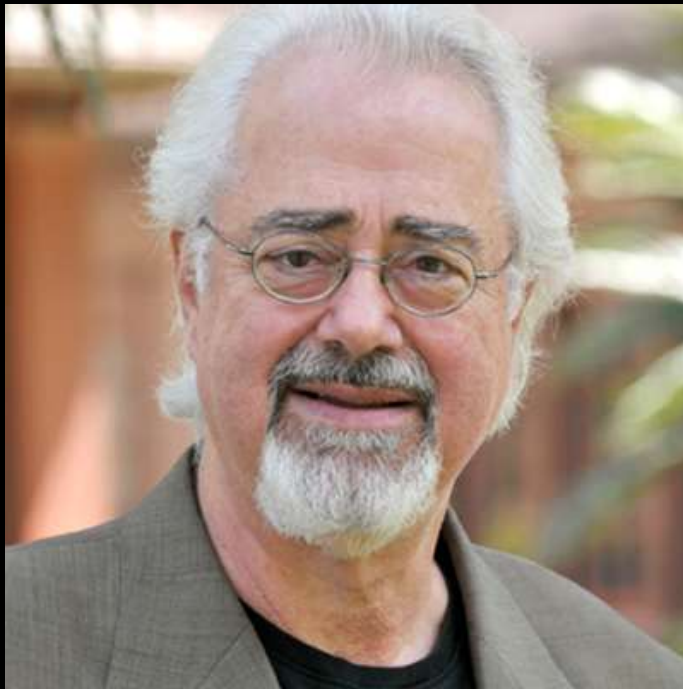
You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

James 1:19 (NLT)

Active Listening

Eliminate Distractions
Observe Nonverbal Cues
Avoid One-upmanship
Listen Loudly
Seek Clarity
Gain Perspective

Active Listening



Being listened to is so close to being loved, that most people can't tell the difference.

David Augsberger



Questioning Skills

Asking Great Questions

Jesus' Example

IMPERSONAL

“Who do people say that I am?”

PERSONAL

“Who do you say that I am?”

FACTUAL

I am the “Messiah ... Son of God”

Luke 9:18-22 (NLT)

Asking Great Questions

WHAT/WHERE Questions

Social Settings

Non-Threatening

Exploratory

Encourage Engagement

Asking Great Questions

HOW Questions

Move Us Beyond Acquaintances

Demonstrate a Desire
to Know Someone Better

Invite People to Tell a Personal Story

Asking Great Questions

WHY Questions

Move from Impersonal to Personal

Invite People to Share What They Believe
and Why They Believe It.

Reveal People's Motives for Believing

Expose People's Misconceptions

Asking Great Questions

WHAT-IF / IF-THEN Questions

Compare/Contrast

Help Reveal the Consequences of Beliefs

Help People Consider Alternatives to
What They Believe

Gospel Sharing Skills

Sharing the Gospel

Considerations

Specific Knowledge

Knowing the Gospel

Personal Experience

Applying the Gospel

Relational Context

Understanding the Other Person

Sharing the Gospel

Biblical Example

Blind Man

¹⁷ The Pharisees asked the blind man, “What’s your opinion about this man who healed you?” The man replied, “I think he must be a prophet.”

²⁵ “I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!”

³³ “If this man were not from God, he couldn’t have done it.”

John 9 (NLT)

Sharing the Gospel

Your Personal Gospel Story

People Love **Stories**

Storifying your testimony helps people better connect with your faith experience on a personal level.

(refer to guidelines provided in class handout)

Sharing the Gospel

Supporting Role of the Church

Inviting people to church enables them to see the **Gospel at work** in the context of Christian community.

People witness firsthand the **authenticity** of the community of believers and the **authority** of God's Word.

Skills Assessment

Personal Reflection

Of all the skills we covered ...

- What are the skills you **do well at**?
- What are the skills you **can improve on**?