

PERSONAL EVANGELISM: Video 6
HOW TO TIE THE KNOT

When you are able to share the Gospel with someone, saying too much is as counter-productive as saying too little. Focus on sharing the main message, as we have already discussed, and know when to stop. Also know how to end the conversation in a positive way.

Also understand at the outset of every soulwinning experience that it is not usual to see a stranger get saved after a few minutes of conversation. People who have spent their lives rejecting God or living their own religious fantasy don't change their minds that easily. On the wonderful occasions when a person immediately responds to your invitation it is because somebody else sowed a seed there; somebody else has been praying for that person.

But you may wonder why we should strive to be soulwinners if few people respond? There are several good reasons to consider:

1. The Bible commands it.
2. The more you try the more success you will have.
3. What you say each time you present the Gospel could ultimately mean the difference between heaven and hell for the person to whom you are speaking.
4. Many of the seeds you plant may someday blossom into salvation for those who heard you, and while you will not be there to rejoice with them, you will meet them in heaven one day!
5. This reason will surprise you: the one who benefits most when you share your faith with others, is you! Each encounter will tell you a lot about yourself – about what you really believe, and how well you understand what you believe, and how much Scripture you know, and how much you really care about others. Plus, God will bless you for your obedience!

Now let's look at ending your conversation with an unbeliever by trying to get a commitment right then. First ask the question:

- **Do you understand what I have been saying?** If the answer is a puzzled frown, gently ask what the doubt or misunderstanding may be. Then backtrack and try to explain again.
- Or you may hear that your explanation is clearly understood. In that case, immediately ask, **“Is there any reason you can think of, why you would not want to invite Jesus Christ into your life right now?”**

This question is powerful because the answer will identify any remaining objections. And it is impossible to dodge without giving a reason. Your response to any excuse should be to say, politely but firmly, “I want to be sure I understand you correctly. Are you making a conscious decision to reject Jesus Christ?”

If the answer is “Yes” or “Maybe” there is nothing more for you to say.

On the other hand, if you get a positive response you can suggest a prayer right then! But be careful not to put words in the mouths of the ones who pray. Encourage them to pray out loud in their own words, even if they struggle to do so. Remind them that the most effective “prayer” if someone is drowning is simply to yell, HELP!”

Prayer does not have to be a fancy speech if it clearly expresses how you feel. The vital point is that we want to receive salvation through Jesus Christ we must call on God to save us.