

The Good News

July 12th, 2020

Volume 20, Issue 21

Spiritual Conversations

By Michael McCleeary

Through the course of our everyday life, we have numerous conversations, some with family members, non-Christian friends and neighbors, and those who are of the household of faith. The topics of these conversations may range from casual discussions of the weather to more serious discussions about work or family. However, spiritual conversations should also be a topic that should have a place in our conversations. Obviously, the context of a conversation may not always allow for spiritual insights; however, we should always be looking for ways to inject some piece of godly wisdom or teaching through the course of our conversations. Consider the three following categories where this is applicable:

I. Spiritual conversations with Christians This is probably the most obvious, and perhaps the most applied, category of conversation in which God and His Word are used. Three times a week (under normal circumstances...) we come together for the express purpose of worshipping God and edifying one another through the study of God's Word. Before and after church services we often engage in conversations that involve topics discussed in Bible class or the sermon. However, we must continue to encourage one another by reminding each other through the week that we are Christians in a world full of sin and temptation. While we should want to engage in casual conversation with brethren, we should also remind each other that we are praying for one another and that we are here to help each other. The command in Gal. 6:10 that we "do good (beneficial works) to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith" should remind us to always seek and make occasions to edify each other.

II. Spiritual conversations with family members – In **Deut. 6:6-9** a command is given to Israel regarding the law of the Lord, "And these words I

command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." The people of God were to always remind themselves of the importance of His Law. We find specific mention of the people teaching the commands to their children and that these commands should be mentioned throughout the day so that no one would forget them. We have responsibilities to our families to remind them of what God wants of them. We should always seek to teach our children and others within our family the value of knowing what God commands us to do and then doing it.

III. Spiritual conversations with sinners – We carefully use the term "sinners" here instead of "non-Christians" because Christians who have fallen away are still considered sinners (Jas. 5:20). It is imperative that we not only look for opportunities to talk about spiritual concerns but that we make time and opportunity to discuss important matters of the soul with those who are lost. We are told by Paul in Col. 4:5 that we are to "walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time." We have a short amount of time on this earth. We must do all we can to help lost souls come to the knowledge of the truth.

Let us seek to remind others of the importance of obeying God always. Our brethren, our family, and the lost, whether they be Christians or non-Christians, should all be important to us because they are important to God. Let's make sure we convey that importance in our conversations with them.