



ENGAGEMENT



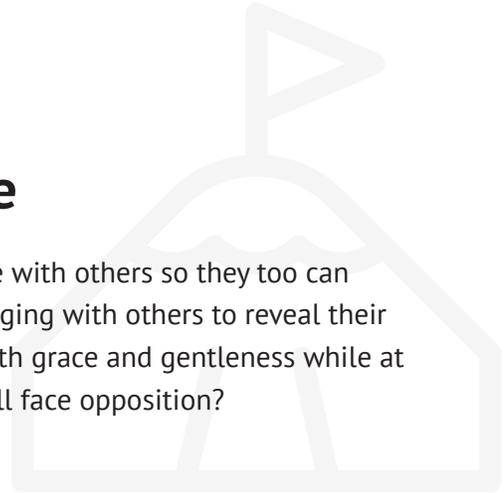
SUMMARY | Opening up a spiritual conversation can be challenging, awkward, and maybe even a little frightening. Is it because our method is more of a “you’re all wrong” versus a “let’s discuss this” approach? Finding a mode of engagement that is less finger-pointing and more discussion oriented can go a long way in bringing someone to consider faith in Christ. Join us this week as we explore both sides of the argument on *Discover the Word*.

This Week’s Discussion Questions

1. We would all agree that we are in a spiritual battle. Ephesians 6:10–12 underscores this truth. Is this battle a war to defeat an enemy or a mission of rescue . . .or could it be both?
2. When you think about fighting an enemy, it’s all about winning, right? Well, maybe not. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17–20. What is Paul saying the battle is all about?
3. When you read Romans 1:29–32, what conclusion do you come to? Do you come to the conclusion that we’re in a pretty significant mess? How does God offer a solution to our mess?
4. Beginning a conversation about spiritual matters can be awkward and difficult. But the example we find in Acts 17:16–34 may provide a way of engaging others. What happens in this text that can provide a path of discussion?
5. Is it possible to get something right and at the same time get it wrong? In Romans 1:16, we see the key word power. How can the wrong use of that word impact our desire to engage others in a spiritual discussion?

Challenge

Followers of Christ are called to live and share with others so they too can experience God's love. This journey includes engaging with others to reveal their need of a Savior. How can we do this effectively with grace and gentleness while at the same time understanding we will face opposition?



Commit To Memory

“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors,
as though God were making his appeal through us.
We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.”

2 Corinthians 5:20 NIV



Prayer

Father, I desire that friends and family come to a saving relationship with Your Son, Jesus Christ. Help me in my method of engagement. May I show a loving receptivity to where they are and not focus so much on what I think they are doing wrong. Help me to love them as they are . . . just as You’ve done with me. Amen.

