

## NOBODY BUT JESUS!

True believers in Jesus Christ are very ambitious to share the Good News with all others. However, we're up against Satan and his demon army, as well as our corrupted world and 'cultural norms'.

Two worldly areas where people try to gain influence on others: **religion and politics**.

Driving the message of truth (with passion) requires absolute belief in it. Using a specific religious or political group to promote GOD's truth with others means your allegiance is dependent on that group as another source of your absolute truth.

There is nothing wrong with participating in political processes, belonging to a local church or partnering with a church's mission; in fact, that's encouraged.

With that being said, there are some concerns about fully committing yourself to a specific religious denomination or political party, when promoting the Good News of Jesus Christ:

- 1) All religions and political parties are 'man-made'; therefore, all are subject to various beliefs, opinions... and yes, human corruption.
- 2) Jesus Christ is King alone; there is no religious or political group that can override anything that Jesus tells us.
- 3) By attaching yourself to any religious or political entity, you are a representative of that entity. That means it will be assumed that you agree with everything the group says or believes, even if unrelated to your sharing the Good News of Christ.

You can probably already see some issues with using an external religious or political group to share the Good News. The Bible remains the only source of absolute truth for the Christian believer; nothing or nobody else should ever add or subtract anything from that truth.

Integrating GOD's absolute truth into worldly religious or political discussions will risk corrupting the Word. Mixing in the opinions of religious or political leaders will add or subtract from the absolute truth. No matter how 'pure and honest' the religious or political organizations seem to be, there is no comparison to the perfection of GOD.

To be most productive, it's best to stay with the Word of GOD... only. Keep religious traditions and politics out of the faith discussion. It's good to invite others to your local church, especially unbelievers. Just remember the only requirement is to believe in Jesus; not religious doctrines. A true believer can still vote, discuss political topics, proposed legislation, etc; but it should be done with a faithful heart. Your political beliefs will be a result of what is already in your heart.

A reminder that our faith is determined by our heart. GOD knows the true motives of the heart, so delivering his message to others requires the proper 'heart posture'.

Maintaining the proper heart posture is a daily commitment, which is achieved by submitting to Christ. A person who has the heart for it can turn others to GOD, despite this evil world.

When Jesus was here preaching GOD's message, he didn't take sides with the Jewish religious leaders of the day; neither did Jesus take sides with the ruling Roman government of the day.

Instead, Jesus stood outside of both groups, reminding how **we all fall short of GOD's glory**. Therefore, we all must submit to the only truth of GOD's Word (Romans 3:22-24).

There are no favorites with GOD (Colossians 3:25), so don't be deceived believing GOD favors any specific political or religious group over all others; you just need to follow Jesus Christ.

The true enemy is the devil and his demon army, not mankind. Satan loves when people attack other people (or groups). If we continually attack others for their beliefs or lifestyles, we are doing Satan's work for him... even when trying to bring GOD's message to the people.

By removing worldly religions and politics from the faith discussions, the true believer can freely share the 'unedited' words of our Savior, Jesus Christ; required for salvation.

**We're not here to win arguments (for man); we're here to win hearts (for GOD).**

To win hearts for GOD, one must be a disciple for Jesus Christ. That means full submission to Jesus, taking up your cross... and having the proper heart posture for sharing. It means faithful commitment to the Bible, gaining clarity through the Holy Spirit, etc.

Many people who claim to believe in GOD don't really know who HE is. If you only know GOD by his 'general revelation', then you risk being rejected by GOD eternally →

**GOD's general revelation** - GOD reveals HIMSELF (via the creation). Most people seem to understand that GOD does exist, but they don't know much about HIM... or his Son. This type of belief is not good enough to be saved (by GOD).

**GOD's spiritual revelation** - GOD reveals who HE is (via the Bible). Armed with the knowledge of GOD's Word, a person can understand the mind of GOD... and have an intimate relationship with his Son. This is the requirement to be saved (by GOD).

The true believer is expected to bring others to the understanding of GOD's 'spiritual revelation'; it's not an attempt to convert anybody to a specific religion or persuade anybody to join a particular political party. Since we're all born sinners before GOD, we need to change hearts; not religions or political labels. We must speak directly to a person's heart about the love of GOD, the sacrifices of Jesus Christ, eternal fates of believers versus unbelievers, etc.

Worthless arguments with others (while on this earth) will be totally irrelevant after you're gone. Your body will just be 'bones in a grave'. What happens after that (and forever) depends solely on your own beliefs and how you shared your faith in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Remember the great command (Matthew 28:19-20) and who will be saved (Romans 10:9-10). We're not here to overtake nations or change votes; just believe in Jesus and tell others. Making disciples of others is not accomplished by implementing new legislation; it's accomplished by changing a person's heart.

Many people in this world are searching for hope and truth, but they are confused by the various messages being promoted by religious and political leaders, as well as the mass media.

Many people in this world are receiving an incorrect or incomplete truth, regarding the most important topic for every single one of us: specifically, our eternal future depends solely on absolute truth of the Bible. Our earthly life is maximum 120 years, but spiritual life is forever.

Faithfully committing yourself to reading the Bible and staying in prayer will allow you to remain in close relationship with your Savior, which can allow you to also bring others to this salvation.

With that being said, you don't need to be a 'Bible scholar' to bring the Good News to others who seek absolute truth. Quick framework to get started (for yourself and/or others):

- Start with the most well-known verse (John 3:16) and explain the need for all of us to believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior. We have all failed GOD at times, so you can use the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) to show that. Explain that knowing GOD personally is necessary for your salvation. Not just knowing Bible verses, but renewing your life in a personal, loving relationship with GOD. To summarize, believing in Jesus means repentance from your past and obedience for your future.
- Instead of focusing much on the Ten Commandments, you should use the Beatitudes as guidance to what GOD considers a follower of Jesus (Matthew 5:3-12). The Ten Commandments were the law given to GOD's people back in Old Testament days, whereas the Beatitudes are the new covenant; based on a person's heart and spoken to us directly from Jesus (whom true Christians are required to 'believe in').
- Instead of focusing much on the Ten Commandments, just understand the TWO commandments given to us directly from Jesus Christ (Matthew 22:36-40). These commandments are a matter of the heart; the exact reason we no longer live under 'the law'. If you love GOD above everything and love all others (and yourself), you don't want to commit sins against GOD or anybody else. You don't need a law to tell you not to disrespect GOD or harm anybody... because the one who loves GOD and others will already not want to harm anybody. It's all about love. If the Beatitudes describe your attitudes, then you will inherently desire to love all and stay obedient to Jesus Christ. So, you will be able to "take up your cross" and follow the path of Jesus (Matthew 16:24).
- No list of rules is needed; true Christians will have the Holy Spirit in their heart. Therefore, a true Christian will also produce the same fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).
- Even though it may be uncomfortable, you need to talk about the enemy devil and his plan to destroy you (John 10:10, James 4:7). Emphasize the reason you must follow Jesus Christ for salvation:

**YOU CAN LIVE FOREVER... IN ABSOLUTE PEACE, HAPPINESS, AND JOY!**

Please also read full testimony to this truth in a letter, based on one personal salvation:

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