

How Do You Handle Rebuffs for Your Beliefs

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Documenter: same as above

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Reasons Why Attending

- ◆ To learn approaches to provide parents of Lutheran school children for dealing with rebuffs to faith.
- ◆ To learn strategies for conversing with persons who have developed a negative opinion of Christians because of influence of conservative Christians in government.
- ◆ 2 of 3 are unchurched in Douglas County. Many express indifference or antagonism to Christian outreach.
- ◆ Persons in family are not Christian. They demand empirical and scientific explanations.
- ◆ Witnessing to persons with bad church experiences
- ◆ Witnessing to a lesbian

Suggestions

- ◆ Make a list of these people and pray for them. Ask others to pray for them.
- ◆ Perform little acts of kindness for these persons.
- ◆ When witnessing to lesbians – witness that we are all sinners
- ◆ When persons dismiss Christians as hypocrites, witness to them that we are sinners repenting and saved only by the grace of God.
- ◆ Be persistent in witnessing and sharing the Gospel.
- ◆ Share what faith in Jesus Christ has done for me.
- ◆ Circle of Influence
- ◆ First, understand more what the other person is saying and feeling
- ◆ Avoid becoming defensive; rather, seek to learn, understand and to develop a relationship
- ◆ “Tell me some more.”
- ◆ “Spell it out.”
- ◆ Lutherans who are long-time members may tend to speak in jargon. When witnessing, we must speak in terms that non-Lutherans can understand.
- ◆ From Romans 3:23 – “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

Suggestions (cont.)

- ◆ Luther's Catechism – Grace is God's love freely given
- ◆ Objection – All the church wants is our money. We give to honor God.
- ◆ Exhibit patience when continuously interacting with unbelievers.
- ◆ 2 Timothy 4:1-4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.
- ◆ Read scripture so that we are equipped to speak with knowledge
- ◆ Do not feel obligated to explain everything in the Bible.