

Why and how to share our faith in the work place

Christian Business Leaders

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Introduction - This is the big one!

- Many Christians operate in a Christian bubble
- Work may be the only place where we come into contact with people who don't know Jesus
- We may be the only person our colleagues know who is a Christian
- We may be the only opportunity they have to see and hear Jesus



What's the magic formula

- This is nothing new
- Stories from my own experience – the good, the bad and the ugly!
- A practical guide



Why?

- Jesus told us that we must tell others
- It is wonderful news!
 - We're forgiven
 - We have the gift of eternal life
- Out of love for others
 - People carry fears, guilt and emotional baggage
 - People are searching for the truth
- “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19



Two common responses

1. Fear - keeping our faith our best kept secret
2. Insensitivity - bull in a china shop



Fear - personal experience

- My life did not look like Christ! I was a hypocrite
- You live your life and I'll live mine
- I was ashamed of the gospel



Insensitivity

- Pressure produces defensiveness
- It's not appropriate – especially in the work place – especially towards subordinates!
- God doesn't force people – why should we claim that right?
- Love is the solution – if we love people the way God loves them, we should behave towards them as God behaves toward them



Presence

- We are being watched...
- In the way we deal with people
- In the way we handle money
- In the way we make decisions
- ...the way we behave will influence people.
- You are the salt of the earth
- You are the light of the world
- let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven
- Matthew 5 13-16



Persuasion

- This is the polar opposite to insensitivity
- We believe in God because he has revealed himself to us
- He has given us evidence
- Have you ever asked yourself why you are a Christian? Is it because you are stupid?



Proclamation

- What's your story?
- "One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" John 9:25



Power

- The power is the cross of Christ
- Wise and intelligent speech have their place
- The fear of the lord is the beginning of Wisdom
- I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.
Romans 1:15



Prayer

- Prayer for others
- Prayer for ourselves
- Do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit
Mark 13:11



Questions in groups

- What experiences have you had of sharing your faith? What went well, what didn't work?
- What prevents us from talking about Jesus?
- Based on the answers to q2, what strategies can we use to overcome our stumbling blocks?

