

Tactics in Defending Your Faith

Men's Monday Night Football Fellowship (September 15, 2008)

Week 1 Verse: 1 Peter 3:14-16

"But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened. But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."

Small Group Instructions:

1. (10 min.) Spend some time getting acquainted with each other. Go around the group and share your name, occupation, brief description of family and the highlight of your summer. Will the Eagles ever win Super-bowl? List their chances on a scale of one (low) to ten (high).
2. (15 min.) Small group leaders scribe the following and then turn the list into B²:

Share examples of typical philosophies, reasons, excuses, accusations, rebuttals, arguments, or assertions that unbelievers use as arguments against Christianity. This list should be very long!!!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

3. (10 min) Describe your feelings and experiences when you attempt to share your faith and the other person did one of the following things to you?
 - a. They steam-roll over you and your ideas and never give you a chance to explain what you want to say to them.
 - b. They change the topic instead of answering your questions.
 - c. Refuse to acknowledge what you have said (gloss over it or simply discount it).
 - d. They provide an intellectual response to you but a few days later you realize the absurdity of their claims.
 - e. They pummel you with a barrage of different issues or reasons that are important to them but they are not relevant to the discussion at hand.
 - f. Others???

“Get in the Game” – the “Double-Dog Dare” by Pastor Chris Sutton

Men’s Monday Night Football Fellowship 2008 Week 1 Homework

Review the “Take-Away” Points

- The unsaved seem to be well armed in their battle against Christianity
- As a Christian it is easy to feel out-gunned or out-numbered.
- It is our responsibility to prepare ourselves for a spiritual battle

“Study the Playbook”

VERSE FOR OUR STUDY: Memorize 1 Peter 3:14-16

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Consider and Apply the “Give-Away” – Actually Play the Game

Think back to a time when you had a discussion or argument or read an article or book where someone left you wondering, “What in the world is he talking about? Where is this guy coming from? How can he even think that, let alone say it? Does he really believe that?” Come prepared to share your experiences on this next week.