

## **BRIDGES TO THE GOSPEL**

Psalm 126:5-6

(I credit most of this material to Dr. Tim Beougher, Professor of Evangelism, Southern Baptist Seminary, and his book, "Invitation to Evangelism")

Most of us want to share the gospel with our family, friends, and neighbors. But for many of us, the hardest part of witnessing is getting started. The average American has about 37 conversations per day. 16,000 words. We can talk about our children, our grandchildren with ease. Ballgames, the weather, gardening, and the price of gasoline. But how do we go from talking about ballgames to talking about God?

Many people have said that they really want to share their faith, but just don't know how to do it. Let me say this: If you know enough about the Gospel to be saved, you know enough to share the gospel with someone else. Just tell your story! *I can assure you, there are more people out there who want to hear about Jesus than there are people in the church who are willing to tell them!*

1. Be alert and aware.
2. Ask questions. Then listen!
3. Look for open doors. Have your "witnessing" shoes on! (Eph. 6: 15)
4. Be real. Don't be phony. Just be yourself. Relax.
5. Be confident in the Holy Spirit. He's got your back!

### **20 BRIDGES (Conversation Starters)**

#### **1. The Church Bridge**

\*Did you grow up going to church?

\*What does your church teach about the way a person is saved?

#### **2. The Personal Experience Bridge**

\*Through the years, have you come to know Christ in a personal way, or are you still on the way?

#### **3. The Intellectual Bridge**

\*Is there a specific question or concern hanging you up in your spiritual journey?

\*Has anyone ever shared with you what the Bible teaches about \_\_\_\_\_?

\*Has anyone ever shared with you how to have a personal relationship with God?

#### **4. The Personal Opinion Bridge**

\*In your personal opinion, what is a Christian?

\*What do you think of \_\_\_\_\_? (God, Jesus, the Bible, angels, heaven )

## **5. The Current Issues Bridge**

\*The Bible is incredibly relevant. Can I share with you what the Bible says about this issue?

## **6. The Sports Bridge**

\*Did you know that (name of well-known athlete) is a Christian?" (Tim Tebow, Steph Curry, Nick Foles, Kurt Warner)

## **7. The Felt Needs Bridge**

\*Everybody has problems, and I do too, but having a personal relationship with Jesus has made all the difference in how I handle them."

## **8. The Prayer Bridge**

\* I really believe in prayer. Is there something I can pray about for you?" (Works great in restaurants with waiters just before you pray over the meal.)

## **9. The Relationship Bridge**

\*John, we've been friends for a long time now, and we've talked about a lot of things over the years, but there one very important part of my life I have never shared with you. Do you mind if I share it with you now?

## **10. The History Bridge**

\*What person in history would you say has had the greatest impact on the world? Why?

## **11. The Tattoo Bridge**

\* That is an interesting tattoo. What is the story behind it? May I share something with you that means a lot to me?

## **12. The Heaven Bridge**

\*What do you think Heaven is?

\*If Heaven were a perfect place, what would happen if God were to let you into it?

## **13. The Profanity Bridge**

\*I just heard you use God's (Jesus') name three times. Do you know Him?

#### **14. The Diagnostics question Bridge**

\*If you were to die this minute, do you know 100% for sure that you would go to Heaven?

\*If you were to die today, and stand before God and He asked you, "Why should I let you into my Heaven?" what would you say?

#### **15. The Responsibility Bridge**

\*I am a follower of Jesus Christ, and one of the things he taught was that it is our responsibility to tell others about Jesus. May I tell you about the difference Jesus has made in my life?

#### **16. The Jewelry Bridge**

\* That's a nice cross you are wearing. What does the Cross mean to you? May I share with you what the Cross means to me?

#### **17. The Elevator Bridge**

\* Going up? Well, it would be alright with me if it just kept on going up till we got to the Gates of Heaven. What do you think you would say if God said, "Why should I let you into my Heaven?"

\* Going **down**? Well let's just hope it stops on the first floor! If it kept on going, we'd all be in trouble! But the day I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior, He took my fear of Hell away completely. I have a home in Heaven, and you can too!

#### **18. The Good News Bridge**

\*Have you heard any good news lately? There's so much bad news out there, but may I share with you the best news I have ever heard?

#### **19. The God Loves You Bridge**

\*Excuse me. Has anyone told you today that God really loves you? No? Well, let me be the first one to tell you that today! God loves you! Just the way you are, and He sent His son to die on the Cross for you. That's how much He loves you!

#### **20. The Gospel Tract Bridge**

\* Have you seen one of these? (3 triangles, curved cards, big money, million dollar bill; Order from [Livingwaters.com](http://Livingwaters.com))