

Part 5 The Reason Giving Approach

1 Peter 3:13

Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good?

l Peter 3:14

But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats.

1 Peter 3:15

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks, always be prepared to answer and to explain the reasons for the hope that you have.

1 Peter 3:16a

But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear.

1 Peter 3:16b

Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

l Peter 3:17

Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!

Part 5 The Reason Giving Approach

The Reason Giving Approach to Sharing the Good News is based on the fact that all believers are supposed to know what they believe, and even more importantly, why they believe it.

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The Reason Giving Approach to Sharing the Good News is based on the fact that all believers are supposed to know what they believe, and even more importantly, why they believe it.

The Reason Giving Approach has two facets: offense and defense.

The offense is engaged when we offer positive evidence for Christianity.

The defense is engaged when we give good rational answers to people's objections, doubts, or critiques against Christianity.

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We must make sure that our hearts are aligned with the Father's heart and that His will has become our will when we engage in the Reason Giving Approach.

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When we engage in the Reason Giving Approach, we must remember to keep moving from good answers to the Good News.

The goal of the Reason Giving Approach is not to win arguments; it is to win souls.

There are many ways to grow in your confidence and competency when it comes to sharing your reasons for your faith in Christ.

- Study, study, study.
- Be prayerful and ask God to clearly reveal the opportunities.
- Whenever possible, connect before you correct.
- Listen, listen, listen.

- Clarify the question.
- Admit when you don't know the answer. Tell them you will research and get back to them. Then contact someone who does know the answer.

Understand that you can almost never say the wrong thing to the right person, just as you can almost never say the right thing to the wrong person.

Understand that going through the difficulties, tension, and unpleasantness of debating with someone about God is actually one of the most loving things you can ever do for them

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Inevitably, the Reason Giving Approach usually involves at least one of the following: emotional outbursts, debating, strained relationships, persuasive communication, or even arguing.

Acts 19:8

Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.

Acts 19:9

But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus.

Acts 19:10

This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

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