

What Am I Afraid Of? - Overcoming the fears of sharing our faith.

Greg Wendschlag March 14, 2021

"I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes."

Rom. 1:16

Christians gave the following reasons for why they don't share Jesus regularly:

- 22% - fear
- 17% - lack of opportunities
- 17% - nothing stops them
- 10% - don't feel equipped
- 9% - didn't feel others were interested
- 8% - feared rejection
- 8% - feared hostility
- 8% - were too busy
- 4% - too shy
- 4% - can't find appropriate time
- 4% - it's too hard
- 3% - don't want to seem pushy
- 3% - don't want to offend

Of those who share:

- 11% - Actively look for opportunities to share their faith
- 75% - It happens unexpectedly
- 11% - A combination of both
- 3% - don't know how it happens

4 Steps to More Effective Faith Sharing

1. Become convinced love is greater than fear.

"Since we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men...For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all..." 2 Cor. 5:11, 14

"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another...God is love...There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear." 1 John 4:11, 16-18

2. Prepare to share

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handle the word of truth." 2 Tim. 2:15

“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...” 1 Peter 3:15

3. Trust the Holy Spirit

“When the Counselor comes, who I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about me; but you must also testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.” John 15:26-27

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

4. Feel the fear and share anyway

“Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.” Phil. 1:14

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Tim. 1:7

“Jesus said, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Mark 1:17