

What is a spiritual conversation?

Gospel conversation vs. spiritual conversation

- **Gospel conversation** – is the biblical narrative of creation, fall, and redemption that is centered around the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
- **Spiritual conversation** – is presuppositional, which means that it addresses the underlying assumptions that the gospel is built on.

The purpose of a spiritual conversation is to set the foundation for the Gospel to sit on; remove intellectual barriers and move from secular to spiritual.

Three types of conversation

- _____ conversation
- _____ conversation
- _____ conversation

How do you start a spiritual conversation?

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for supernatural _____. 2 Corinthians 4:4

2. Be _____ about your communication and avoid certain pitfalls.

- Personal box
- Religious box
- Political box

3. Everything has _____.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| • Morality | • Work |
| • Purpose | • Beauty |
| • Identity | • Hope |
| • Love | • Dreams |
| • Family | • Sickness |
| | • Loss |

Four things to look for during spiritual conversations

1. _____ – things they are putting their hope and identity in.
2. _____ – dealing with anxiety, depression, broken relationships, etc.
3. _____ – things that they are believing that stand in the way of them hearing biblical truth.
4. _____ – things they are already believing or living out that is in alignment with biblical truth.

Look for ways to connect (affirm or challenge) your conversation to at least one truth of the Gospel.

How do you appropriately engage in a spiritual conversation?

1. You are not convincing people that you're right. You are encouraging them to pursue the Truth.
2. Create an open environment where it's okay to doubt, ask hard questions, say something naïve, and process in real time.

Have I failed if I don't share the gospel?

- *I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.*
1 Corinthians 3:6
- You are not the hero; Jesus is!
- Respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- The goal is to move people closer to Jesus at every interaction.

Application:

1. What challenged you the most from this teaching? Why?
2. Explain the difference between a gospel conversation and a spiritual conversation.
3. “You are not convincing people that you’re right. You are encouraging them to pursue the Truth.” How does this perspective change your approach to those who don’t believe in Jesus?
4. How does knowing that “Everything has spiritual implications” make it easier for you to engage in spiritual conversations?
5. How will you create an open environment where it’s okay to doubt, ask hard questions, say something naïve, and process in real time?