

KEYS TO BEING LIVING PROOF

1. There is a huge gap between the assumptions and values of Christians and non-Christian culture. We need to take a person's *culture* into account when we try to bring the gospel to that person.
2. However, all people *have built-in receptors* to the gospel: guilt, desires for love and significance, and fear of death.
3. Unbelievers are unable to make the first move toward Christ because spiritual they are *lost*, poor, imprisoned, blind and dead.
4. God draws unbelievers to Himself through three *supernatural resources*; The Holy Spirit, the bible , and us.
5. Evangelism is a process of guiding someone, in the power of God, to make *mini-decisions* on the way to choosing for or against Jesus Christ. Our tasks in that process are to:
 - cultivate - prepare the *emotional* soil
 - sow - plant the Word in the *mind*
 - harvest - get a decision of the *will*
 - multiply - send people out to repeat the process
6. We must make the first move toward the lost around us. We do this by establishing *common ground* on which to build a friendship. We address our friend's emotional barriers.
7. Being a good testimony is being light in a dark world and living with grace (unconditional, forgiving love) and truth. It is not flaunting our moral righteousness.
8. Early in our friendship, we need to *raise our flag* as people who base our lives on the Bible. We need to avoid raising a flag as members of a church or denomination, or as people who abstain from fun.
9. Living among unbelievers requires that we trust the Holy Spirit to deal with an unbeliever's behavior, commit ourselves to please God rather than people, come to Bible-based convictions about disputable matters, and learn to say no gracefully.
10. We begin sowing truth when we tell *faith stories* - glimpses of what it's like for us to be believers, glimpses of biblical outlook. These start dealing with our friend's mind.
11. To be living proof of truth, we need to be *in the process of learning and applying* what the Bible says about lifestyle - relationships, money, priorities, and so on. We don't have to be perfect; it's the direction we're heading that counts.
12. The key to fitting evangelism into busy schedules is *including unbelievers in our ongoing lives*.
13. No one has all the gifts it takes to reach the lost. We need to work in *teams*.
14. When we've won our friends' trust and have intrigued them without biblical lifestyle, we are likely to have success in inviting them to *study the Bible* with us.
15. A Bible study for unbelievers must be relaxed, non-religious, fun and non-threatening.
16. The focus of the Bible study, whether topical or book-centered, is "*Who is Jesus?*" We may not be able to fix on this question immediately in a topical study, but our goal is to move toward this issue.
17. Asking and answering *questions* are our main Bible study techniques. We use launch, guide, and summary questions paragraph by paragraph, at about a chapter per session.
18. When we've satisfied our friend's emotions and intellect, his or her *will* still needs to be committed. We can confront this will by make the will issue plain, telling our own story of accepting Christ, and/or using a gospel tract.
19. Normally, a new believe should *maintain contact* with unbelieving friends. Instead of burning bridges with confrontation, the new believe should become *our partner* in cultivating (loving), sowing (studying the Bible), and harvesting old friends.

From Living Proof Video study