

UGHH!!!
Uncomfortable/Grit Your Teeth/Hard/Holy
Sometimes Hard Things Are The Best Thing For Us

Proclamation – Sharing Your Faith

“I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.” **PHILEMON 4-6**

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched — this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.”

I JOHN 1:1-3

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. 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.” **I PETER 3:15**

“You are my witnesses,” declares the LORD, “and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me. I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior. I have revealed and saved and proclaimed — I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses,” declares the LORD, “that I am God. Yes, and from ancient days I am he.”

ISAIAH 43:10-13a

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“Proclamation”

Christians are commanded to share their faith but how we fulfill this command varies wildly. Do we have to cold call unsuspecting neighbors on their doorsteps every Saturday morning? Stand on the street corners shouting at strangers and passing by cars? Leave tracts instead of tips on the table for poor servers at restaurants? The cringe factor of how some people share their faith makes many go ughh!!! at the thought of following those footsteps. But the simple definition of “sharing” does not mean being as oblivious and intrusive as we can, it means not keeping what we have to ourselves, not refusing to offer some of what we have to someone who might need it. Sharing your faith does not have to be an exercise in humiliation and awkwardness, it can actually be a life-changing and relationship-building privilege if we choose to share:

- 1. our story not our script
- 2. inviting/including not imposing
- 3. serving peace not pride
- 4. as a response not for a response