

The Engel Scale¹

The Engel Scale has been used to introduce many Christians to a new understanding of sharing their faith. It is helpful to understand the journey a person must take in order to discover God. Following is a variation of the scale

The Engel Scale (a variation)	
-10	No God Framework
-9	Experience of Emptiness
-8	Vague Awareness of Christianity
-7	Interest in Christianity
-6	Awareness of the Gospel
-5	Positive Attitude to the Gospel
-4	Experience Christian Love
-3	Awareness of Personal Need
-2	Grasp of the Implications of the Gospel
-1	Challenge to Respond Personally
0	Repentance and Faith
+1	Evaluation of the Decision
+2	Learning the Basics of the Christian Life
+3	Functioning Member of Local Church
+4	Continuing Growth in Character, Lifestyle and Service
+5	Effective Sharing of Faith and Life

How to Use the Engel Scale

“By asking probing questions during the course of a conversation, spiritual or otherwise, you can gauge where they are in the journey to Christ. This gives you direction and insight on what they need. Use this information to pray for them and how to approach future conversations.

Every person is on this scale somewhere. When you have a spiritual conversation with a person, this might be the spiritual conversation that moves them from -1 to 0, and they are ready to receive Christ. You must be aware of this and be ready. However, that conversation might be the one that moves them from -7 to -5. It might seem like the conversation was unsuccessful, but in reality, it was successful because it moved them closer to accepting Christ. This is a good thing to remember and take encouragement in.

¹ “Making disciples of Jesus, who make disciples, who make disciples...” <https://www.field-usa.org/engel-scale> (24th September 2018). Also See Engel, James F. & Norton, Wilbert. *What's Gone Wrong With The Harvest?* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan 1981), 45.

Every time we have an encounter with a person we have the potential to move them on the Engel Scale, forward or backward. We must remember that it is possible to move a person in the negative direction. We must always remember that we are ambassadors for Christ and conduct ourselves accordingly.”²

See the following site for some possible helpful questions for each level:

http://www.hazelden.org.uk/pt02/art_pt068_modified_engel_full.htm

² “Making disciples of Jesus, who make disciples, who make disciples...” <https://www.field-usa.org/engel-scale> (24th September 2018).