

CONVERSATIONS

Before You Have One (John 1)

- Monday Read John 1:1-5. Understand Christianity! Charles Colson once wrote: “Too many of us . . . believe Christianity consists in intellectual assent to the plan of salvation as a means of securing our eternal destiny followed by a lifetime a church attendance The Christian life, rather, is about our willingness to join Christ in His revolutionary mission to redeem creation!” (Colson 2008, 61-62) Do you get the difference? Pray for the opportunity to explain this difference to someone today.
- Tuesday Read John 1: 6-17. Avoid relativism. “As you seek to build trust through affirmation, learning and going into someone else’s world, you need to be careful to be honest about the uniqueness of Christ. You will actually be doing your friend a disservice, if in the name of trying to build trust, you profess that all faiths are the same and can lead to God. No one likes a bait-and-switch. You need to be clear in your own mind about Jesus. It will be hard to walk with your friend into the Jesus revolution if you do not know yourself what is revolutionary about Jesus.” (Everts & Schaup 2008) Pray for someone specific to share the uniqueness of Christ. If you have questions or doubts, write them down and set up a time with one of your Ministers or Elders to explore the answers. My biggest question about Christianity is _____.
- Wednesday Read John 1:35-42. Come and See. Jesus offered followers the gift of hospitality; come and check this out. Get to know me by seeing who I really am; I want to spend time with you. We can never stop going into people’s worlds; AND we must allow them and offer them opportunities to enter our own world. Use your home as a way of helping others get to know Jesus through your hospitality! (Everts & Schaup 2008)
- Thursday Read John 1:43-51. Be with them but don’t sin. Jesus said that Nathaniel was without deceit! Remember, you are a child of God! “You will want to get on their turf as best as you can, but you should not participate in activities that compromise your character or integrity. It’s not worth breaking the law or doing what you know to be sin. Find other ways to get on their turf. At the same time, don’t walk unwisely into temptation. Know what your struggles are. If you know you struggle with alcohol, it might not be a very good idea to follow your coworker to the bar after work. Even if something isn’t sin, it still might be harmful to your spirituality. Be thorough about your own temptations and be wise.” (Everts & Schaup 2008)
- Friday Read John 3. Pray for the opportunity to invite a friend to church this Sunday!