

SOUL TRAINING

Sharing Your Faith (Without Embarrassment or Coercion)

Based on James Bryan Smith's "The Good and Beautiful Community"

1. **Pray.** Pray for someone to send you someone with whom you could share your faith.
2. **Watch.** Believing that God will send you someone, you need to watch for who that might be.
3. **Reach out.** Start to build a relationship with that person in non-threatening ways.
4. **Listen.** Listen for clues as to the person's heart. Ask how is God working in this person's life and how God wants you to connect to that person.
5. **Connect.** If you have discerned what is going on in a person's heart and have connected with them, help them make the connection to God and how the gospel speaks into their situation.
6. **Share.** Once you have listened to the other person, you might be asked to share your story. Be prepared to tell someone why you have hope.
7. **Invite.** At a certain point in your relationship, invite that person to join with you and other followers of Jesus in some way. Perhaps that may mean inviting them to church with you, or Sunday School, and just out for a coffee with some friends. This all takes time. One source says that it typically takes twenty-eight months for a person to go from seeking to committing to a life of faith.