

UNCOVERING: LEARNING THE ROLE OF THE ARCHEOLOGIST

Uncovering Conversations

Like an archeologist, uncover their real barriers to the Gospel.
(This is where we try to uncover the real barriers they have to the gospel)

"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)

1. Determine whether their issue is a real concern or a _____.

Formula: If I could answer your question, would that help?

2. Determine the _____ of their barrier (whether the barrier is mostly an intellectual or emotional question or concern, or a combination of both).

A method for handling the tough questions: _____ the burden of proof (the boomerang principle).

"Tell us by what authority you are doing these things," they said. "Who gave you this authority?" He replied, "I will also ask you a question. Tell me, John's baptism - was it from heaven, or from men?" (Luke 20:2-4)

3. Uncover the _____ emotional baggage that they are carrying.

Ask God for wisdom in discerning what the real barriers are that you need to address with your pre-believing friends. (James 1:5)

Handling emotional baggage:

- Invite them to share their _____.
- Listen discernibly for the most obvious barriers to the gospel as you _____ with them.
- If appropriate, affirm God's love and hope for them.
- If appropriate, _____ for how another brother or sister in Christ treated them.
- Tell them you will keep them in your prayers.

4. Determine whether there is a _____ behind the question or issue raised. Jesus was a master in getting below the surface. (Marriage at the resurrection - Mark 12:18-27)

5. Find out what their biggest _____ is to Christianity.
 1. Family obligation or expectations.
 2. Moral life-style choices.

6. Find out what would _____ them to get answers in these areas.

7. Uncover the _____. In this step we are attempting to surface an unwillingness to believe that goes beyond just dealing with the intellectual and emotional barriers.

"Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him." (John 12:37)

 - Remember that prayer is an important arsenal in our spiritual war for the souls of men.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)
 - Pray for spiritual enlightenment.

"The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Corinthians 2:14)
 - Demonstrate Christ's love to them.

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35)