

Evangelism Explosion

Question 1: On a scale of one to ten: If you died today, how certain are you that you would go to Heaven?

Question 2: Suppose you did die today and you stood before God and He asked, "Why should I let you into Heaven?" What would you say?

Heaven

is a free gift, it can't be earned or deserved

- Illustration: Birthday Gift
 - It's like your birthday. What did you do to get born? Nothing right? What about your mom? She went through labor to have you, but you did nothing! Yet, on your birthday, who gets presents? You did not earn them, and can't do anything to deserve them, but you got them. They are free gifts!
- Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2: 8-9

Man

is a sinner and can't save himself

We've all made mistakes and can't get to Heaven on our own

- Illustration: You and an Olympic Swimmer trying to swim to Hawaii
 - Imagine if you and an Olympic swimmer were on the beach in California and decided to race to Hawaii. Which one of you would win? That's right neither of you. He would probably go further, but both of you would drown. It is humanly impossible to swim from California to Hawaii
- Romans 3:23, Proverbs 14:12

God

is merciful but He is also just!

- Illustration: Bank Robbery
 - Let's say you robbed a bank. 17 people witnessed it, the security cameras recorded it, and the police captured you in the act. When you stand before the judge, even if you admit you were wrong; even if it were your first offense, a just judge wouldn't just let you go. He'd send you to jail.
- 1 John 4:8, Exodus 34:7 The same Bible that shows us that God is merciful also teaches us that God is equally just and will not "just let you in."

Jesus bridged the gap

- Illustration: Using your fingers, create a gap (like a peace sign). Explain: The dilemma is we've got God on one side, and He's not going to "just let you in," and we've got us on the other side, and we cannot save ourselves. But God solved this dilemma through the person of His son, Jesus Christ.
- Jesus: Who He is – He is the infinite God-man. What He did – He died on the cross and rose again to purchase a place in Heaven for us

Faith

What it is not:
It is not simply
believing, it is not
just temporary faith

- Illustration: Exams
- We've all expressed temporal Faith. You know, it's when you get to class on the day of a big exam, and you look up and say, "Oh, God, You've got to help me get through this exam." Maybe you even trust that He will help you to some degree, but the point is that you don't need that faith once you get the results of the exam back. That faith is temporal. Faith for physical healing, as great as it is, is also temporal.

Faith

What it is:
Transferring your
trust from yourself
to Jesus Christ

- I simply stopped trusting in what I could do to have a relationship with the Creator, and transferred my trust from myself to Jesus Christ and what He did 2000 years ago on the cross for me. You see, I'm not trusting in the fact that I may be a good person or do good things from time to time. I'm trusting in the plan that the Creator envisioned from the beginning of time. I chose to trust in His plan, not mine or any other.

Does this make sense to you?

Do you remember what you said when I asked you the 2nd Question? You said... Who were you referring to in that sentence? (They will admit that they were referring to themselves, at which I would be quick to say, "Me too.") Me too. I was just like that myself, and all I did was pray a simple prayer to transfer my trust from myself to Jesus Christ.

Does this sound like something you would like to do?