

Recap of 9/5/21 message (Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 10:23b-29):

Excerpt from Navigator's 2:7 article "Relationship Evangelism." Attitudes necessary to effective relationships with non-believers:

1. We must show the same kind of love and acceptance toward sinners that Jesus displayed.

-*"Our attitude must be one of acceptance and love. Jesus was the friend of publicans and sinners. We must accept people as they are. Acceptance does not mean approval. The contrast between our values and theirs will become conspicuous. Avoid judging, preaching, condemning or moralizing. Love people as they are and as individuals, not as targets for evangelism."*

2. We must be willing to boldly identify with Christ early in a relationship.

-*"The next attitude that is necessary for the effective affirmation of the gospel is one of boldness to be identified with Christ early in the relationship. We need to identify ourselves as Christians in the early stages, because the longer we wait without saying anything, the harder witnessing will be at a later time. One way to 'run up the flag' early in the relationship is to casually interject part of your testimony when the opportunity arises."*

3. We must demonstrate dependence on God through persevering prayer.

-*"We need to remember that the battle for souls is not a physical battle. Pray your way through every step of the process from establishing the first rapport, to opening the door to the message, to the Holy Spirit's convincing them of sin, righteousness and judgment."*

-*"We need to be led by the Spirit of God, I personally believe that the finest kind of evangelism today is prayer evangelism. I mean that we should begin by praying for an individual. Then the day will come when we need to put legs on the prayer. Ask God to lead you. If you have been praying for a loved one, or a friend, or a stranger, don't just go to [them] in your own strength and in the power of the flesh...Let God be the One to lead you." (McGee)*