

LIVE ~~the~~ THE Cause PODCAST SERIES

make disciples who make disciples

The Seven Secret Weapons of Evangelism

God has given us seven secret weapons when it comes to evangelism.

Why weapons?

- ★ Because our battle is with _____ not with those whom we are evangelizing.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12).

Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will (2 Timothy 2:25-26).

- ★ Because the act of evangelism is both _____ and _____ in nature.

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

- In the ancient world a stronghold was any _____ (fortified walls, strong gates, etc.) that slowed down the enemy's attack on a city.
- In the spiritual world a stronghold is any defense mechanism that _____ a person from becoming a Christian.

What kind of strongholds can there be?

- a. _____ strongholds (ie. "I've been hurt by the church.")
- b. _____ strongholds (i.e. "Christians hate gays.")
- c. _____ strongholds (i.e. "Science and faith contradict.")

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d. _____ strongholds (i.e. "Faith without works is too easy.")

e. _____ strongholds (i.e. "If I accept Christ my family will reject me.")

Realize that, ultimately, these are all _____ strongholds.

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God (2 Corinthians 4:3-4).

What are the secret weapons that can destroy these strongholds?

★ Every Person's Inner _____ of God

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools (Romans 1:18-22).

★ Every Person's _____

Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them (Romans 2:14-15).

★ The Power of _____

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account (Hebrews 4:12-13).

So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it (Isaiah 55:11).

★ The Power of the _____

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).

★ The Power of _____

And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message (Colossians 4:3).

★ A Life of _____

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven (Matthew 5:15-16).

★ Your Love for Other _____

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

How to use these weapons to destroy strongholds

Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God (2 Corinthians 4:2).

★ _____, you don't need to be smarter, wittier or more intelligent than them!

...without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved (Philippians 1:28).

★ _____ the power of the seven weapons to destroy strongholds as the Spirit leads.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions (Ephesians 6:18).

★ Realize that evangelism is not _____!

But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself (John 12:32).