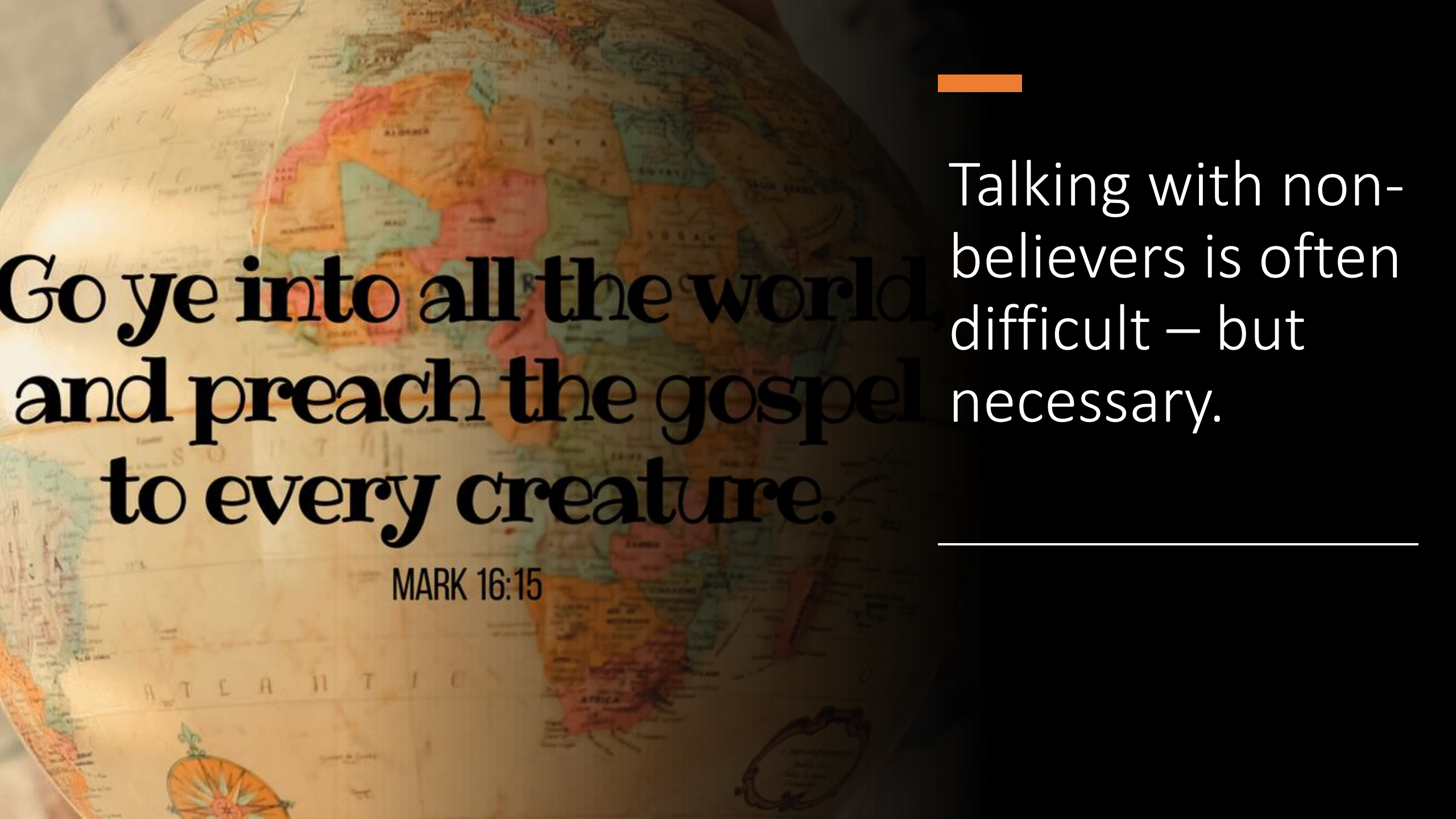


The image features a woman on the left and a man on the right, both shown in profile from the waist up. They are standing back-to-back with their arms crossed, suggesting a state of disagreement or conflict. The lighting is dramatic, with the subjects mostly in silhouette against a light, neutral background. The text is centered over the image in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

# How to Master the Art of Disagreement




**Go ye into all the world  
and preach the gospel  
to every creature.**

MARK 16:15

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Talking with non-believers is often difficult – but necessary.

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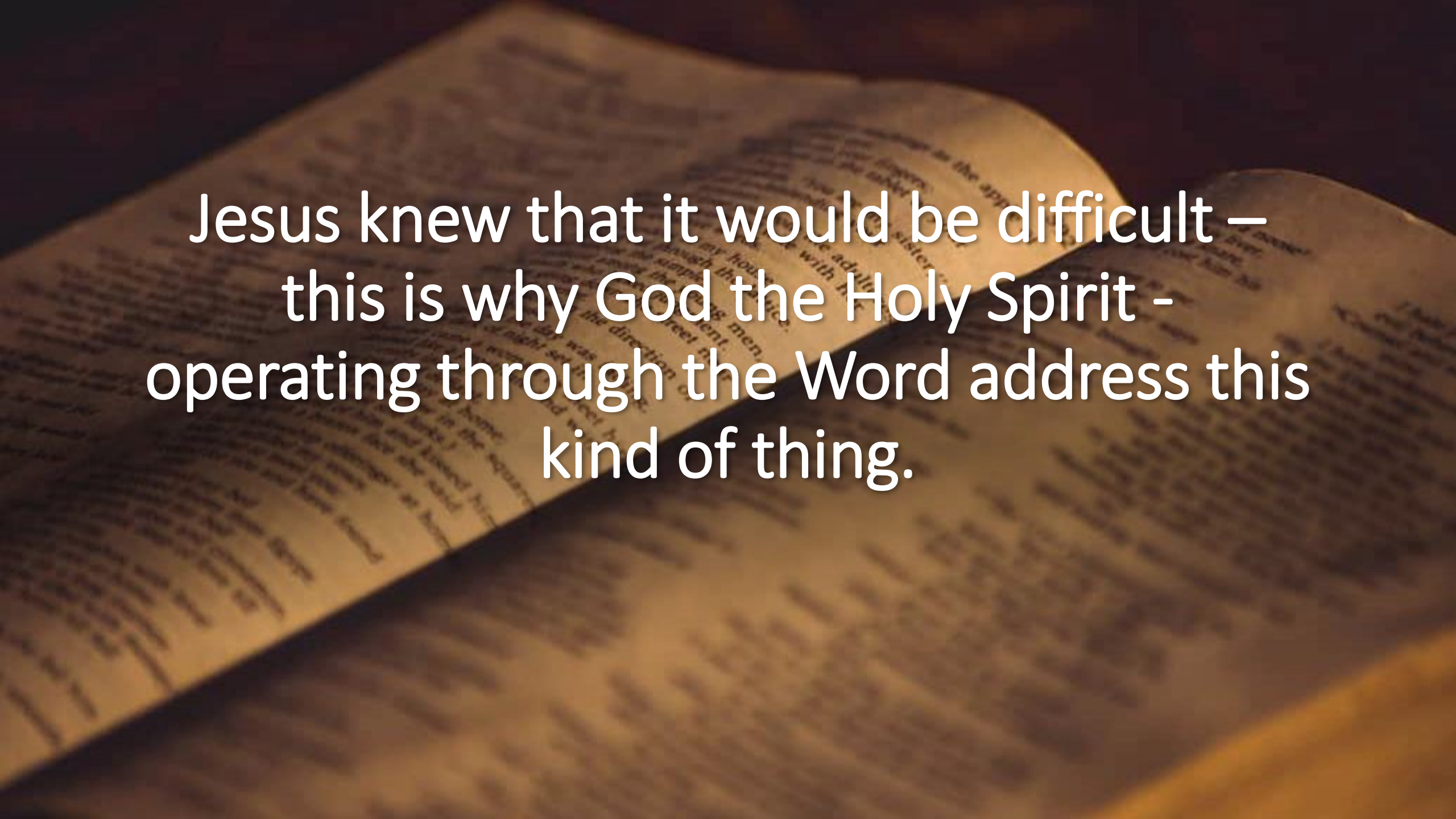


Talking with  
believers about  
differences can be  
equally difficult –  
but necessary.

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# The Right Attitude

An open book with text overlaid. The text is white and centered on the page. The background is a blurred image of an open book with text on the pages.

Jesus knew that it would be difficult –  
this is why God the Holy Spirit -  
operating through the Word address this  
kind of thing.



Conduct yourselves with  
wisdom  
toward outsiders, making  
the most of the opportunity.

- Colossians 4.5 -



Conduct yourselves with  
wisdom  
toward outsiders, making  
the most of the opportunity.

- Colossians 4.5 -

We must conduct ourselves  
with wisdom toward our  
brethren as well.



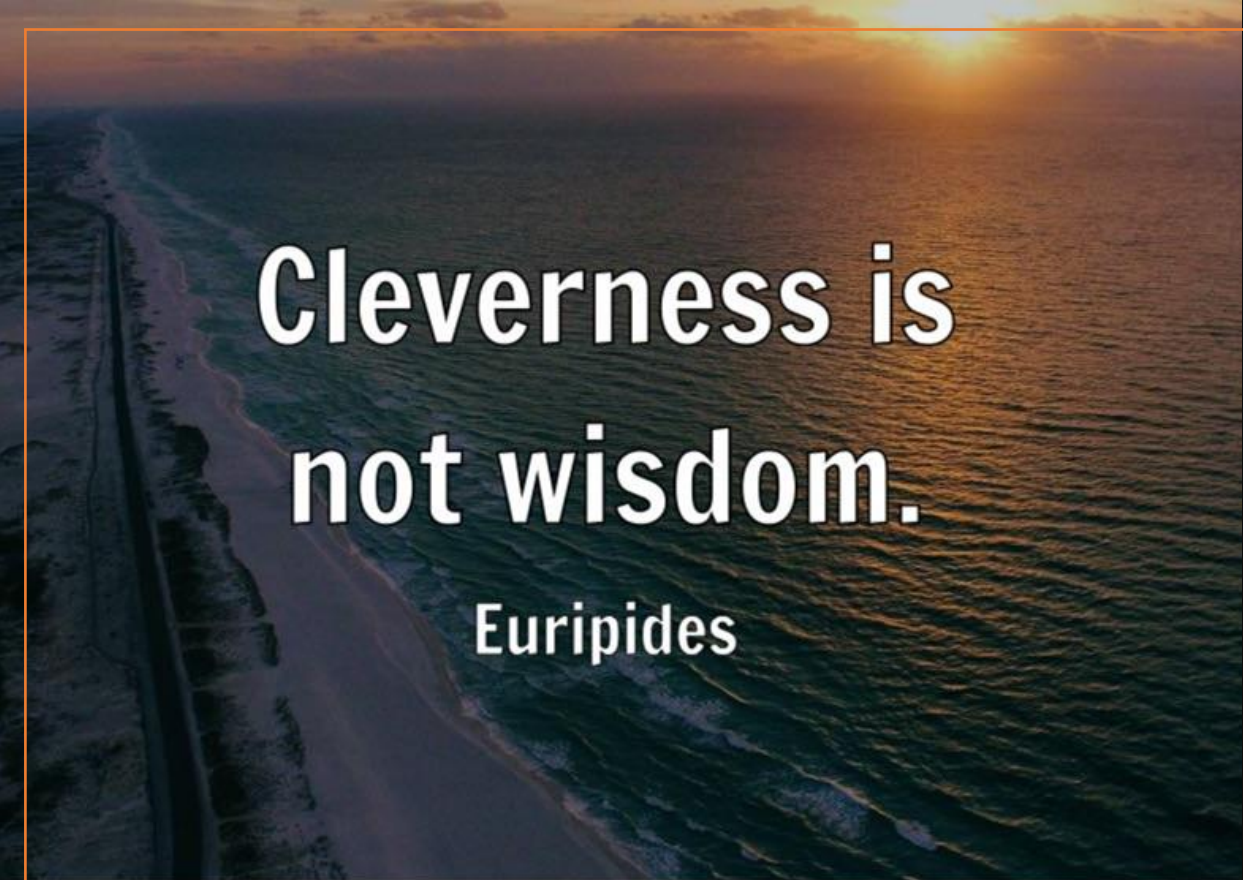
Knowledge

is not

Wisdom  
*berna3gu*

Knowledge is not wisdom. You can have a PhD and be a fool: it's all about how you use what you learn.

Two-things [1] how does God expect you to conduct yourself; [2] what and how does God want you teach?

An aerial photograph of a coastline at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow over the ocean and the sky. The water is dark blue with white-capped waves breaking along the shore. The land is visible on the left side of the frame, showing a mix of green and brown tones. The quote is overlaid in white text on the left side of the image.

**Cleverness is  
not wisdom.**

Euripides

BrainyQuote®

Cleverness doesn't win souls – but the truth of the Word of God does. [Acts 2.41; 8.5, 12, 30, 35; 9.6; 22.16].





And take the helmet  
of salvation and  
the sword of the  
Spirit, which is the  
word of God.  
- Ephesians 6.17 -



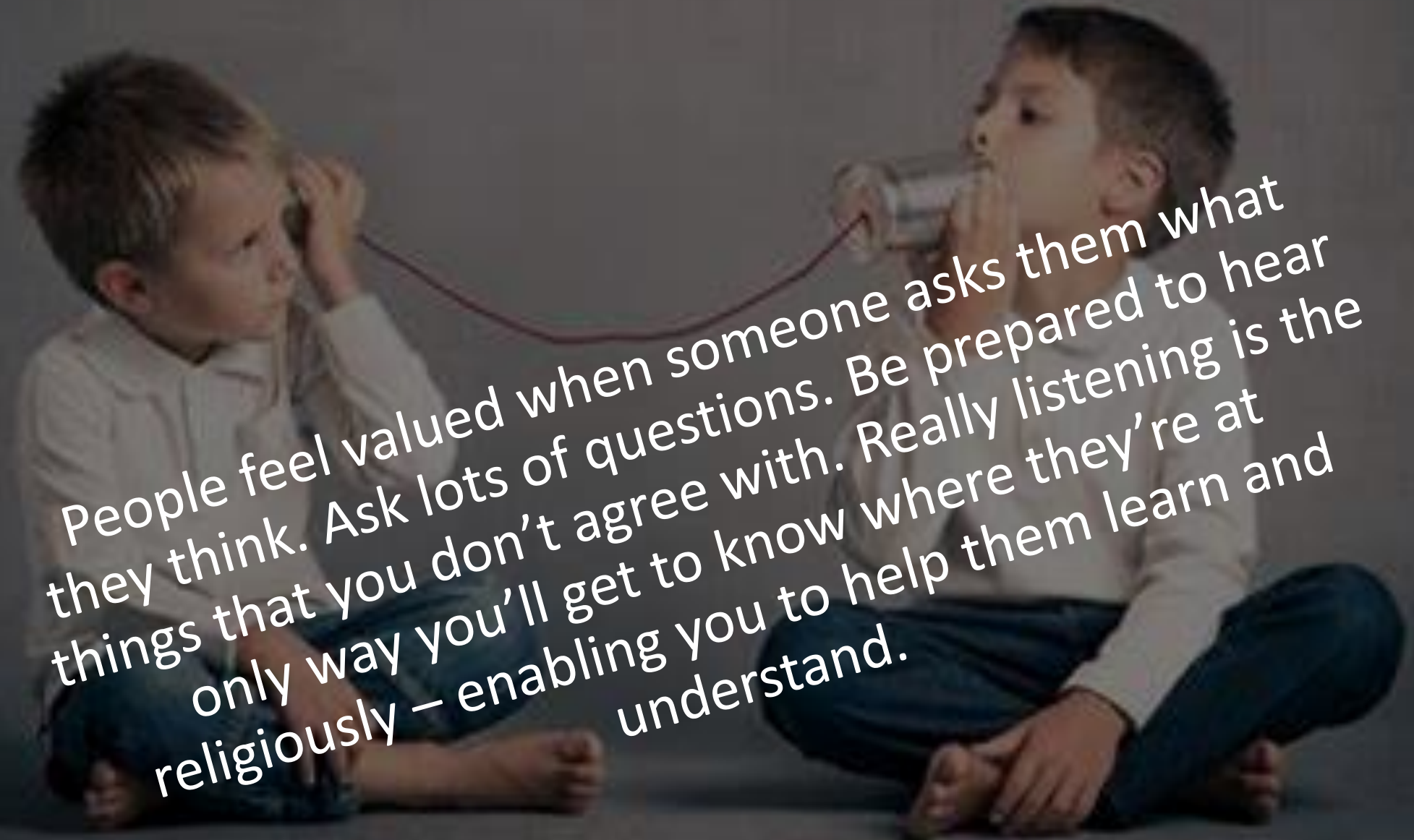
For I am not  
ashamed of the  
gospel of Christ: for  
it is the power of  
God unto salvation  
to every one that  
believeth; to the  
Jew first, and also  
to the Greek.

- Romans 1:16 (KJV) -

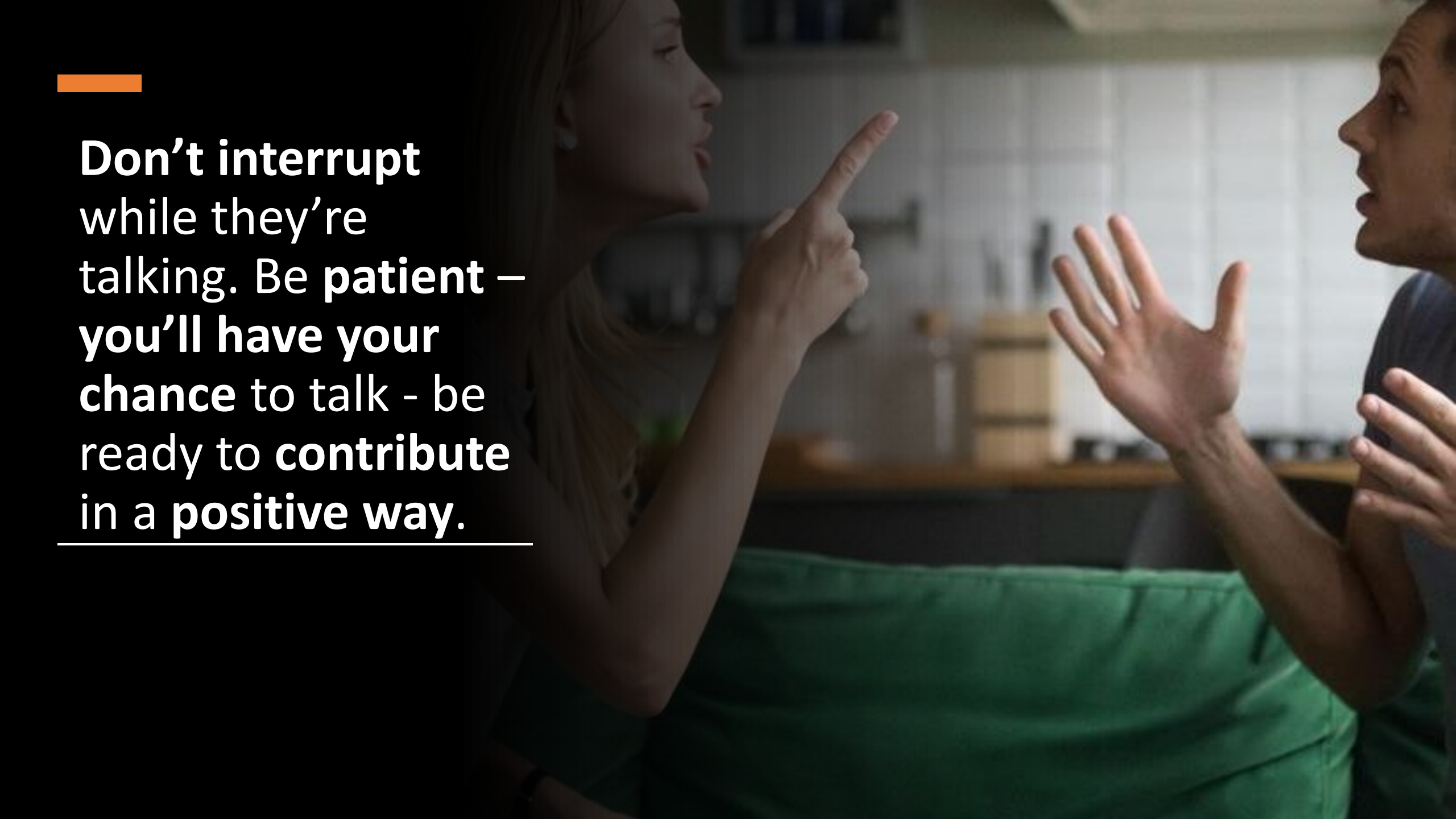
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Bombarding someone with  
Scripture after Scripture  
after Scripture doesn't win  
souls – while “the gospel is  
God's power unto salvation”  
– unless we can lead  
someone to **honestly  
examine what the word  
says** – we haven't really  
accomplished anything  
worthwhile.

---



People feel valued when someone asks them what they think. Ask lots of questions. Be prepared to hear things that you don't agree with. Really listening is the only way you'll get to know where they're at religiously – enabling you to help them learn and understand.

A woman with long dark hair is shown in profile, pointing her right index finger towards a man. The man is also in profile, looking towards the woman with his hands raised in a gesture of surprise or protest. They appear to be in a kitchen or a similar indoor setting. The background is slightly blurred, showing a wooden countertop and some kitchen items. The overall lighting is soft and natural.

**Don't interrupt while they're talking. Be patient – you'll have your chance to talk - be ready to contribute in a positive way.**

---



God sent Jesus to die for every sinner. Both of you were made in God's image, but Christ reached you with his grace, mercy, and love - not with threats, arguments, and judgment. Winning the argument isn't your goal – helping and guiding them to the truth is.

You are the  
salt of the  
earth. But  
what good is  
salt if it has  
lost its flavor?

~ Matthew 5:13a (NLT)



You are “salt” [5.13]-  
“light” [5.14] “let your  
light shine” - ;et them  
“see your good works” –  
“all for God’s glory” [5.16]  
-You “maximize [your]  
ability to ‘flavor’ by  
“teaching the truth in  
love” [Ephesians 4.15].

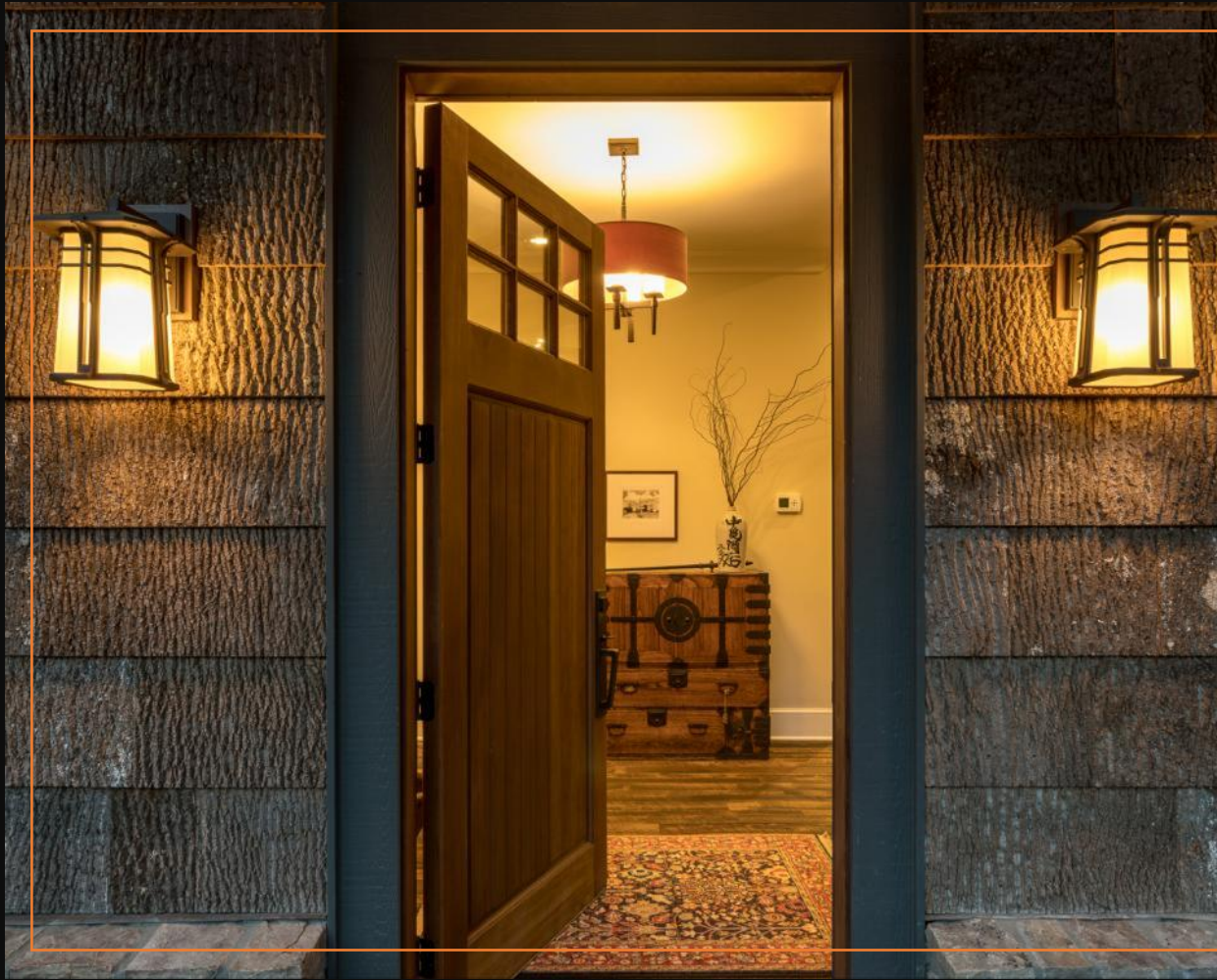


# Seasoned with Salt

Colossians 4:5

Let your speech  
always be  
gracious, [courteous]  
seasoned with salt, so  
that you may know  
**how you ought to  
answer each person.**

- Colossians 4.6 -



Remember –God has opened this door of opportunity. – Colossians 4.2 – You don't need to try to explain "how" God opened the door – just be thankful for it, and prayerfully make the most of it.





A "smorgasbord" buffet that offers a wide variety of foods to choose from can mean good food – however – a "smorgasbord" Bible Study is a horrible way to study God's Word.



You must respectfully control the study – and one way to do it is by telling them every time they want to go from one subject to another: Thank you for suggesting \_\_\_\_\_ - that will make a great topic for a future study. I'm going to write that down so that I won't forget it.



You will accomplish  
so much more by  
staying on “topic.”



When it becomes obvious that “we” (you and they) disagree – don’t allow the disagreement to be between “you” and “them.”



Take them to the Bible Passage that clearly addresses the topic you're discussing – ask **them to read the scripture aloud** – then ask them to explain the meaning in their own words. Let them talk while you listen.

I'm not a nerd



I'm just smarter  
than you

The main reason  
you're asking **them**  
to read the text is to  
take the focus off of  
"you" against  
"them."



**It can never appear as though it's our religion against their religion – primarily because it's not our religion – it's God's religion.**



If this happens – try to quickly bring this discussion to an end - and attempt to reschedule another time to study. Once their ears are closed – it's unlikely that they will open back up – you've lost them.





ACTS 17:16-21

Now while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him as he observed that the city was full of idols.

- Acts 17.16ff -



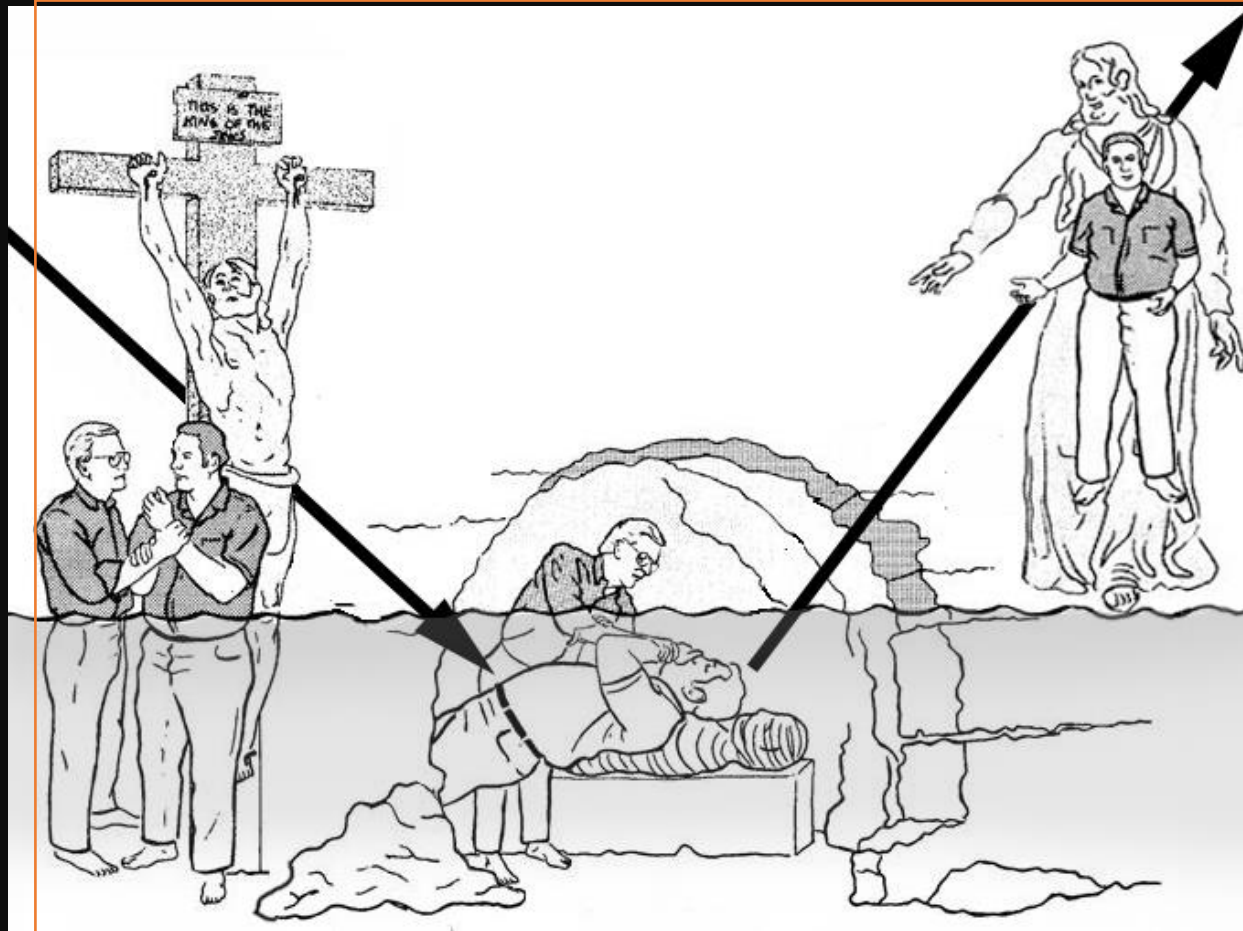
Then Paul stood up before the meeting of the Areopagus council and said, “Men of Athens, everything I see here tells me you are very religious.

- Acts 17.22 -

**LOOK FOR COMMON GROUND**



It's not about winning a religious argument – it's about allowing the "gospel" – "God's power unto salvation" to be planted into their hearts [minds] [which] - if their heart is receptive – the seed that has been planted will bring fruit.



<sup>5</sup> For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that **our old <sup>1</sup>self** was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; <sup>7</sup> for the one who has died is freed from sin.

**ROMANS 6.5-6**