

# Life Notes *Sharing Your Faith with Pastor Justin*

## 10. Living Life in 3-D

### Christian Life Core Value – Relational Evangelism

*We believe that all Christ-followers have the responsibility of intentionally sharing the Gospel within their network of relationships.*

**The Big Idea** – Effective, relationally based evangelism can only happen when Christ-followers are truly engaged in the lives of people around them.

This means we choose to:

**Develop** friendships

**Discover** life stories

**Discern** appropriate next steps based on the Holy Spirit's promptings

In other words, we choose to live life in "3D".

**Matthew 5:13 NIV** "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot."

### Personal Reflection

1. Do you have a tendency to cocoon or to connect?
2. How do you intentionally stay connected with people outside of the faith?
3. Why is it important to understand people's stories before engaging them in spiritual conversation?

### We need to begin to:

#### 1. **Develop** friendships

It is easy to live inside of a "spiritual bubble." Instead we should stay intentional about rubbing shoulders with people far from God. One of the ways we can do that is to establish common ground with them. You would be amazed at how important family, future, and friends are to those who are far from God. We also need to practice a bottom line value of love. This means we don't view the friendship as an evangelism project, but we love people just as they are.

#### 2. **Discover** stories

Building relationship with those far from God requires patience and genuine care and concern. Unearthing a life story takes time. You need to gain rapport with people before they will feel comfortable opening up to you. One of the best ways to get to know them better is to ask questions that will help you understand their life's journey.

#### 3. **Discern** next steps

Should we offer books or tangible resources? Share your time with them and pursue bonding through recreational activities. Ask the Lord to allow you opportunity to show expressions of heartfelt emotion.

*Every day seemingly insignificant things can become divine, life-altering tools in the hands of compassionate Christ-followers.*

Bill Hybels