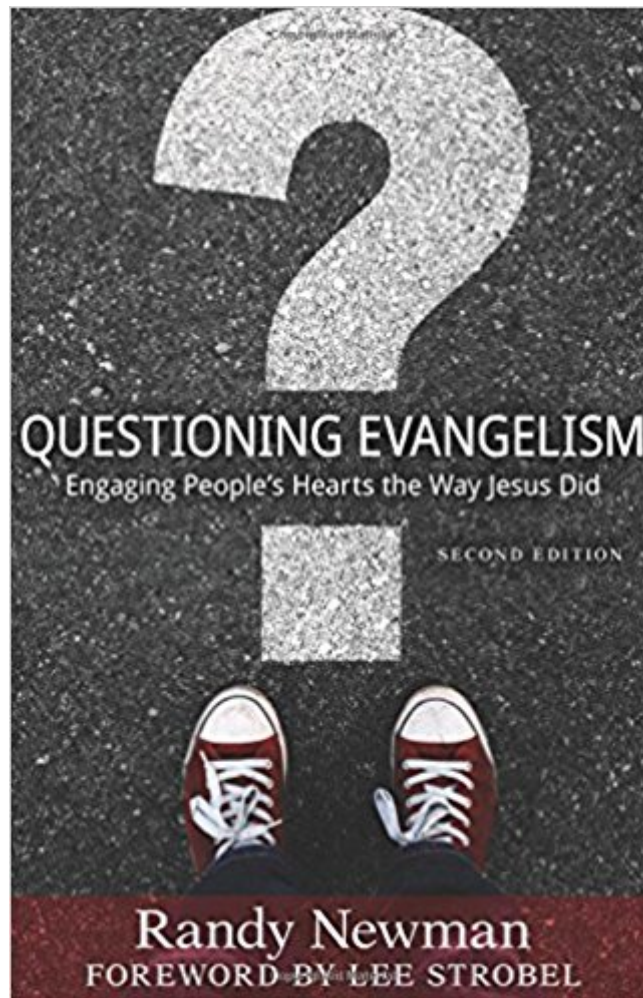




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Questioning Evangelism: Engaging People's Hearts The Way Jesus Did



Synopsis

You don't need to memorize evangelical formulas or answers. You just have to be willing to ask. There was something different about the way Jesus communicated with the lost: He didn't force answers upon people, He asked questions. So why don't we? Following Christ's lead, Randy Newman has been using a questioning style of evangelism for decades. In this provocative book, he provides practical insights to help Christians engage others in meaningful spiritual conversations. He challenges us to examine how we think about people, their questions, and our crucial message. This second edition includes a new preface reflecting on the popularity of this perennial best seller and what its success has taught Newman about the effectiveness of this extraordinary method. "Distilled out of over twenty years of personal evangelism, this book reflects both a deep grasp of biblical theology and a penetrating compassion for people--and finds a way forward in wise, probing questions. How very much like the Master Himself!"--D. A. Carson, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School "Questioning Evangelism steps outside the boundaries of evangelism as usual and tackles the tougher issues of our modern day."--Mitch Glaser, Chosen People Ministries

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Customer Reviews

Randy Newman has served in campus ministry for over thirty years. He now teaches at several evangelical seminaries and ministers in a variety of churches. He is currently a senior teaching fellow with The C. S. Lewis Institute in Washington, DC. Lee Strobel, anteriormente ateo, se educó en el colegio de abogados de Yale. Ha sido pastor de la enseñanza en dos de las iglesias más grandes de Estados Unidos. Lee Strobel, a former atheist, was educated at the School of Law at

Yale. He has been a pastor at two of the largest churches in the U.S.

"Questioning Evangelism" by Randy Newman is a very good book for improving communications in general, and evangelism in particular. Rather than hitting people with hard facts, etc., the author's method is one of using questions to create a dialogue with people. It is based in part upon the conversational method that Jesus himself used. As any regular reader of the Bible is well aware, Jesus often responded to questions with other questions, thus getting the person to involve his/her mind. As Mr. Newman said regarding Jesus: "Answering a question with a question was the norm. A clear, concise direct answer was a rarity." This approach has the benefit of helping people to think, rather than just giving them all the answers. It also really takes the pressure off of the one asking the questions. In addition to this communications strategy, this book also presents some really good information on how to address some of the really tough and divisive issues of our day. I think this is a great book. It is very thought provoking and educational. I encourage anyone who wants to share his/her faith to read this book. I also highly recommend "Tactics" by Greg Koukl, which has some of the same strategies and is a superb book.

Campus Crusade minister Randy Newman models evangelism on the example of Jesus from the gospels. Newman focuses on the "rabbinic evangelism" of Jesus and the engaging questions Jesus asked to disarm his challengers and reveal their hypocrisies (Newman 2004, 29-32). Newman first explains the benefits of "rabbinic evangelism" and "Solomonic wisdom" because engaging in gospel dialogue avoids arguments (particularly with fools), guards our speech, and treats individuals as souls with an eternal destiny and not as a mere statistic (Newman 2004, 15; 42-49). Having explained rabbinic evangelism, Newman applies the model to the classes of difficult questions asked by unbelievers from the problem of evil, homosexuality, and the "intolerance" of Christians (Newman 2004, 101-122; 143-164; 190-207). Throughout his treatise, Newman provides wise ways to handle difficult, gospel-centered conversations amidst the compassion we should have for our lost neighbors. Questioning Evangelism: Strengths Rabbinic evangelism seems the most practicable way to think and act like a missionary in the workplace, school setting, and neighborhood. Per his thesis, Newman provides numerous ways of engaging unbelievers and turning conversations towards the gospel, as well as sample dialogues of the most difficult issues facing evangelists today (ex. homosexuality). Newman acknowledges the cultural difficulties in engaging unbelievers with the gospel and gleams principles from the Gospels and Proverbs in order to cultivate relationships with

unbelievers (Newman 2004, 45). Newman does not sugarcoat these difficulties, but ties each of them back to man's sin and God's mercy in sending us Christ (Newman 2004, 80-81, 148). Newman presents the "Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation" storytelling paradigm as an engaging way to explain the gospel in a postmodern culture obsessed with hero stories (Newman 2004, 136-142). As strengths, Newman excels in addressing difficult issues raised by nonbelievers, answering these questions with biblical wisdom, and tying such issues back to the gospel.

The title caught my attention. What was the author saying with such a title? That we shouldn't share the Gospel with people? The teaser from the back cover explained why and the concept behind the book kept me coming back for more. Author Randy Newman poses the question, "Have we been approaching evangelism with the wrong angle?" His book answers the question with a affirming, "Yes." For years, Christians from all denominations and backgrounds have been taught to give out tracks, lead people through the "Romans Road" or "Ten Commandments Test," leave them with the Gospel and move on. But what happens when people don't respond? What happens when their questions go past the "Romans Road"? What do you say to win over someone who is jaded, angry and sick of intolerant, hypocritical, judgmental Christians? As easy as it would be to say, "Well, not all Christians are like that," most of the time, that answer won't make up for the bad experiences people have had with other Christians in the past. The question is, what will they experience with you? And, how do we make sure that we don't act or answer in the same way? This book is all about asking the right questions. Through thirteen chapters, this Questioning Evangelism will guide you through a series of ideas and theories that will change your mind on how to approach evangelism. The author opens the first chapter with an example of how the traditional form of evangelism failed when he was witnessing to a guy who had sincere questions that went deeper than what the Gospel track explained. The rest of his book introduces new ways and ideas to make a lasting, compassionate, yet, firm witness to the lost and dying world. After the main idea is presented, Randy takes each chapter to explain different ways we can address the questions/situations that are considered "controversial" and handle them with tact, but be to the point and make people think at the same time. People seldom want to be preached at, but most are open to discussing questions (when carefully approached in a non-offensive manner.) For example, there is a chapter that talks about abortion, why Christians are "intolerant," why Christians believe marriage is

good and why some people who are Christians are, as the author put it, jerks. LOL. I really, really liked Randy Alcorn's approach to witnessing and I'm convinced that if Believers would use this method more often, they would see more results. This approach reminds us that people don't want to hear memorized answers we learned from apologetics books; they want Christians to be compassionate listeners. They want to know that people care, even if we can't answer the really tough questions of life. You will find the book divided into three parts "Part 1 deals with why asking questions is the best way to start and keep a witnessing conversation successful, Part 2 looks at the questions people are asking in our modern world and Part 3 covers the situations when questions and even the best available answers aren't enough when people are deeply wounded. If you're involved in ministry or seeking to be a bright light for Christ in your workplace, community or outreach programs I highly recommend this book! I read the Kindle version of this book, 272 pages.

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Questioning Evangelism: Engaging People's Hearts the Way Jesus Did Bible: Master the Prayers: Understand Christianity, Judaism, the Old & New Testament, Bible Verses & Jesus Christ (Bible Study, Gospel, Christianity, Evangelism, ... Religion, Spirituality, Christ, Jesus, God) Sharing Jesus without Freaking Out: Evangelism the Way You Were Born to Do It Walking as Jesus Walked: Making Disciples the Way Jesus Did Share Jesus Like It Matters: Intentional Scriptural Evangelism Speaking of Jesus: The Art of Not-Evangelism Evangelism Is . . . : How to Share Jesus with Passion and Confidence The Art of Personal Evangelism: Sharing Jesus in a Changing Culture Did Jesus Exist?: The Historical Argument for Jesus of Nazareth The Mystic Way of Evangelism: A Contemplative Vision for Christian Outreach How Did That Get to My House? Water (Community Connections: How Did That Get to My House?) The DIY Sprinkler Book: Install Your Own Automatic Sprinkler System. Save Thousands and Get the Satisfaction of Knowing You Did it Yourself and Did it ... Own Automatic Sprinkler System, Lawn Care) Did I Mention I Need You? (Did I Mention I Love You (DIMILY)) Did I Mention I Need You? (Did I Mention I Love You (DIMILY) Book 2) Did I Mention I Miss You? (Did I Mention I Love You (DIMILY)) Did I Mention I Love You? (Did I Mention I Love You (DIMILY) Book 1) Did I Mention I Miss You? (Did I Mention I Love You (DIMILY) Book 3) Complicated Hearts (Book 1 of the Complicated Hearts Duet.) TWO HEARTS SURRENDERED (Two Hearts Wounded Warrior Romance Book 1) Complicated Hearts (Book 2 of the Complicated Hearts Duet.)

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