

# Care Reflection & Study Notes

# 3.3 Building Bridges – Language

#### **Purpose**

To offer some pointers and pitfalls on evangelism terminology.

#### **Scriptures**

Acts 17:16, 22-23 – Paul, being Jewish, adjusts his language when speaking to Gentiles Jeremiah 31:31,33 – the 'New Testament' is found in the Hebrew Bible Proverbs 15:1, Colossians 4:6, James 3:9-10 – Our words set the tone Proverbs 18:21, Ephesians 4:29 – Our words must tend the needs of others Romans 10:1 – Gospel love should motivate our conversations

# **Bible Study Reflection Questions**

- 1) The Bible says that by our words we can harm or bless people (<u>Proverbs 18:21</u>). Why do you think this is significant?
- 2) Can you think of a time when you said the wrong thing and it upset someone? Why do you think this was and how could you have avoided that situation?
- 3) Do you think that words can trigger certain memories or emotional responses even unintentionally? How does this translate into Jewish evangelism?
- 4) Can you recall from the video which Christian terminology is important to rephrase to be better understood by Jewish people?
- 5) What are the challenges of re-wording Gospel terminology to help the Jewish hearer? Do you think that doing this empties the concepts of their meaning? What does the Bible have to say about these things?
- 6) Why is it significant that the term 'New Testament' is found in the Hebrew Bible (<u>Jeremiah 31</u>)? How can this be useful when sharing the Gospel with Jewish people?
- 7) What should be the motivation behind any of our Gospel conversations?

### **Theology Touchpoints**

Sensitivities in Sharing the Gospel to Jewish People <a href="here">here</a>
Presenting Messiah <a href="here">here</a>
Jesus, the Shema,\* and the Trinity <a href="here">here</a>

#### **Prayer points**

<u>Thank</u> God; the Holy Spirit gives the true expression of love and care (<u>1 Corinthians 13</u>). <u>Pray</u> that Christians would be gentle in how they convey the Gospel (<u>Proverbs 15:1-4</u>). <u>Intercede</u> for Jewish people - for openness of heart to understand (<u>Matthew 13:3-9</u>). In friendships, or even in respectful engagements with people we don't know, we are most effective when we use Gospel words carefully and with intentionality. Explaining the Gospel in culturally appropriate ways is certainly helpful when speaking with Jewish people. We need to be those who use meaningful words in a meaningful way. Therefore, we can show that we care.

## **Your Notes:**

We recommend that you view the Care section of videos first and then watch all of the videos before you engage Jewish people with the Gospel.

Please note that the theology touchpoint resources are there as a general guide. It is recommended that you carefully do your own research and study. CMJ does not sponsor, finance or endorse them. They do not necessarily sponsor, finance or endorse CMJ. Please read and/or share wisely.

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