



## Part 1: Talk with Me

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### Four Key Elements in The Conversation

1. Incarnation
2. Reputation
3. Confrontation
4. Transformation

#### Incarnation

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. – *John 1:14*

**Jesus was God with skin, living in his mission field,  
pointing people to the Father**

**We are followers of Jesus, living in his mission field,  
pointing people to the Father**

<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. – *Colossians 4:2-4*

**Any conversation about Jesus should start with a conversation with Jesus (vs. 2)**

**What am I praying for? (vs. 3-4)**

**Open doors (if God opens the door, I don't need to kick it in!)**

**Bold proclamation (does not infer screaming or arguing)**

**Crystal clarity (the message of Jesus should be simple and clear)**

#### Reputation

<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. – *Colossians 4:5-6*

**Every conversation is an opportunity to model and speak of Jesus (vs. 5)**

**You don't need to "bring Jesus into every conversation." If you're a follower of Jesus, and Jesus is in you, he's already there!**

## ***Reputation, continued***

God assumes that you'll be having the conversation (vs. 6)

God instructs that our conversation must always be gracious (vs. 6)

You create more opportunity with conversation than you do with condemnation

Seasoned with salt (vs. 6) – “a sprinkling of truth that enhances the flavor of grace.” We are not supposed to assault people with our conversation

An answer (vs. 6) implies that a question has been asked; in order to hear the question you have to listen

You don't need all the answers; you just need to find them (vs. 6)

## **Major Barriers that Keep Us from The Conversation**

I'm not wired that way

I am afraid I won't have the right answers

I am afraid of being rejected

I really don't care

I don't have a faith worth giving away

*The goal of this series is to replace pressure with purpose so that we will all engage in the art of the conversation.*

## **Next Steps**

### **Starting Spiritual Conversations Class**

4 Mondays October 5–October 26 | 6:30–8:15 PM in Room 213 • \$15

This class will help you find natural beginnings for spiritual conversations, learn to share your story, and explain God's story when the time is right.

*See CTK Life page 9 for registration info and page 7 for childcare info.*

## **Small Group Questions**

- 1) What would you say you're known for? Is it what you want to be known for?
- 2) Who is/was the most influential person in your journey to Jesus? Why?
- 3) What are your major takeaways from Colossians 4:2-6?
- 4) What's the worst example of a “godly conversation” you've ever witnessed? What stopped the conversation from working?
- 5) Which of the major barriers has kept you from initiating a spiritual conversation?
- 6) Who can you pray for that needs the conversation? Pray for open doors, boldness, and clarity as you share with specific people in your life who need Jesus.