

STREET MINISTRY 101

1. **Listen and get to know them.** Use active listening when listening to someone. Repeat back what they have said so that they can tell that you are really paying attention.
2. **Confess your sin.** James 5:16 “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.” Our method is to be: *Humble, Vulnerable, Willing to expose our shortcomings.*
3. **Share your testimony.** Tell the person about your spiritual journey and what it has meant to you.
4. **Look to connect.** As you get to know the person better, stay clued in to any needs they might have that we can help with. Do they mention a struggle with drugs or alcohol, a need for shelter or a job, or medical help? Discern, search for, and connect those who would be candidates to receive pastoral guidance at the front of the bus and in the office.
5. **Never argue.** “Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful...and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.” (II Tim 2:23-26)

Refuse to argue about doctrine, theology, religion, politics or anything else. If a person insists on arguing, find a way to break away gently.
6. **Affirm the person.** No matter what a person believes or doesn't believe we need to affirm their worth by saying things like, “I respect your opinion”, “Thanks for sharing. Tell me more.”
7. **Offer Salvation.** Build relationships first. Ask God to guide you in conversations with people on the streets. Try to stay sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit and let God speak through you.
8. **Don't use Christianese.** For example: sanctification, redemption, justification. Speak in normal terms that people can understand.
9. **Pray.** Whether someone wants to commit their lives to Christ or isn't interested at all, offer to pray for them right there on the spot.

REMEMBER: LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY

“The poor are not a problem to be solved, but a doorway to the heart of God”