

The Heart Of Persuasion

8. What does it mean to be humble? Do you think that you can persuade more people through humility? Was Christ humble? How did He persuade people? Look at Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 11:28-29; Numbers 12:3 and discuss.

9. Do you find your complaining often? Do you realize that it is evil in the Lord's ear? Can you be concerned without complaining? Why is gratitude important regarding the Lord? Read Numbers 11:1-6; 12:6-8; Acts 7:37-39 and discuss.

10. Would you respond the way Stephen responded before he died? Would you forgive those people who stoned you? How powerful is forgiveness? Do you believe that the act of forgiveness can persuade people to trust in Christ for eternal salvation? Read Acts 7:59-60; Ephesians 4:29-32 and Luke 23:34 and discuss.

Who persuades you? Does persuasion seem forceful? Can it be obnoxious?

God persuades us to have a heart captivated by His covenant love.

Yahweh Shamma God is always there. (Acts 7:9)

Yahweh-Go'el The Lord is my Redeemer.
(Acts 7:10; Isaiah 54:5-8)

Yahweh Tsidkenu The Lord is my righteousness.
(Jeremiah 23:5-6; Romans 5:1)

God persuades His people so His people can be sent out to persuade others.
(Acts 7:34)

We persuade others to love Christ by being a role model.

So how do we persuade others as a role model?

1. Humility. (Acts 7:51; Numbers 12:3; Matthew 11:29)
2. Gratitude. (Acts 7:37-39; Numbers 11:1-6; 12:6-8)
3. Submissive. (Acts 7:9-10; Philippians 2:8)
4. Forgiveness. (Acts 7:59-60)

God is not interested in us being safe—but taking a risk to persuade others.

Podcasts are available each week on www.kcfonline.org under Resources.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For the week of January 31, 2010

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. When you think of the word persuade and/or persuasion, what comes to mind? What marketing ads, commercials or billboards try to persuade you to buy their products? What techniques do they use to get consumers to buy? Discuss.

2. Do you think Tim Tebow is too forceful and pushy with his Christian faith to the world? Do you think he turns them off or do people respect his stand? As Christians, are we supposed to persuade people to Christ? Look at Acts 18:4 and discuss.

3. How did the Lord persuade you? Was it forceful? Was it gentle? Did the Lord wait when you were ready? Did the Lord wait on Abraham or did he approach first? Read Acts 7:1-4 and discuss.

4. What kind of covenant is the Abrahamic covenant? Conditional or unconditional? Who ratified that covenant? Who are the two parties within that covenant? Is God's covenant based on faithfulness or His emotional love for us? Discuss.

5. What specific attribute did the Lord demonstrate to you that persuaded you? Regarding Joseph, what kept him trusting the Lord? Read Acts 7:9-10 discuss, compare and apply to your life.

6. Read Exodus 3:1-10 and Acts 7:30-34, Look at the phrase, "set them free" and "I will send you". How would you compare that to your salvation in Christ and the local church mandate? Did the Lord set you free from sin? Did he call you as a "sent one" which means apostle? Is it our calling to persuade others to Christ? Discuss.

7. Stephen mentioned the phrase "our father or forefathers" nine times in the chapter. What did Stephen notice in the forefathers that persuaded him to be bold in his faith toward the Sanhedrin? Would you claim your father as a role model? If you are a Father, how do you play as a role model? Are you persuading your children to love Christ through word and deed? Discuss.