# Top Ten Questions

How Can I Witness to My Family?

Mark 6:1-6

Dr. John Waters

#### 1. BARRIERS TO WITNESSING TO FAMILY

#### A. Fear

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18)
For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
(2 Tim 1:7)

#### B. Guilt

We feel guilty for not having done it already, or for sins in our past that might be brought up again.

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin (Psalm 32:5)

## C. Broken Relationships

If you bring your gift to the altar, and remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift (Matt 5:23-24)

#### D. Limited Opportunities

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation (2 Cor 6:2)

## 2. PRACTICAL TIPS

- Don't argue or pressure
- Acknowledge your own shortcomings
- Offer an apology
- Use the "What-About-You?" approach
- Show love & acceptance
- Find ways to serve them
- Used non-threatening approaches (such as letters, email, a blog, church events, Christian movies, etc.)

# (1) Be Pure

Our effectiveness as a witness for Christ is related to our personal walk with Christ

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world (James 1:27)

# (2) Be Prepared

- 1—Anticipate their questions
- 2—Practice your testimony

There are three parts to a personal testimony:

- My life before Christ
- How I came to know Christ
- My life after Christ the difference He makes!

# (3) Be Patient

I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. (Psalm 40:1)

The end of a thing is better than its beginning; The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit (Eccl 7:8)

# (4) Be Prayerful

- Pray for Courage
- Pray for an Openness / Opportunity
- Pray for Obedience