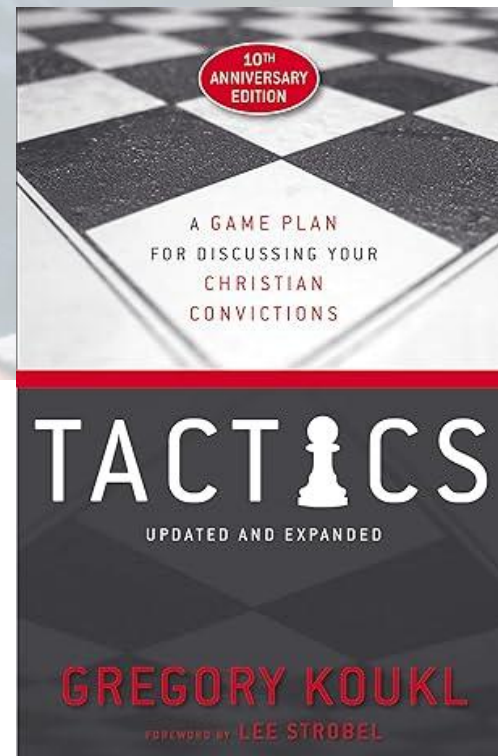




TACTICS

Skills for Spiritual Conversations

Session 4



Agenda

- Lunch – 11:40am – 12:00pm
- Prayer and Review of Week 3
- ‘Inside Out’ Tactic
- Role Play of Tactics
- Creed of Behaviors
- Wrap-Up by 1:15pm



Week 3 Review

Tearing The Roof Off Tactic:

First, we a_____ the other person's view

Then we show the a_____ consequences
of the person's view

SteamRoller Tactic:

Steamrollers keep you on the d_____

To stop a steamroller we must point out
bad manners and s_____ them



Tactic # 7 – Inside Out

Being made in God's image
builds Truth in all of us



Inside Out - Outline

- “What does it mean to be human?”
- Profound truths we all know on the inside always eventually reveal themselves on the outside
- People may try to deny these truths or their worldviews may try to disqualify them
- Romans 1:19 – “For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them”



Inside Out – Real life example (in death)

- In 1997, Mother Teresa and Princess Diana died
- Mother Teresa lived a noble well lived life
- Princess Diana had a life filled with promise and died “untimely”
- In an atheistic, Godless universe, death is natural, and life has no real significance
- Life does have ultimate purpose and significance as we are made in God’s image and likeness



Inside Out – Get someone thinking!

- Listen for when a person's acknowledgment of reality disagrees with their philosophies of life
- Listen for when their words betray their true convictions about the world
- Ask “If there is no ultimate, universal morality, how can anything be really evil?”
- If there's no real meaning to life, then what's the point of living?



Inside Out – The Problem of Evil

- Humans have inherent dignity, but we are also cruel
- We are subjects who revolted, rebels who are now morally corrupted
- Deep inside we know of our ‘badness’ which produces guilt
- We are in debt, not to a rule or law, but to a Person – to the One who we have offended with our disobedience



Inside Out – Desire for Justice

- We long for justice, especially when we've suffered injustice
- This is the inside revealing itself to the outside world
- Justice is not satisfied in this life, but in the next life
- Revelation 20 – All will stand before the Judge and the books will be opened for the final judgment



Inside Out – Mercy: Our Rescuer has come!

- “The answer to guilt is not denial. That’s relativism. The answer to guilt is forgiveness – and this is where Jesus comes in”
- Our souls long for forgiveness, whether we believe it or not
- We cannot rescue ourselves – help must come from outside of this world
- All those who realize their souls are broken – the search party has arrived – our Rescuer (Jesus) has come – Matt 11:28-30



Inside Out – Triumph of the Human Spirit

- Most stories/movies focus on the innate strength/dignity of people to affirm our significance
- This is God's image forcing its way to the surface, the outside
- Conflicts with the atheistic 'nothing-ism' of our purpose and reality
- Can you think of examples of this in literature or film?



Inside Out – Atheism's Hopelessness

- Atheism has to deny our guilty feelings – without Good, there is no Bad
- If there's no God or image of God in us, man is nothing and life has no meaning
- Atheism has no answer to human brokenness
- Atheism cannot provide the consolation of true forgiveness
- A person can run from God, but they cannot run from themselves
- Humanism cannot quench our true longing, only God can!



Tactics Role Play

Dialogs to show Tactics in Action!

Have no fear – it's already written up; you just need to read it aloud!



Tactics Summary – 10 “Creeds of Behavior”

Be Ready: Don’t back away from a chance to represent Christ in conversation

Be Patient: Don’t quarrel, but listen and respectfully correct those in opposition

Be Reasonable: Have conviction, give reasons, ask questions to seek answers, don’t get stumped by the same challenge twice

Be Tactical: Adapt to each unique person and situation with wisdom and truth in an understandable and compelling way

Biblical Precreedal Statements of Belief

NATHANAE	Thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel	Jn 1:49
PETER	Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God	Mk 16:16
	And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God	Jn 6:69
THOMAS	My Lord and my God	Jn 20:28
A EUNUCH	I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God	Acts 8:37
PAUL	God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, ... believed on in the world, received up into glory	1Tm 3:16
	[We believe that] by him were all things created ... he is the head of the body, the church ... For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell; and, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself	Col 1:16-20
JOHN	We know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life	1Jn 5:19-20

Tactics Summary – 10 “Creeds of Behavior”

Be Clear: Maintain clarity in language and don’t rely on Christian lingo or empty rhetoric

Be Fair: Stay sympathetic and understanding towards opposing views and acknowledge the merits of those views

Be Honest: Be careful with the facts and don’t misrepresent the opposing view, overstate your own case or understate the demands of the gospel

Biblical Precreeedal Statements of Belief

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Tactics Summary – 10 “Creeds of Behavior”

Be Humble: Accept that your understanding of truth is fallible, and you should not press a point beyond what the evidence allows

Be Attractive: Act with grace, kindness, good manners and do not dishonor Christ in your conduct

Be Dependent: Know that your effectiveness requires joining your best efforts with God’s power!

Biblical Precreechal Statements of Belief

NATHANAE	Thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel	in 1:49
PETER	Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God	Mt 16:16
	And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God	in 6:69
THOMAS	My Lord and my God	in 20:28
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Thank you for your attention
and participation!

Go For It!

Spread the Good News!

