



EPISODE: 533

TITLE: **Jesus Didn't Argue—Why Should We?**

*(Apologetics Makes For Poor Evangelism)*

Focusing our evangelism on winning a spiritual tug-of-war is not a great approach to evangelism. And no one is ever argued into the Kingdom!

Here are three things to believe and consider about apologetics and evangelism:

1. **Jesus called us, and privileged us, to be his witness in this world;** What are people seeing (witnessing) in our life, attitude, words, and approach to them? It is most often *not* Jesus that people reject, but rather our approach to them in nonpersonal, pushy, tricky ways. Is that what God is really like?!
2. **The Gospel is Good News for all of life!** While apologetic and evangelistic methods are important and may at times be helpful, the Bible does not attribute the success of the gospel to human rhetoric or strategy. It is the Gospel that has the power to set people free and restore relationships—not our methods or perfectly crafted arguments! So, go easy on those well-meaning door-knockers who arrive at your home. :)
3. **Focusing our evangelism on trying to get people to say a 'special prayer' or winning a spiritual tug-of-war is not a great approach to evangelism.** Apologetics is for the defense of the faith *within* our faith communities and makes for poor evangelism outside of the Church. And with each other, always remember that it is with gentleness and respect that we are to discuss differences in our understanding and belief. Let's be sure to get our hearts in that position before we jump into a debate.

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Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode!

~*Caesar*