



THE “I AGREE WITH” MEDIA CAMPAIGN

“I Agree with” weeks began sweeping across college campuses in fall 1999 beginning at Humboldt State University, and then University of Arizona, stretching throughout the west coast, and east as far as Penn State University. The concept was born when Humboldt State decided to change a traditional Christmas ad, which they ran every year. The ad concludes with “If you have any questions about this incredible event, please ask one of us.” And then typically, it’s followed with the names of Christian students and faculty.

Amidst much laughter, they decided to really get peoples attention with the ad that year, and listed just one name ...Tom. No last name. Eric Leong, the campus director at Humboldt State, describes the development of the idea. “The idea came to us in a prayer meeting and we felt it was of the Lord. We printed up buttons, made posters and had Tom wear a t-shirt that said, “I am Tom!” The result was great; as Tom had a chance to share his faith in every class he was enrolled in that semester—totaling about 350 students in all. Many other students who wore buttons that said, “I agree with Tom,” had opportunities to share their faith as well.”

The next year, students from the University of Arizona expanded the idea, formally inviting other Christians on their campus to participate in a similar outreach with them. They had one student sign a statement of faith while the rest of the Christian community rallied around that person. It was out of this idea that, “I Agree With” weeks were born.

The basic idea is that one Christian student is selected to be the figurehead for the week and this student writes a statement of faith to be published in the school newspaper. Meanwhile, the Christian

community on that campus wears brightly colored t-shirts stating “I Agree With ...”, and signs and flyers are posted throughout the campus posing the question “DO YOU AGREE WITH...?”

Subsequent statements are printed in the school newspaper signed by student athletes, leaders, and professors. A huge chalkboard is strategically placed on campus asking people on one side to write why they agree with whoever the figurehead is, and the other side asking why they don’t agree with that person. In addition, a table (or several tables) is strategically located on campus disseminating more information about the person everyone is agreeing with, as well as offering information about becoming a Christian (4 Spiritual Laws).

As a result of publicity, Christians are given countless opportunities to share their faith with classmates, roommates, floor mates, and friends as everyone becomes curious about who the mystery person is, and especially about why everyone agrees with him or her.



Do You
Agree
with...?

I Agree With Campaign Informational Packet

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Do You Agree With Paul?

I believe in...

The powerful, persistent, and unfathomable love of the one true God, in the persons of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for each of us human folk...

expressed perfectly in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who entered into human history, fully God and fully man, showing us a God who is holy and perfect, unbounded in power, who compassionately knows our suffering...

who calls for us to live our whole lives in an all-consuming, passionate, and life-defining relationship with our Creator...

a relationship we've thwarted because we are all lost and guilty of wrongdoing, distanced by our spiritual poverty from the God we were meant to know...

but I believe that God nonetheless calls out to us now, and I believe the Bible is the infallible and completely inspired Word of God to us...

WHY THIS PACKET?

In April 2000 we decided to put on our own “I Agree With...” (I Agree with Paul) week at the University of California, Berkeley. During the course of our planning we thought that it would be beneficial to put into writing our experiences, including the nuts and bolts of organizing it. Everything from t-shirt orders to training people in evangelism to choosing the student to be the representative for the week, to help other campuses do the same thing without having to re-invent the wheel every time.

In essence, it is our goal to make this outreach transferable to any college campus in America. The information and suggestions that follow are derived primarily from our own experience at Berkeley and also from people we have talked to from other campuses. Remember that this is just the basic framework for the outreach but that there are many creative ways in which you can add or tailor it to the culture of your campus. The goal is to plan an outreach that will be most effective for your university, and ultimately to share Christ with a generation that so desperately needs Him.

It should be noted that this packet was designed with a staffed campus ministry in mind, meaning there are full time Campus Crusade staff on the campus, but the principles in the packet can be applied to any campus in any ministry environment, and the suggestions modified to meet your needs.

GOALS

Before delving into the specifics of structure and planning it is important for the goals and purpose of the outreach to be clear in the minds of those planning it. We saw two primary goals for the outreach, and these goals have been consistent across most campuses that have done this. They are:

- To share Christ with our campus and to get people talking about spiritual matters
- To unify the Christian community

In addition to developing these goals we also defined what success meant for the outreach. We hashed through what a biblical view of success was and concluded that a successful outreach was one in which each participant was challenged to take a step of faith. Depending on an individual’s level of spiritual maturity and experience in sharing their faith, this step could be anything from just wearing the t-shirt to sharing with their best friend to sharing with a total stranger. The Lord commands us to tell others about Him and to take steps of faith to trust that He will provide the courage and boldness we need to share Him with others.

SCHEDULE OF OUTREACH

Week One:

- Monday through Friday signs will be put up all around campus that read, “Do you agree with...? Depending on your school, you may need a small team to go out everyday or every other day to repost the fliers.
- You should put table tents on tables in the student Unions with the same questions.
- You may be able to get a banner approved to place in a more prominent place on campus.

Week Two:

Monday-Friday

- Continue fliers everyday in classes and outside.
- You should have a table set up in a prominent place with a Big sign that says, “Do you agree with...?” (See table section for details)
- Everyone who bought a shirt should be wearing it! Remind them to wash it!
- Early morning prayer before the first class.
- People pass out pamphlets to people in main area of campus, especially between classes.
- Check e-mail account after every day.

Monday

- Monday the Newspaper Ad with the Statement of faith should be printed.

Tuesday

- Have newspaper ad for Athletes in Action for those who believed in the Statement of Faith.

Wednesday

- Bring out the board for people to write comments on. Use board Thursday and Friday as well.
- Have any professors who believe in the statement of faith be in the newspaper.

Thursday

- Newspaper ad stating that the figurehead is going to speak, along with information about where and when, and that people can question him.
- Have the figurehead talk on a main area of campus around the busiest time.
- Hold in the evening a praise and worship night for all those who were participating in the week to share and rejoice in what the Lord has done.

Friday

- Keep table out until few people are left on campus.
- Write thank you notes and what God did over the week to send to those who supported the week financially or voluntarily. Have them out by Monday of the next week.

On Going

- Check the email account to see if people are responding or questioning. Have one person be responsible for this so that people don't get confused.
- Follow up with groups to hear stories of how the Lord has worked during the week.

STRUCTURE

The structure you set up for the planning and implementation of this outreach are essential both to the success of the week and your sanity. You should have a core planning team of about 7 students committed to making the week a reality. Two of these students are the heads of the week, responsible for making it all fit together and for ensuring that all of the details have been delegated and problems addressed. The other 5 are the heads of the 5 specific teams needed to put the week together; prayer, evangelism training, communications, grassroots, and finances.

It is suggested that these 7 students should meet at least once a week during the course of the planning of the outreach (give yourselves at least a semester) to touch base and make sure that everything is happening according to schedule. In addition, each of these people is also responsible for leading meetings with their respective teams however often that is necessary.

The following will provide a more detailed description of the responsibilities each of these people has and also the skills needed to accomplish each job. However, all of these positions require both practical and spiritual leadership skills, they should be well organized, motivated, committed people of integrity, willing to give both their time and energy to make the gospel known.

Outreach Coordinators

When we did this the heads of our week were one student and one Campus Crusade staff member. These two people should have good rapport with one another and should be able to effectively communicate both with one another and the rest of the team. The role of these two people is to make sure that the outreach happens and that everything gets done so that the week is successful.

Responsibilities

- Select the student to be the figurehead for the week (see the section titled “Who do we Agree With”)
- Select the heads of the teams needed for the week
- Create an environment of teamwork between the team leaders in addition to effective communication between them.
- Lead all planning meetings
- Motivate and coordinate campus Christian groups and local churches to be involved in the outreach (i.e. casting the vision to the Christian Community)
- Ensure that all of the details have been delegated to the appropriate team leader

- Hold other leaders accountable to deadlines and tasks
- Act as spokespeople for the week, especially to news organizations and other people interested in the outreach.

Skills

- Excellent communication skills
- Spiritual Leader
- Organized
- Delegates effectively
- Encourager
- Good judge of Character
- Authoritative
- Decisive
- Outgoing
- Dedicated
- Disciplined

Prayer Coordinator

This position was actually an afterthought of “I agree with Paul week” at Berkeley. The outreach coordinators organized this through out the planning of the week and during the outreach itself and determined that it would be best to have a prayer coordinator responsible for all of the corporate prayer for the week. It is too much for the other coordinators to be doing this and prayer is too important.

Responsibilities

- Organize weekly corporate prayer prior to the week (6-7 weeks in advance)
- Organize prayer during the outreach throughout each day
- Determine other ways to encourage the body of Christ to be in prayer for the week and for the people who will hear the gospel during the week (ex: prayer chains, email lists, small group prayer etc.)
- Organize the Thursday prayer, praise, sharing and worship night for participants
- Develop the devotional for the week and other methods for preparing participants spiritually for the week (can be done in conjunction with the training coordinator)

Skills

- Motivator/Visionary
- Prayer Warrior

- Focused on what to pray for
- Understanding of Spiritual Warfare

Evangelism Training Coordinator

This person is the point person for the training of all of the participants in the outreach in sharing their faith.

Responsibilities

- Develop a team to determine the most effective way to train all of the participants and also to develop the curriculum for training
- Plan the dates and times of the training
- Lead the training meetings
- Organize the groups on campus in a coordinated effort to share the gospel

Skills

- Organized
- Heart and experience in evangelism
- Effective communicator
- Knowledge of the campus and its culture
- Teacher
- Encourager
- Implementer

Communications Coordinator

This person is the key person in communicating with the Christian Community and other organizations throughout the planning of the outreach and during the week.

Responsibilities

- Design a web page (or finding someone else to do it)
- Create and maintain an email account to be used for announcements, questions, and comments during the outreach
- Design all newspaper ads (or finding someone else to do it) and place the ads in the student newspaper for the appropriate days
- Ensure that all announcements and information about the week are communicated to everyone concerned in a timely manner.

Skills

- Excellent computer skills

- Organized
- Creative
- Adobe PageMaker
- Reliable

Grassroots Coordinator

This person organizes all campus flyering and pamphlets in addition to the information table and the board located in the center of campus (see “Campus Presence”).

Responsibilities

- Create the “Do You Agree With ...?” flyer
- Create the pamphlet outlining the gospel to be distributed during the week
- Order t-shirts
- Coordinate participants to flyer and man the table
- Order resources to be distributed (i.e. Bibles, 4-laws, *The Case for Christ*, etc.)
- Design the bulletin board to be placed in the main area
- Set up the primary table and bulletin board during the week

Skills

- Organized
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Planner
- Committed
- Encourager
- Delegates effectively

Financial Coordinator

This person handles all finance related issues.

Responsibilities

- Develop a budget and estimated costs for the week
- Raise all financial support for the week
- Reimburse participants for expenses
- Maintain positive relationships with contributors

Skills

- Organized

- Knowledge of excel
- Ability to enforce budgets
- Excellent communication skills
- Good financial steward

These seven people comprise your core planning team. The following sections outline the specifics of the above responsibilities each of these people has and also detail the types of decisions these people will need to make throughout the course of the planning of the week.

WHO DO WE AGREE WITH?

The biggest question is usually “How do we choose the best person to represent the entire Christian community at our school?” Here are some guidelines that have proven as helpful in choosing the best candidate for the position. But remember the best thing to do is to pray through these qualities and see who the Lord brings to mind.

1. Must be humble. Of all qualities this is one of the most important because he will be in the public’s eye. People will question why he is doing it. They will think he is the ‘leader’ and others are ‘followers’.
2. Must be able to defend his faith. He must feel confident with being asked questions, defending what he wrote in the newspaper, and know how to appropriately use scripture.
3. He must be liked among his peers (both Christians and non-Christians) and known preferably by people from many Christian groups. This will help cast the vision to the other Christian groups.
4. Spiritually mature and living a life above reproach. This person will be observed for the rest of the year, or the rest of his college career, so he must be someone you know lives a life that would be a great Christian witness.
5. Willing to speak in front groups, be interviewed for a newspaper or news station, and come across clearly with the vision and mission of the week.
6. Someone who is willing to put the time, effort and prayer into this event. To realize it will be spiritually draining. Must be a person of prayer and understand that the position will entail enduring major spiritual attacks in all areas of his life.

Age does not matter! In fact, most of the campuses that have implemented this the person was a sophomore!

An important note here is that we have termed this individual the “figurehead” of the outreach throughout this packet for ease of discussion. In no way does this imply that the outreach centers around this person, but rather it is focused on Jesus Christ. The reason for even using a student such as this is that it opens up so many avenues for conversation where wearing a shirt stating “I agree with Jesus” would probably scare people away. This person is meant to make Christianity more accessible to non-believers as they witness the faith of a peer. Everyone involved is rallying around Christ and the gospel message, this person is merely a tool to this end. (This may be an important argument when approaching potential participants who fear that we are worshiping or holding up an individual instead of Jesus Christ.)

DEVELOPING THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

The “Statement of Faith” will be printed in the Newspaper on Monday of the second week in a full page ad, if enough money has been raised. Each person who wears the shirt agrees with this statement and they are not asked to agree with anything more than these basic truths about Christ and the Bible.

The “Statement of Faith” includes the foundational Truths one must believe in order to be saved. This statement should be chosen or written by the figurehead. He can use examples from other schools or write his own. Here are the main truths he would want to cover.

- There is one God, in the persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Jesus was both fully God and fully man
- He was perfect and had to die in our place because we are sinful and separated from God.
- He rose from the dead.
- We must put our trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord to be saved.
- The Bible is infallible and completely inspired. Flawless. The Bible is Truth.

The statement should be free of “Christianese” words. It needs to be something that a non-believer can read and through it understand the entire gospel message. Nothing should be added that would distinguish it as a denominational focus. It can be written in any format, paragraph form, or bullet points etc. Be sure that at the end, the person people are agreeing with signs his name, with his major and year on it.

WHO PARTICIPATES?

It is the Outreach Coordinator’s responsibility to research the different Christian groups on campus, and who fully believe in the statement of faith. Once these groups have been identified, their leadership teams should be approached by the coordinator and a meeting held in which vision is cast for the outreach (see vision and casting section). If a group is questionable, or on the verge of being cultish, you need to know specifically why you wouldn’t include them. For example, you don’t want the International Church of Christ, LDS, Jehovah Witnesses, The Local Church (that’s a name of a cult, not meaning your personal local church). These are the major ones that may ask why they weren’t included, but do not fully believe in the main points of the statement of faith. Try to be as thorough as possible, exploring all Christian groups. By leaving even one out, you can destroy unity.

CASTING VISION

Casting vision for the outreach is probably what will make or break this week from happening. Usually it will be the Outreach Coordinators who do this (see the Structure section below). You must have things all planned out and organized before doing this. Clear goals and the definition of success are essential in casting vision to groups. It is important to have this clear in your mind before approaching the leadership of potential participants (groups, fellowships, churches, etc). As you approach the leadership teams of these organizations explain what the outreach is, why you are doing it, how the gospel has been effectively shared on other campuses through this same outreach, and whatever else you think will give them clear vision for what this is all about. It is important to approach them with a specific timeline of events and the expectations of them and their group throughout the planning and during the outreach itself. These initial meetings with the groups should be done a semester in advance to allow ample planning time. Remember that a goal is unity so you want them to feel integral to the outreach and totally involved.

Once the leadership teams of all of the groups have been brought on board with outreach, the rest of the Christian community will also have to be. You can do this through several avenues. Individual fellowship meetings, at a large gathering of Christians on you campus, or through the leaderships of the groups are all possible forms. No matter the form you chose to do this there are some essential elements to making these announcements. Remember this is the first time many of these people have heard about this outreach. Your goal is to get them excited and involved. The following some tips for making this announcement:

- Do not make it too far in advance (6-7 weeks is good) It will get old if you do it too far in advance.
- Describe the week clearly (ie. Events, t-shirts ect.)
- Dream big and get people thinking about what God can do during the week
- Make the goals clear (gospel and unity)
- Share past success/history/stories
- Tell people they will be trained to share their faith before the week starts
- Have the figurehead for the week share his heart and vision
- Describe their role/what they will be doing
- Be creative and create energy and momentum. (ex. Have the whole room stand and ask them to stay standing if Jesus is their Lord and Savior. To stay standing if they want to see unity among believers. To stay standing if they want to reach the

campus for Christ. Then have them sit down and explain how we can fulfill those desires through the “I Agree With...” week.

SPIRITUAL PREPERATION

Spiritual Preparation is essential if a campus is to be prepared and successful in defeating Satan’s attacks. If the goal is to give the entire campus an opportunity to hear about Christ, Spiritual Warfare will be evident. There are three groups of people that will be attacked: The person chosen to write the statement of faith and the planning team, those who will participate in wearing the T-shirts, and those who are being shared with (the unbelievers). The greatest defense is PRAYER. Not just during the week, but at the beginning of the preparation.

PRAYER

Praying should begin BEFORE anything. Pray before you bring this idea to your staff team, or student leadership or other Christian organizations on your campus. Pray about who the Lord would want to be the figurehead for the week, the person everyone will be agreeing with. (see the Choosing Who to Agree With section) Pray about who should take on the various roles of organizing and implementing the week.

Establish a prayer coordinator who would encourage the body of believers to unite each week for prayer. Allow the prayer time to be 1-2 hours and begin early (about 6 weeks before the event.) This also means people need to be informed that it’s happening early so that they can start praying as well. Prayer should be one of the first things to organize. Prayer should not just occur before the week but each morning before the first classes begin each day of the outreach.

Each prayer time should pray for the lost of the campus, the planning team, finances to come in, unity among the Christian groups on campus, Spiritual Warfare, and of course any personal prayer requests. If the group becomes too large, feel free to break off into smaller cell groups. Have it the same time and place each week. Invite all Christian groups that will be involved.

In addition, ask churches to begin praying too. Churches are great resources for prayer and financial support. You may also want to consider creating a prayer chain or a 24-hour prayer vigil throughout the outreach.

DEVOTIONAL

In addition to preparing for Spiritual Warfare and prayer you should also develop other methods to prepare participants spiritually for the week. An effective way to do this is to develop a devotional for each person participating in the week to read each day prior to heading to campus. This will challenge them to think about why they are participating in the week and also encourage them during times of persecution. It should be distributed with the t-shirts (see t-shirt section) so that everyone is sure to receive one. A typical devotional will cost about \$0.50 to make, so you can include that to your T-shirt price.

Important factors to include are specific items to pray about each day, questions encouraging commitment to reaching the lost, and a place to write down reflections at the end of each day. Some good topics to cover are the armor of God, being ambassador's for Christ, being unashamed of the gospel, and taking our light to the world even after the week is over. Include a "Reflection over the Week" at the end to provide closure for what they learned and how they plan to continue sharing their faith in the future. Enclosed is an example of the devotional created for Paul Week at UC Berkeley.

COMMUNICATION

Email

There are various ways the communication coordinator and team can communicate to the outside world and get responses. One of the most effective mechanisms for us was through establishing our own “Paul Week” account where people could ask questions and comments and we could send out general announcements from. It was a way the Christians could order shirts from different organizations, get their questions answered, and where we could establish follow-up with any new believers. It is best to have one person be “in charge” of what is coming in, and to have different folders/files for the information. Each person on the planning team should have a folder so that messages dealing with their area can be placed there. You should have a “Needs to respond to folder,” a positive e-mail file, and negative e-mail file. (we had a few emails from “Satan”!), slightly crazy email file, general organization file, t-shirt file, and what ever else you need to feel organized. Only give the code to the 7 people on the planning team. We put the email address on the back of our pamphlet and devotional. This is a great way to keep communication flowing with both those who are organizing the event and those who want to voice their concerns.

Website

You can also establish a Website, to explain what the week is about, list a schedule of events, display the statement of faith, and also contain information on how to become a Christian, follow-up, how to get involved in a Christian club, or even information of when your figurehead is going to speak. This is something that could just be very simple, or a little more complex depending upon what you feel is best for your campus. The URL should be displayed on the pamphlet or the devotional book.

Newspaper Ads

Another area that has flexibility and creativity to it is the newspaper ad designs for the school newspaper. The only thing that must be printed in the newspaper is the statement of faith on a Monday of the second week. The size of these ads can vary, though we strongly suggest that the statement of faith be a ½ page to a full page in size while the others should be smaller. If you are able to raise enough money for more newspaper ads we suggest that you include the following:

- If you have an Athletes in Action, it is great to challenge them to list their names and sports in the newspaper stating that they agree with ... also.
- Find Christian professors who would be bold enough to state that they agree with ... and place their names, degrees and what they teach in the school paper.

- Have sporadic “Do you agree with...” questions throughout the paper. Or the email account for any questions.
- You could also put an ad saying when the figurehead is speaking in the main area of campus.

The communications team needs to figure out how much an ad would cost depending on the size, and when the ad needs to be turned in. The more ads you put in, the more curious the school newspaper will be and you’ll probably get some free articles as well, and many of letters to the editor.

One of the most important communication roles the team will have maintaining relationships with and communicating announcements to the many groups participating in the outreach. The communications coordinator should keep a record of their meeting times, leader’s contact information, and email listserve’s so that contacting them with updated information is timely and efficient. Have the figurehead visit each group at least once so that everyone can meet him and answer any questions. It is also most effective if the communications team has a contact person from each group responsible for t-shirts and training for their group to prevent any breakdowns in communication.

CAMPUS PRESENCE

Two main ways we are physically present on campus (aside from flyers) are those who are wearing T-shirts from the various Christian groups on campus, and a main table to draw attention to the week and answer any questions. It is good to have this in the busiest part of the campus. You want to be set up before the first class begins and maintain shifts until there are not many more people in the area in the afternoon. You may need to be flexible here. (Even on Friday afternoon we were there until 6pm with people talking in groups about their beliefs!)

The table should display a HUGE sign stating “I AGREE WITH...” on it. There should be pamphlets available with a version of the four laws inside it and a testimony of the chosen person to agree with. Also, copies of the article that was placed in the school newspaper can be handed out for those who didn’t read it and want to know what everyone is agreeing with. You can have a table with free books such as the New Testament, *More than a Carpenter* by Josh McDowell, or *Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel.

The table can also be a place where students from different groups can pick up their shirts if they were unable to pick them up at a training meeting. You want to be careful and not display them, or those who are against the statement of faith may buy one. This could cause some confusion if they wear it on campus and don’t agree. If people didn’t order them and would like them, have them read over the statement of faith that was written and have them sign it to say they agree. Then in faith, they can buy a shirt!

Two students should be at the table at one time. Shifts are advisable. Most of them can take shifts between classes. (For many students that is where they will want to congregate to see the action, so there was never a problem of anyone watching the table. On most campuses, it must be a student in the organization that is at a table, not a staff person. You may also want to check and see if the big sign on the table needs to have in small writing what organizations are putting on the week. (Don’t do it if you don’t have to because less people may ask what it’s all about if they see it relating to Christian clubs on campus.

Other students should be passing out the pamphlets saying, “Have you heard about? Do you agree with ...?” In one week UC Berkeley passed out 5,000 of these pamphlets!

On Wednesday, bring out a chalkboard/bulletin board covered with butcher paper, (bring lots) and cover both sides of the board. On the side closer to the table write “I agree with...because...” and on the other side write “I disagree with...because”. This will encourage students to write their opinions on the boards. Allow anything. (Even email addresses to “Satan”, like we saw!) This was by far the most successful strategy we implemented at UC Berkeley. We had crowds of 50+ between classes and up until evening. We would just go to read the board, and they would approach those with the T-shirts on and facilitate a discussion. Many lasted for hours! So it is a great place for the Christians to begin conversations. I would advise bring out the chalk board on Wednesday because it is something new and many people will now know what the week is about and have an opinion on it. Have it out for the rest of the week.

Something you may want to do is type up the answers and share them with your groups to hear how the week affected people. It will also give you a clearer idea on what the students believe on your campus.

FLYERS, PAMPHLETS, AND MEDIA

This section basically outlines the specifics of the job of the grassroots coordinator and also some of the responsibilities of the Outreach Coordinators. The primary ways in which information will be printed about the “I Agree week” are through your own newspaper ads, flyers on campus, the pamphlets you design to hand out, letters to the editor, and any news articles written covering the outreach (our week at Berkeley was covered by the school newspaper, local newspapers, Christian radio stations, and even the San Francisco Chronicle).

Flyers

All of the flyers and pamphlets that you post and hand out should be the same color and also the in same font. Remember that the goal is to make people curious about who this person is that everyone agrees with and by making everything the same obnoxious color and font you create a sort of brand for the week that everyone recognizes. When we did this outreach at Berkeley we did the entire thing in one week, but at most schools it has spanned a week to a week and a half. During the first week signs asking “Do you agree with...?” are posted all over campus. Nothing else is printed anywhere and no t-shirts are worn. Through this curiosity is created so in the second week when the statement of faith is printed in the newspaper and everyone begins to wear the shirts the entire campus wants to know what is going on (a sample flyer is attached in the back of this packet).

This means that the grassroots coordinator must coordinate flyer posting for two weeks. This is a great way to involve many people in the outreach. We had each group participating ask for volunteers to come posting every morning for an hour. On average we had ten or so people to cover the campus. Depending on your campus you may not have to do this everyday, but everything gets torn down at Berkeley each night so we had to re-post each morning. It is a good idea to have breakfast goodies there for the people helping and the grassroots coordinator should be there encouraging everyone as they serve.

To post you will need the obvious supplies; tape, staplers, staples, staple hammers and the like. We also used chalk to write on boards in classrooms and on the cement (sidewalk chalk is the best, but this is an extra and it can get a little expensive). As for the number of flyers you need to make, we used 5,000 for one week at Berkeley, but this number will vary from campus to campus. If your school has an active student government who campaigns and flyers ask someone involved how many they use in a week to get an idea of how many you will need.

It is important that you find out from your campus what the rules are about flyering and posting. We always want to follow the rules and live above reproach so it is important that you be well educated on these rules in addition to the rules about tabling and passing out literature on campus.

Pamphlets

We handed out pamphlets at our table and around campus highlighting the personal testimony of Paul (the guy we were agreeing with), outlining the gospel message (4 Spiritual Laws), and provided our email address and contact information. This pamphlet is essential as it explains what the week is about and also presents the gospel clearly. The grassroots coordinator is responsible for creating this pamphlet and for ensuring that it meets all of the campus requirements for literature to be disseminated. See the **Campus Presence** section for more details about this and the sample pamphlet enclosed at the end of the packet.

Newspaper Ads

See the Communications section for information about this.

Newspaper Coverage and Talking to Reporters

During the course of the week our student newspaper ran either an article or a letter to the editor each day of the outreach with the exception of Wednesday. You have little control over what letters the newspaper prints, but it is a good idea to have someone

ready to write a response to a negative one. This person should probably be someone outside of the immediate planning of the outreach who has the time to put into writing a respectful and well thought out letter explaining the intent of the week.

As for news articles and the like, the three people who will be interviewed most often are the two coordinators of the outreach and the figurehead for the outreach. We recommend that you try to have these three people be the only people talking to reporters so that the message and intent of the week does not get misrepresented by anyone else.

Some key things to remember in any conversation with any reporter are:

- Everything you say and do is fair game for them to write about and quote you on
- The goal in all of this is to share the gospel and get people seeking Christ so don't worry about defending yourself in an interview
- Chose your words very carefully
- Do not take a negative article or a misquote personally
- Make clear that the intent of the week is to stimulate campus wide conversation about spiritual matters, not just to convert people.

As mentioned at the start of this section we were interviewed by many different news organizations. The coverage extended even into the weeks following the event, from news columns to articles, to letters to the editor. We were shocked to see that people were still writing about it for so long after. Be prepared to read articles misconstruing the intent of the outreach and misrepresenting you, and also be prepared to respond and correct with a combination of truth and love.

T-SHIRTS

Your T-shirt is what everyone on campus will see. Pick a color that stands out. Have the entire planning team get together to choose the color of the T-shirt. Bright yellow, lime green, and florescent orange have been used in the past. Don't use black lettering for the print on the front of the shirt. It's easy to counterfeit a T-shirt with black lettering so choose a color other than black for your text. Be sure to order your T-shirts well in advance of the week. To avoid being inundated by T-shirt orders have each fellowship or church collect all the T-shirt orders and sizes from their members who are participating in the week. It's a good idea to have them pay up front so you don't have to try to collect all the money after the week. Try to have all the T-shirts in your possession 3 weeks before the actual outreach. There will be some Christians in your area who won't hear about the week until it is actually happening and they will want to participate.

Estimate how many extra T-shirts you think you'll need and order them 2 weeks before the week. T-shirts can be passed out at training times or at the table on the first day.

Have each fellowship or church designate one person to collect all the T-shirt orders. That person is also responsible for picking up all the T-shirts once they come in. When you order the T-shirts they will come in bulk and you'll have to split them up by fellowship or church. Have only a few people organize the shirts. Choose a verse in the Bible about living above reproach and pin it on each shirt. We want to make sure that those who wear the shirt are again reminded the witness they are bearing.

The person that everyone is agreeing with has two options for their shirt. They can wear the same shirt everyone else has, "I Agree with..." or they can choose to have a shirt that say "I am..." It has been successful either way. It is often good for the person to not reveal his identity until the day he is going to speak. So, if he gets an "I am..." shirt, he should only wear it Thursday and Friday. This will cause more people to approach him, interview him, and he will be more of the center of attention at that time. Up to that, he will just be like everyone else wearing a Tshirt.

THE SPEECH

At around noon, when it is the busiest time for students to be mulling around the table area on either Thursday or Friday, you want your figurehead to get a crowd together and share what the week is about, who he is, and what's his testimony. It is best to pass out fliers that say, "Come here _____ speak!" You can even put the place, day and time on the pamphlets so that people can look forward to coming. It is best to do it outside to attract those who are passing by. Have two people at the designated time start announcing that he is going to start to speak. To gather a crowd, it is good to have most of the Christians take off their "I agree with..." shirts so that it doesn't look like they are the only one's gathering. You don't want it to appear to be just the Christians.

After he is finished speaking, allow a question and answer time. Most people will stay to listen to the questions to see how he will respond. This could be the most intimidating part of his role, but with the Holy Spirit, the body of Christ surrounding him, the Lord will bring words and scripture to his mouth.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP NIGHT

Near the end of the week, Thursday or Friday, depending on if people would show up on a Friday night, you want to have a place for all the people to congregate who participated in the week and share what God did. It would be a good time for the person that was chosen to represent the week share his experiences and what he saw the Lord do. It is also a good time to have praise and worship and a time for anyone to share what happened that week for them. This was one of the highlights of the week at UC Berkeley. Over 400 people came (of the 600 wearing T-shirts) and it was incredible to see how together we impacted the campus. There does not need to be a talk of any kind. Just sharing and praise and prayer at the end for God to further His work in these people's lives.

The best place to announce this meeting is when you visit the various Christian groups and it can be written in the devotional that was passed out to every person who received a shirt. The coordinator for this day could be the prayer person on the planning team.

TRAINING

The task of training all of the participants to share their faith effectively and to communicate both the purpose of the week and the love of Christ will differ from campus to campus. Since Berkeley has about a dozen legitimate Christian groups we decided the best way to train everyone was to hold two training sessions for representatives of each group to attend where we trained them to train their groups. It may be more effective for you to have several open training meetings to train everyone participating at the same time.

In planning how to train everyone our evangelism coordinator pulled together a small group of evangelism leaders from several groups to develop the training material. This meeting first set down the vision for the week, then defined success for the week, defined our goals, and finally brainstormed the ideas for training based upon anticipated responses and situations we foresaw Christians encountering during the week. By focusing the discussion on this and not on specific philosophies behind evangelism we avoided possibly divisive arguments and also kept the training practical and applicable, even for students experienced in sharing the gospel. Enclosed is the packet of training materials we distributed to everyone.

RESPONSES

Throughout the week there were many different reactions and responses to the outreach. The following outlines the three basic responses that we got and some biblical responses to follow.

Campus Responses

- 1) The **open/curious** person who is sincerely asking questions and who God is clearly drawing.
- 2) The **antagonistic** person who is there to simply challenge Christians, but is not really there to seek the truth of the gospel of Jesus.
- 3) The **neutral person** who may or may not have the right motives when approaching you but can come around if you give them answers with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15).

Biblical Responses

1) To the open person it is best to simply present the gospel either directly or indirectly through the use of the 4-point outline of the gospel (or 1 Cor. 15:1-8 which is briefest form of the gospel), or in another way which the Holy Spirit prompts you.

2) To the antagonistic person, it is best to apply the admonition outlined in Philippians 1:27-28, where Paul tells us to conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, to stand firm and not be alarmed by "your opponents" because "it is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God." In another words, if you are not moved or alarmed by them, God convicts them of what awaits them, while also confirming to them the truth of the salvation that is yours in Christ! For example, at Berkeley, there is an older guy named Jack who comes out during almost every Christian outreach and tries to persuade Christians that Christianity is wrong and contradictory through faulty arguments. For people like this it is important to FIRST, let them know that we are not here to argue with them, but are simply here to present the grace that is in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 2:1) and SECOND to gently pose the question "What are you going to do with the person of Christ before He comes back?" to them. The discussion must culminate in what will they do with God's Son when He returns! The Bible teaches that if we are strong in our convictions they will be convicted that what we believe is true and see that they may be headed for "destruction" (Phil. 1:27-28) if they don't change their behavior.

3) For the neutral person it is important to pique their interest and promote an environment of trust so that they will be free to ask questions, while ultimately showing them the love that binds us (Col. 3:14, John 13:35).

In addition to these three basic responses from people we also were privy to a whole host of other events, t-shirts, and postings. By the end of the week the group called Students Advocating a Non-religious Ethos (SANE) set up their table next to ours and began to debate and reason why morality can exist without God. Several t-shirts were printed and worn by students proclaiming such things as "God is Dead", "I Agree with Faust", "Paul Agrees with Weed", and the like. Included in the back are some copies of the signs that were posted in response to the outreach throughout campus. We found that as the week wore on the debate seemed to get more heated. Our table and bulletin board (see the Campus Presence section) were the focal point of most of this debate. By Friday participants were even being discriminated against in their classes by teaching assistants and professors. On the more positive side, as the week wore on more and more deep and meaningful conversations occurred and many people accepted Christ.

Spiritual Warfare was rampant during the week which was encouraging to us as it was confirmation that the outreach had eternal significance. By Thursday we could feel the difference between the feeling of oppression at our table on our main plaza and the feeling of freedom inside the Christian house just off campus where we met to pray. Be prepared and expect this! It is important to remember that there will be all types of responses from people and Satan will do his best to keep the outreach from being effective. The negative responses are predicted in the Bible and they happened even to the apostles (Acts 17). Be encouraged by them because God is sovereign and working.

FINANCES

If “I Agree with...” week is going to happen you’re going to need money. Everything costs money. Advertisements, T-shirts, flyers, paper to make the flyers, staples and tape to put the flyers up, paper to print the devotionals on, and who knows what else will cost money.

The total cost of the week will depend on how big your campus is, how many people participate, and how much money it costs to place an advertisement in your school newspaper. At the University of Arizona, Dave Week cost a total of \$2700 while at the University of California Berkeley, Paul Week cost slightly over \$8,000. Advertisements are the most expensive element during the week. At Berkeley a full page ad featuring Paul’s statement of faith cost over \$1000 and half page ads cost over \$700.

So where do you get this money from? If you know a lot of wealthy people ask them, otherwise you need to raise support. To begin with, estimate the cost of everything you think you will need. Below is an example used at Berkeley.

Adds in the Newspaper - \$4000
T-shirts - \$3000
Devotionals - \$300
Flyers - \$300
Misc. - \$400

Keep in mind that the T-shirts will also bring in revenue. At Berkeley we charged \$6 for each T-shirt. The cost to produce them was \$4.25 but the extra money went to help pay for the devotionals and flyers. The more people participating in the week, the less money you need to raise. Before ordering the T-shirts, get the students to place orders by size at least 2 to 3 weeks before the actual week. That way you have an idea of how much money you will be receiving from the T-shirts. It is best to have them pay up front so you don’t have to try to collect all the money when the week is over. During the week other Christians who never heard about the week will want to purchase T-shirts as well so you need to order extras. Estimate how many more you think you need and place that order at least a week before the outreach. Remember that you don’t want to lose money on the week so be sure that the T-shirts you have already sold will cover the cost of the extra T-shirts in case no one decides to buy them.

Up Front Money

Some things will require you to pay for them before you have all the support raised. For example, most t-shirt companies will ask for a 50% deposit before they will make them. It would be best to raise all your support first, so you have some money up front.

Even with the money from the T-shirt sales you are still going to need to raise some support. Local churches, Campus fellowships, alumni from your campus, and other Christian organizations are good resources. Send a letter to all of these people explaining what this week is about, and follow up your most likely contributors with a phone call. The following is an example of the one used at Berkeley.

Dear

My name is Matt, and I am writing you on behalf of the Christian community here at UC Berkeley. God has been moving among us this year here and has given many of us a heart to see the lost come to know Him and to see the body maintain the unity that we have in Christ. We are excited to see what God can do when we surrender to Him and ask for His help. An idea has come our way through some students at the University of Arizona, Penn State University, and University of Northern Colorado that we think may help reach the lost here at Cal and bring the body of Christ together. Their goal was to do something creative to spark spiritual conversations on their campuses. Here's how. First they covered their campuses with flyers and posters with one question on it. "Do you agree with (some student's name)?" At U of A it was "Do you agree with Dave?" At Penn State it was Adam. Then they printed a statement of faith written by the student, Dave or Adam, in their school paper covering the main tenets of Christianity. That will happen on Monday, and then every day for the rest of the week we will print statements by the faculty, student athletes, and student leaders on different days of the week. For the whole week they put up posters and handed out flyers asking the question, "Do you agree with (whoever)?" They also made t-shirts with the simple statement, "I agree with Dave." These were distributed to anyone who wanted them. This gave them the opportunity to start conversations with students when they were approached and asked about their t-shirts. Then at the end of the week they had a big rally on campus where Dave, or Adam, gave his testimony and answered questions. Our hope is to do the same thing here at Berkeley, except with someone named Paul. So ours will be called Paul Week. Our vision is to see the Christian community rally around each other in order to engage the campus in spiritual conversation, not shoving the Bible down their throat, but humbly sharing that we have many of the same concerns as the average college student, but we have met a God who wants to help us live the life we were meant to live. However, we cannot do this alone. We are writing you because we want to give you the opportunity to be a part

of what God is going to do during Paul Week here at Berkeley. One way to do this is through prayer. Satan is going to muster up as much force as he can to defeat this effort to engage people with the good news, so we want to ask you to pray for us during your prayer meetings. Secondly, printing ads in the school newspaper, making t-shirts, and printing flyers and posters costs money. We would love for you to also consider partnering with us in what God is doing here at Berkeley by supporting the week financially. We need to raise about \$10,000. Thank you for your time in reading this letter. If you choose to contribute financially, checks may be made out to UIC, and mailed to: Westminster House, 2700 Bancroft Way, Berkeley CA 94704, c/o Randy Bare. Receipts will be sent out. If you could notify us by e-mail at (email here) if you do contribute financially with the amount, that would help our records and let us see how much farther we have to go. Thank you again for your time.

In Christ,

(Your name here)

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

In addition, ask all of the campus fellowships participating if they would like to support the week financially. Some of them will and some won't. As we found out most of the money came from a few big donors of a 1000 or more. Also remember that people can support you in ways other than financial, such as through the donation of paper or their copy machine. We e-mailed over 300 churches and had no responses. Not until 4 days before the week was going to happen did we have half of the money and then in 1 day the rest of it came in. If you are the financial coordinator you need to have patience and faith to wait for God to bring in the money.

One more thing...

To whom do your supporters make their checks payable to? You will need to find an organization that will give you a tax-deductible receipt. Have all the money made out to that organization. Most likely a few key students or staff will be putting a lot of money on their credit cards and they will need to get reimbursed as soon as possible. We had one student put \$3000 on her credit card. Once you get their receipts make copies of them for your records and give the original to whatever organization is handling your money for them to give you a reimbursement check. Finally, send out thank you cards to all your financial supporters and a letter with a recap of the highlights of the week.

Financial Recap

1. Pray

2. Estimate the Total Cost of the Week
3. Up Front Money
4. Keep a running total in Excel
5. Create a support letter
6. Send that letter to all the local churches and fellowships
7. Call the local churches to explain what this week is all about
8. Use a tax deductible organization for people to send their checks to
9. Keep all receipts and make copies of them
10. After the week be sure to reimburse everyone
11. Send thank you cards to your supporters

TIME LINE OF EVENTS

When should you have the outreach?

This will vary from school to school. To plan the outreach, you need at least 3 months of solid, weekly planning with the planning team. These are some things to think about when you think through what week the outreach should be implemented:

- Weather. Some times of the year may be colder or more rainy than others. Choose a time when most people would hang out outside and people will not want to wear jackets over their shirts.
- Midterms and Finals. Don't plan the week too close to these if you can help it. It will just decrease stress for the planners, and will give people more time to dedicate to the week.
- Other major school events, such as campus elections, that may interfere with or overshadow the outreach.

3 months away

- Gather the seven main people for the planning team.
- Choose who the figurehead should be and ask them.
- Have each person on the planning team know their roles and responsibilities.
- Choose where you will have the major events, like the figurehead speaking, the table in a busy area on campus, and Praise and Worship night. These things need to be decided so that reservations of rooms can be made.
- Research the clubs, churches and organizations on campus that claim to be Christian oriented. Feel confident in knowing whom you will ask to be a part of the week.
- Gather information about churches in the area that you can ask to be a part of the week financially.
- Decide the color of your week.
- Write the Statement of Faith

2 months away

- Contact leaders of the Christian groups on campus and see if they would be interested in participating in the event and if you could share it with the organization at one of their meetings.
- The best way to cast vision is if there is a huge Christian event (like a praise night) where an announcement can be made to a larger audience. Telling at least the leaders of the group during this time is helpful so that they do not plan a big event for that week as well.

- Write an “ask” letter and e-mail or mail it to churches in the area. Ask people to individually ask their churches.
- Establish an email account to begin the communication and organization of information.
- Know who will be the liaison for each of the groups participating. Give them their roles and responsibilities. Put them on a list serve for information and give them the email address if they have individual questions.
- Plan the training and make a packet.
- Ask organizations to donate money to the outreach.
- Write the devotional.
- Order packets of Four Spiritual Laws
- Gather once a week to pray.

4 weeks away

- Visit all of the groups and have them start to make orders for T-shirts. Must be in by the end of the week (three weeks prior to the start of the outreach). Contact person can email the information to the email account.
- Create Ads for school newspaper.
- Know where you will be ordering the t-shirts at the end of the week. Give the person an estimate of how many will be ordered.
- Organize when the trainings will occur and announce them to all the groups.

3 weeks away

- T-shirts should be ordered by now.
- Copy training packet for meetings.
- Make copies of devotionals.

2 weeks away

- Have training sessions
- Confirm all room reservations

1 week before flyering

- Have training sessions if you didn’t do them all the week before.
- Receive t-shirts, organize them into different groups who ordered them.
- Distribute T-shirts
- Make copies of fliers that will be posted
- Purchase the necessary supplies for posting and chalking

Week of flyering

- Make copies of more fliers to post next week and copies of pamphlets to pass out.
- Prepare spiritually

Week of the Outreach

Refer to the schedule of the outreach included above.

CONCLUSION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The goal of this packet has been to give you the basic framework from which to plan and implement your own “I agree with...” week at your campus. If you have any questions or found that something was unclear or omitted from this please contact us:

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Scenarios Shaking Out during Paul Week

Purpose of this time: To provide Christians a clearer picture of what to expect during the week, so they may not be caught off guard, and to provide recommendations in response.

We've broken down possible scenarios according to various groups and what you might expect see happen with these groups.

1. Non-Christians Strangers:

what to expect:

- Initial curiosity or interest
- Students will be apathetic
- Students might be vocally antagonistic
- stares
- People being offended/fear of being converted

Recommendations/Response:

- * Be yourself. Engage with them
- * Smile. Initiate with a look
- * Be discerning and do not argue or debate with the non-Christian
- * Personalize the approach
- * Make every moment count. Give them the most attention you can
- * Emotionally be calm and cool
- * Be a listener. Be aware of their mannerisms/body language, and your own.
- * If you're worried, be honest about it to yourself ...be genuine.
- * Don't talk down to them or use Christian clichés.

2) **Non-Christian Friends:**

what to expect:

- some might avoid you
- curiosity

- tension
- friends will be scrutinizing your actions

Recommendations/Response:

- * Approach them/go in with attitude “your friendship is more important than the Paul week itself, but not more important than Christ.”
- * While dialoging with friends about the gospel, ask them how they are feeling
- * They can e-mail Paul if they have specific questions at Paulweek@hotmail.com

3) **Those wearing the shirt/Interacting with other Christians:**

what to expect:

- Christians out of the loop
- For Christians whose fellowship is not participating in Paul Week, they may question their leadership about why they’re not participating in it.
- Some might question the outreach itself because their leadership is not backing it
- Some will not evangelize, and they wear the T-shirt.
- Some will not be wearing the T-shirt and will evangelize
- Some will make value judgments against those who are not wearing the T-shirt.

Response/Recommendations:

- * Encourage those considering wearing the shirt who are part of a fellowship choosing not to participate to talk to their pastor.
- * Know how to explain, “Paul Week” Have a spirit of encouragement.
- * Use T-shirts as an opportunity for potential networks with other Christians.

4) **Classroom setting: classmates, professors**

- * (assessing yourself your own actions) Living your life with integrity. (not being late for class, class work reflecting diligence etc.)

Apologetics:

An integral part of evangelism is knowing how to defend the faith: “but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.” 1 Peter 3:15

Key assumptions to keep in mind:

- Practice “Evangelism of the heart.” Most “intellectual” objections to the gospel are usually a smoke screen to mask the true problem: a sinful heart. People’s main objections to the gospel are heart problems though couched in an intellectual manner. Often, intellectual objections are merely an excuse. It is not the real problem, but a mask. Evangelism of the heart tries to address those intellectual problems, but always aiming toward “the real” heart problem.
- Be sensitive to the non-Christian’s concerns and questions, but keep directing the conversation back to the essential issue: Christ. Try to be the one directing the conversation. Don’t get bogged down in answering objections to the gospel, but always seek to point the person to Jesus. Don’t dwell on minor issues, be discerning in what you choose not to explain and pick your battles carefully. Dwelling on minor issues shows spiritual immaturity in discerning what is essential to the gospel message. It also tends to show that the evangelist is more interested in winning argumentation than winning the person to Christ.
- Do not be argumentative or debate. Share the truth in gentleness and love to show that you are a true disciple of Christ. Recognize that you were once as lost and only by God’s sheer grace are we able to know the truth.
- From beginning to end, remember that salvation is of the Lord and completely God’s work. Our job will not be to persuade and convict, but our task is to gently close every mouth who objects and lovingly proclaim His name.
- Be faithful to the teachings of the Bible and do not compromise the Word of God. Remember that we don’t have to be offensive to do this. The gospel in itself is inherently confrontational and offensive to the non-believer.
- Apologetics when used with evangelism should always be used as transitions to the gospel. The two go hand in hand. Some examples how to do so are given below.

Common objections to the gospel and their refutations:

This obviously is not a comprehensive list of apologetics questions. Less attention is given to extra-biblical “evidences” for the faith. This list has an emphasis on helping the believer think through and challenge some common biased, faulty assumptions/presuppositions taken against Christianity and using it to transition into sharing the gospel.

1) **The atheistic position: There is no God.**

This position is contradictory. It is the absolute denial of the Absolute.

Proofs for the existence of God:

Cosmological proof—there must be a creator since we see creation

Design argument—there is a design to the world

Moral argument—since there is a moral law, there must be a moral

lawgiver

2) **There is no such thing as absolute truth. Everything is relative.**

This is a self-refuting statement. You cannot be relativistic and make assertions about objective reality at the same time. "There is no absolute truth" is a self refuting statement because its very assertion presupposes that it is objective statement—a clear assertion about reality—and therefore no longer relative statement.

Possible transition: “Are you *absolutely* sure there’s no absolute truth? If you’re not sure, we can talk about what the Bible says about truth and the Person who claimed to be this truth. . .” (John 14:6)

3) **It is not fair that God sends sinners to hell without giving them a chance or enough evidence.**

If this is an argument for atheism, it is contradictory. The statement is making a moral judgment about God, that He is unfair or evil. To posit that God is evil, one must presuppose that there must be a good. If there is a good and an evil, then there must be a moral law to differentiate between the two. If there is a moral law, there must be a moral law giver, who is God.

Second, if the statement is not atheistic, but anti-Christian, then flip the objection toward him. The issue is not that God isn’t fair toward the unsaved, but toward the Christian, whom He grants eternal life. People who make the above statement misunderstand that God is obligated to give everyone a chance. The opposite is true.

Third, God did give them enough evidence. The testimony of nature and Christians. The problem again, is that men’s hearts are hard.

Possible transition, “What I find to be really amazing is that a God of incredible justice could acquit the guilty. Would you like to know how God can be just, yet be merciful and loving at the same time?”

(transition into Christ)

4) **How can you believe in the Bible? Isn't it full of contradictions? (or variations on that subject)**

This is a not a fair accusation, and it is probably not based on any investigation on the unbeliever's part. Gently seek to expose the bias already assumed by the unbeliever.

Ask them, "What do you base that on?" Ask if they can name any contradictions, most cannot.

Or you can ask, “Have you ever read the Bible before, if not, how do you know?” If so, then what specific questions do you have that I can address? (Do this only if you have a good grasp of Scripture.)

Possible transition: “You look like an intelligent person, have you ever taken the time to investigate the claims of the Bible or the gospel message? If you haven't, may I take the opportunity to share with you the message of eternal life?”

5) **Aren't all religions basically the same? What makes Christianity so different?**

Most think all religions are fundamentally the same and superficially different. But the opposite is true, all religions are at best superficially the same and fundamentally different.

Christianity is radically different on two accounts: Grace and Christ.

This is a great transition to sharing about the person of Jesus Christ or talking about the grace of God for sinners through Christ.

Personal application: Recognize that we have a great faith! It claims not only to be rational, but to be the only truth. Our hope is solid!

The Transition

I. Simple Suggestions

- A. Smile and be courteous
- B. Try to be calm and composed, try to act naturally and comfortably
- C. Listen to others and their possible concerns or questions
- D. If you get flustered or stumped by a particular question, respond humbly and acknowledge that you don't have all the answers, but will try to find adequate responses from other Christians – take down a name and number so you can get back to that person.
- E. Just remember to give everyone we contact a positive experience of Christianity. Even if you don't get a chance to share the entire gospel, or if you get to share a couple of lines, try to be friendly and cordial enough that would make people less hostile towards hearing the message.

II. Possible questions and responses

- A. First off, let's try to avoid conventional answers or Christian lingo (in our immediate responses, that is) that is very foreign to some people. Otherwise people might quickly dismiss the conversation if they initially hear the words, "Jesus," or "Christian."
 - A. "Who is Paul?"
 1. Paul is this guy I know who happens to have the same perspective on life that I do, let me explain...
 2. He's a sophomore at Cal majoring in social welfare (This should prompt them to ask, "why do you agree with him?")
 3. He's a student here who had a radical change in his life a few years ago... I agree with him because the same thing that changed his life has changed mine... (go into personal testimony)
 - B. "What does Paul say/believe?" or "What do you agree with Paul about?"
 1. It's not only what Paul believes, but what a whole lot of other people believe(d) too (like Simon Greenleaf of Harvard law, or Sir Isaac Newton, or some other noted Christians you can think of...)
 2. Paul happens to think that many people have been misinformed about what Christianity is all about. For example, what would you say a Christian is? (Let them answer, and you'll find that they have been misinformed!) Before you make a judgement on what Christianity is all about, shouldn't you at least hear an accurate portrayal of its central message? Christianity is about...
 3. Paul and a whole lot others on this campus actually believe that life is more than fame, fortune, and fine spouses. We all think that there is a grander purpose in life that gives life true meaning. This purpose also brings more joy than any of these things. This purpose is to glorify God and to know Him personally...
 4. He thinks that humans make mistakes. Do you think that we all make mistakes? The biggest failure we've ever made is in the way each of us live our lives (go into the doctrine of sin)...
 5. Obviously, there are many, many other ways to transition. The important thing is to be natural and be friendly. The best way to prepare yourself is to **PRACTICE**. You might want to pair up with a friend before the big week and role play with one another.
 - C. "Who are all the people wearing those shirts?" or "Why are people wearing those shirts?" or, "Why are you wearing that shirt?"
 1. It's because we all agree with Paul... (this should lead to the two other questions)

III. The Classroom (or other big group setting)

- A. Same questions as above
 1. We're all wearing these shirts because we believe in something that is very important to us (This statement should peak their interest, and make others look bad if they attack "what is important to

- you”). I’d be willing to talk to anyone that’s interested about it after class so we don’t disrupt the lecture.
2. Paul is a student at Cal who thinks there are some pretty important issues in life that many of us just haven’t considered. I’d be willing to talk to anyone that’s interested after class...
 3. **Not in a classroom, but in a big group** – Paul and many others think that there are many of us who are honestly dissatisfied with life at one point or another. I know I was. I agree with Paul in that we don’t have to be. Let me explain how things have changed in my life (go to personal testimony)

Remember, this isn’t a strict outline that you must follow. Just be yourself and be friendly (I hope that being friendly is being yourself!) Pray that you’ll be discerning and humble, and loving as well. For the classroom or big group settings, try to peak people’s interest and stress that it’s something very important to you... then it’ll reflect poorly on others for their antagonistic position.

In addition, I think most of us are comfortable and best prepared to share our faith by giving a personal testimony format... so you might want to practice this, but also be sure to get some Biblical references to share the Good News.

PLEASE PRACTICE with a friend or leader in your fellowship. It never hurts to be prepared.

Also, you might want to go to office hours and get good with your professor before this week. That way he/she will be less prone to criticize you!