

# A Gospel Outreach Activity



## I. Situation Overview

Gospel Friend A is a man in his 50s, a mid-level leader at a school responsible for students' ideological education. He has an interest in traditional Chinese culture and has been a client of Sister Y from the church for many years. Sister Y often shares Bible stories and Christian testimonies with him, which sparked his interest. Therefore, he arranged with Sister Y to meet some brothers and sisters, listen to the gospel, and learn some basic knowledge about church history and the Bible.

## II. Meeting Arrangement and Strategy

### Meeting Place:

The meeting was scheduled in the reception room of Sister Y's company (a familiar environment helps open the heart more easily).

### Time:

From 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM (kept within about 1.5 hours).

### Strategy:

1. Use traditional culture as an entry point for conversation.
2. Talk about the history of Christianity, especially its development in China.

3. Discuss the formation of the Old and New Testaments.
4. Look for opportunities to focus on sharing about Christ's redemption.
5. If the response is good, invite him to pray together.
6. If the response is not positive, stop in time and arrange a next meeting to avoid causing aversion.
7. Before the gospel activity, pray for him persistently and firmly, asking the Holy Spirit to personally help during the activity.

### **III. Process of the Gospel Activity**

At 3:30 PM that afternoon, my wife and I arrived on time at the reception room of Sister Y's company. Gospel Friend A also arrived as scheduled. Sister Y made tea for everyone and introduced us briefly. I first asked him what books he had been reading recently, using this as a conversation starter. My question piqued his interest, and he enthusiastically introduced a book he was reading related to the *Tao Te Ching*. Since I hadn't studied this much, I mainly listened and inserted a few comments. Eventually, I steered the conversation toward Confucian culture. After he shared his views on Confucianism, I extended the discussion by bringing up the idea of "unity of heaven and man" in Confucianism. I talked about the evolution of the concept of "Heaven" in pre-Qin Confucianism and compared it to the concept of God in the Christian faith, explaining that the Christian idea of the unity of God and man is the fundamental purpose and ultimate goal of faith (this was the core of an article I had written before).

This part of the conversation changed his previously dismissive attitude, and he began to seriously ask about church history. Sister Y had previously told us that he was interested in church history, so I had prepared for this topic. In response to his questions, I started from the early church during the apostolic period, talked about the Edict of Milan issued by Emperor Constantine in 313 AD accepting Christianity as the state religion, then about the formation of the papal system in the 6th century, the split between Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy in 1054 AD, and the Protestant Reformation initiated by Martin Luther in 1517 AD and the rise and development of Protestantism. Finally, I briefly explained the history of Christianity's development in China.

This greatly interested him, and we took the opportunity to explain Christ's redemption and the path of accepting the Christian faith. When we felt the time was right and invited him to pray with us, he hesitated and then politely declined.

He told us that although he was very interested in what we had shared and envied the life we Christians have together, because he is a Party member, he cannot have a faith. His school also has many restrictions on teachers with religious beliefs, so he said he could not accept Christ until after his retirement. Seeing his eyes, from initial disdain to shining curiosity, and then gradually dimming, I felt a deep sense of regret and could only pray silently for him in my heart.

### **IV. Summary After the Activity**

Our conversation lasted about an hour and a half. Before leaving, we added each other on WeChat for future contact. After Sister Y saw him off, she returned to the company, and we sat down to summarize this gospel outreach.

**Strengths:**

1. We basically followed the pre-set strategy and completed the activity.
2. The entire process maintained a harmonious exchange without disputes or unpleasant incidents.
3. At the end of the conversation, we clearly explained the basic beliefs about Christ.

**Weaknesses:**

1. Our preparation was insufficient. We underestimated the obstacles posed by his Party membership and his profession as a teacher.
2. His stable job and comfortable life made him feel no urgent need for faith. We should have looked for other breakthrough points.
3. In the initial strategy, we planned to lead him to faith through just one meeting, which was a bit rushed. It would have been better to have more contacts, engage in deeper conversations on topics he is interested in, and build enough trust before discussing faith. This might have been more effective.

Finally, we prayed for this gospel outreach activity, asking the Lord to bless this gospel friend and hoping that he will have the opportunity to accept Christ as his Savior.