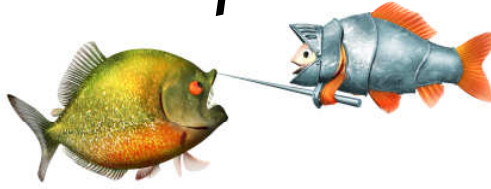


The Art of Persuasion



6/21/15

Acts 17:4 And some of them were persuaded...

How to be persuasive

1. **Keep Going** Acts 16:1-9

2. **Keep Listening** Acts 16:9-10

3. Keep Sharing Jesus

Acts 16:11 Therefore putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis;

¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

4. Keep Praying

¹⁴ And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

5. Keep Discipling

¹⁵ And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

¹⁶ And it happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a certain slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortunetelling.

6. Keep Feeling (what God feels)

¹⁷ Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, "These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation."

¹⁸ And she continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment.

7. Keep Worshiping (no matter what)

¹⁹ But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities,

²⁰ and when they had brought them to the chief magistrates, they said, "These men are throwing our city into confusion, being Jews,

²¹ and are proclaiming customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans."

²² And the crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them, and proceeded to order *them* to be beaten with rods.

²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely;

²⁴ and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison, and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;

²⁶ and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were unfastened.

²⁷ And when the jailer had been roused out of sleep and had seen the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped.

²⁸ But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here!"

²⁹ And he called for lights and rushed in and, trembling with fear, he fell down before Paul and Silas,

³⁰ and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household."

³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house.

³³ And he took them that *very* hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his *household*.

³⁴ And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household.

8. Keep F

³⁵ Now when day came, the chief magistrates sent their policemen, saying, "Release those men."

³⁶ And the jailer reported these words to Paul, *saying*, "The chief magistrates have sent to release you. Now therefore, come out and go in peace."

³⁷ But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us in public without trial, men who are Romans, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they sending us away secretly? No indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out."

³⁸ And the policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. And they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,

³⁹ and they came and appealed to them, and when they had brought them out, they kept begging them to leave the city.

⁴⁰ And they went out of the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

9. Keep Using E

Acts 17:1 Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews.

² And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,

³ explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and *saying*, "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."

⁴ And **some of them were persuaded** and joined Paul and Silas, along with a great multitude of the God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women.

⁵ But the Jews, becoming jealous and taking along some wicked men from the market place, formed a mob and set the city in an uproar; and coming upon the house of Jason, they were seeking to bring them out to the people.

⁶ And when they did not find them, they *began* dragging Jason and some brethren before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have upset the world have come here also;

⁷ and Jason has welcomed them, and they all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus."

⁸ And they stirred up the crowd and the city authorities who heard these things.

⁹ And when they had received a pledge from Jason and the others, they released them.

¹⁰ And the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea; and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews.

¹¹ Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so.

¹² Many of them therefore believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men.

¹³ But when the Jews of Thessalonica found out that the word of God had been proclaimed by Paul in Berea also, they came there likewise, agitating and stirring up the crowds.

¹⁴ And then immediately the brethren sent Paul out to go as far as the sea; and Silas and Timothy remained there.

10. Keep Studying C

¹⁵ Now those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

¹⁶ Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him as he was beholding the city full of idols.

¹⁷ So he was reasoning in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing *Gentiles*, and in the market place every day with those who happened to be present.

¹⁸ And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. And some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,"-- because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.

¹⁹ And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is which you are proclaiming?"

²⁰ "For you are bringing some strange things to our ears; we want to know therefore what these things mean."

²¹ (Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new.)