

1 Timothy 2:5 "Jesus Christ is the bridge between God and man."

What it Means to Follow Jesus – Part 4 WE ARE BRIDGE-BUILDERS

"Now we rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God – all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done in dying for our sins – making us friends of God." Rom. 5:11 (LB)

"God has restored our relationship with Him through Christ, and He has given us this ministry of restoring relationships." 2 Cor. 5:18 (GWT)

HOW TO BUILD A BRIDGE TO UNBELIEVERS

1. BE PROACTIVE

"Do to others as you would have them do to you." Luke 6:31 (NIV)

2. REFUSE TO WEAR A MASK

"We can say with confidence and a clear conscience that we have been honest and sincere in all our dealings." 2 Cor. 1:12a (NLT)

3. IDENTIFY COMMON GROUND

"Whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so that he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him." 1 Cor. 9:22b (LB)

HOW? LISTEN!

4. DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE

"Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ." Eph. 5:1-2 (NLT)

"Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions." 1 John 3:17 (LB)

Everybody Needs: ACCEPTANCE

AFFIRMATION

ASSISTANCE

5. GIVE CREDENCE TO THEIR FEELINGS & FEARS

"For we must bear the burden of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others..." Rom. 15:2 (LB)

6. EXPECT GOD TO USE ME

(Jesus to His disciples) "... Do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you." Matt. 10:19-20 (NIV)