



PO Box 703929  
Dallas, TX 75370-3929

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engaging *today's* culture



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*The **Wherever You Go** training was amazing! The speakers did a great job of speaking clearly, using real-world examples, and answering questions. Our people were hungry to learn more about effective evangelism, and EvanTell had the right people for the job! We will be having more trainings with them in the future.*

**Nathan Leid**  
Pastor of Connection and Mobilization,  
Fellowship Church | Dallas



EVANTELL LIVE  
**REPLAY**

EXPOSING THE ROOTS OF  
**FEAR IN EVANGELISM**

Fear in evangelism is a reality, but it doesn't have to be a roadblock. In our most recent edition of EvanTell Live, we discussed why fear is normal for everyone, why our fears have a purpose, and how to address the roots of fears to share your faith confidently!



Use the QR code to watch the  
Replay of our most recent  
EvanTell Live discussion!



# TOOLBOX

EVANTELL'S

SPRING 2023

## FACING FEARS IN EVANGELISM

Three Fear-based Intimidations that  
Keep us Silent in Evangelism

*By Dr. Larry Moyer*

Jesus tells us that Satan has always been a liar (John 8:44), and one of the key goals of his lies is to intimidate us and keep us quiet about the gospel. Here are three of his intimidations and how we can push back against them with the truth.

**"YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK FOOLISH BECAUSE  
YOU DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ANSWERS"**

When you face this intimidation, here is a good question to ask: "Where in the Bible does it say you need to be able to answer every question and objection?" Dawson Trotman, founder of The Navigators, was noted for his comment, "Soul winners are not soul winners because of what they know but because of Who they know and how much they want others to know Him." It is

a simple truth that new believers often lead more people to Christ than anyone else. They have been so transformed by His grace that they want the world to hear the good news. They are not concerned about what they don't know. They are concerned about who they do know. We would all be wise to think along these lines.

**"YOUR FRIENDS WILL BE OFFENDED  
AND ABANDON YOU"**

The intimidation will never be "you might lose a friend," but instead, "you will definitely lose a friend." This is evidence of the enemy at work. He will always seek to get you to focus on only negative outcomes and never positive scenarios where your friend hears the gospel

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# FACING FEARS IN EVANGELISM

and trusts in Christ! Also, experience has proven that the “lose a friend” outcome is more of the exception than the rule. Most often, when the truth of the gospel is presented with gentleness and respect, people are willing to listen to you share something so very important to you – even if they decide not to believe.

“PEOPLE ARE NOT APPROACHABLE –  
YOU ARE WASTING YOUR TIME”

Our enemy wants us to think that the “normal person” is waiting to cancel us or shout us down. Social media feeds and news networks also fuel the fire of this intimidation. While those voices may be the loudest at times, the experiences they describe are not the norm. The norm is the person who is wondering if the unusual pain he is experiencing could possibly be cancer. It is the person who has gotten word that there will be layoffs at work and wonders if she is on the list of those to be dismissed. It is the person who is confused about why nothing in his life seems to be going in the right direction. Because of these truths, you will discover – to your encouragement – that most people are approachable and interested in talking about spiritual things. Some will even be delighted that you have concern for them at all.



## SPOTLIGHT: WHY DOES GOD ALLOW FEAR IN EVANGELISM?

Have you ever wondered, “why doesn’t God just take away our fear when we share the gospel?” I know I have asked that question many times in the past – and I think the Bible provides an amazing answer. In 1 Corinthians 2:3-5, the Apostle Paul writes that he was sharing Christ among the Corinthians (v2) in weakness, fear in much trembling (v3) instead of with persuasive words of wisdom (4). But in verse five, we see the purpose God had in allowing Paul to experience this fear. It was so that the Corinthians’ faith “might not rest on human wisdom, but on the power of God” (v5). The same is true for us today. When we experience fear in evangelism, it should be an encouragement to us that we don’t need a persuasive, eloquent presentation. We don’t need to have an answer to every question. We simply need to share and trust in the awesome power of our God. What an amazing reminder for us!

WHEN I AM  
AFRAID,  
I PUT MY  
TRUST IN YOU.

## ACTION STEP: HOW TO CONFRONT THE FEAR OF MAN

Whether we fear being rejected, looking foolish, or being labeled as judgmental in evangelism, all our fears have one epicenter: The fear of man. It’s important that we confess that fear to God. Once we do, we can take the next vital step – proclaiming with the Psalmist, “When I am afraid, I put my trust in You” (Ps. 56:3). There will always be some level of fear in evangelism, but it doesn’t have to rule us. The next time fear of man percolates within you, confess it quickly to God, recite Psalm 56:3 under your breath, and step forward in boldness – leaving the results to our all-powerful God.

# Exposing the Roots of Fear

By Brock Anderson

## Fear of Confrontation

**How we justify the fear:**

“I am not a confrontational person”

**The truth behind the fear:**

Confrontation is defined as a “hostile argument” between two or more people. However, we often mis-define it as having a conversation where there could be disagreement, so we end up missing so many opportunities to simply talk with others! Nobody wants to (or shouldn’t want to) get into a hostile argument and fortunately, we don’t have to. If, when sharing the gospel with gentleness and respect, we sense the other person getting upset, we can always politely disengage and refuse to participate in a hostile argument. Also, it is important to know that hostile arguments are rare in evangelism (despite what you may see in online video clips).

**A question to ask:**

Am I using fear of confrontation (a hostile argument) as an excuse to avoid starting conversations?

## Fear of Conflict

**How we justify the fear:**

“I think it’s good to avoid conflict at all costs”

**The truth behind the fear:**

The quote above is impossible to live by because we are in constant conflict with others – it’s just usually about inconsequential things. For example, we are often in conflict with friends and loved ones about food, sport, and entertainment preferences. But we never run from these discussions. Why? Because the context is usually a calm conversation where two people are sharing their differences. You can actually have the same atmosphere of conversation with topics that are highly consequential, like eternal life. When you set a calm tone and show a genuine interest in others’ beliefs, you’ll soon discover the conflict of opposing ideas can be part of a pleasant and winsome conversation.

**A question to ask:**

Am I only willing to be in conflict about things that are inconsequential?

## Fear of Rejection

**How we justify the fear:**

“The chance of rejection is too high, so I should wait until a better time.”

**The truth behind the fear:**

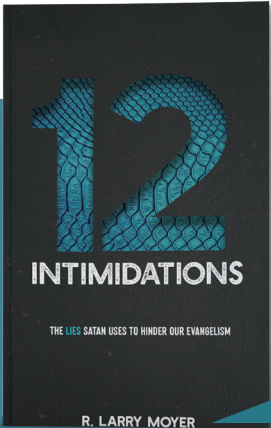
No one enjoys the process of being rejected. However, we also all have lines we won’t cross just to be accepted. This can include pressure to partake in illegal activities, to make a decision that puts our family in danger or to take actions that violate our morals. In these cases, we don’t even think about being rejected – because we’re willing to be rejected for some things. Rejection itself is not the problem. The issue lies with our willingness to place the gospel among the list of things for which we are willing to be rejected.

**A question to ask:**

Am I willing to sacrifice my fear of rejection to share Christ with others?

## There are 12 intimidations Satan has used repeatedly in discouraging believers from sharing their faith.

In his new book, veteran evangelist *Larry Moyer* discusses these 12 intimidations and Satan’s arguments in using them. He then explains how to confront each intimidation and share your faith with boldness and clarity.



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