

Why are you afraid to talk about God?

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Just a few months ago, I wrote an article entitled, “You Call Yourself a Christian but Are You... Really?” It is still accessible from the home page of www.selahlife.net. I kept it there because so many people I know have been lulled into a false sense of security by the many “False Preachers, and False Religions” that have saturated our society just as the Bible predicted would happen in the “Last Days.” Most people I know have something that I consider “ominous” in common; they rarely, if ever, talk about God or the Bible! They may be willing to converse with me at times concerning these subjects, but it only if I am the one to initiate the conversation relating to God or the Bible! If I am describing you, I ask you now, “Why are you afraid to talk about God?” This fear is nothing new, even the Disciples of Jesus scattered in fear for their lives after the crucifixion of Jesus. Most people know the story of Peter denying Jesus three times before the Cock Crowed as Jesus predicted. So why is a reluctance of my friends and relatives to talk about God so disconcerting to me... why or how does it matter? Read the following two verses from the Gospel of Matthew and **Selah**. (*Pause... dwell on it for a moment*) Keeping in mind, these are words from the mouth of Jesus Himself! **Matthew 10:32-33 (NKJV)**³² “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.”³³ **But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.**

While persecution of Christians is on the rise, in some locals worse than others, what do people fear the most about exposing themselves as Christians in general here in the United States? Yes, there are some companies that blatantly threaten termination of employment, but that is usually if a person is preaching to their fellow workers when they should be doing their job, which is justifiable. Fear of losing one’s job is a big deterrent to many. However, most people are reluctant to share their faith in Jesus for lesser reasons. Many are afraid of being ridiculed, they feel if someone “rolls their eyes” in response to their testimony, they are now labeled as a “Religious Nut Case.” Oh, my... who could survive such a fate! My last job before retirement required me to spend a month in Germany for training. Trust me, like many other European countries, I sensed early on that God is not very welcome in Germany. When having lunch I would bow my head and thank God as I usually do and I could sometimes see people looking at me with a sarcastic smirk on their face. I guess you could say I definitely stood out in the crowd so to speak, and I knew people were making fun of me... So What... they didn’t climb up on the Cross to pay for my sin! They couldn’t care less about me! Let them make fun of me... one day they would be among those that would regret it for sure. Interestingly, one day I was in the Lab with one of the Technicians who was training me and I saw him cautiously looking to see if anyone else was around us or within earshot, when he deemed it safe, he came over to me and started asking me questions about the Bible and Church! His fear was people finding out that he was even curious about God and the Bible! The Holy Spirit was drawing my technician friend to God and God put me there in Germany, in the right place and at the right time, to give him the Gospel Message, which I was willing and able to do.

Had I backed away from that opportunity to share Jesus for fear of something as petty as ridicule, that man may have not heard the Gospel message in time! (*He could have been killed that very day*) As I mentioned in a previous article, some recent personal health issues showed me vividly that we might not have a tomorrow! Consider that the next time you have an opportunity to share your Christian faith that many of you proclaim, even sharing it with a total stranger. When you have an opportunity to share the Gospel with anyone... it is Never a coincidence. Jesus commissioned all of us to “Go out and make disciples throughout the whole world. Therefore, we should be looking for any, and every, opportunity to do so. **Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV)**¹⁹ **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,**²⁰ **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**” Amen. Pay close attention to the part where Jesus says, “I am with you always...” if you are willing to share the Gospel, God will give you the right words at the right time. Trust Him and His Word!

God Bless All of You!