

ICEBREAKERS

INTRODUCTION

Instead of conversations, Christians often have conversion attempts and confrontations. But is that really getting us to the outcomes we want?

USING THIS GUIDE

1. Print a copy of the guide for each member of your group.
 2. Watch the video as a group and use the guide to follow along and take notes.
 3. Complete the discussion questions when prompted by the video.
-

PART I

VIDEO NOTES

BE WISE IN THE WAY YOU ACT TOWARD OUTSIDERS; MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY. [COLOSSIANS 4:5]

Let your **conversation** be always full of **grace**, seasoned with **salt**, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6

Conversations create connections.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must **stay** at your house today.” So he came down at once and **welcomed** him gladly. Luke 19:5–6



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. Have you ever felt like an *outsider*? What was your experience like?

Examples:

- New workplace
- New school
- New to a team

2. How did people treat you during your “outsider experience”? What is one thing you wish someone had said to you or done for you during that time?

3. In the context of *church* and *Christians*, who are the outsiders?

4. How do Christians in the church often treat outsiders?

5. Read Luke 19: 5-6 and then answer the question that follows.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” So [Zacchaeus] came down at once and welcomed [Jesus] gladly.

What can we learn from Jesus about how to approach people with whom we disagree?

6. In the message, Gavin says that “conversations create connections” and talks about the opposite being true as well. Can you think of a time in your life when a conversation created a connection or when judgment may have caused a separation?



7. Think of someone in your life who has different opinions and beliefs than you. Listed below are practical ways to create connections with people. This week, choose one way to be intentional about breaking the ice.

- Listen first.
- Ask a question before stating your opinion.
- Find a way to serve him or her.
- Make the first move (phone call, text, email).
- Find something you have in common.
- Offer a compliment.