



Good Group Handout

by Craig Freshley

How to talk to an adversary, with respect

1. **Start with an attitude of wanting to understand, not persuade**
 - Remind yourself that being curious does not mean you have to abandon your beliefs.
 - Remind yourself that every person has good reasons for what they believe. There is a story behind every conviction. Ask about their stories.
2. **Speak from your own experience. Tell your own story.**
 - While people can argue about theory, morality, or science, no one can argue with your experience; your story.
 - Don't try to speak for other people, especially the person you are talking to. Say what you think and feel. Tell your story.
3. **If stuck or angry: ask a question.**
 - When you are infuriated and want to fight back or you feel dejected and want to flee, don't do either. Pause. Breathe. Pray silently for help.
 - When you don't know what to say, think of a question to ask; any question that's a real question (not an accusation in the form of a question).
4. **If you want to achieve agreement, establish common ground.**
 - Figure out what you both want; what interests you have in common. Agree on that before anything else.
 - Once a common goal or vision is established, then you can talk about how to achieve it. Listen and share all ideas. Be on the same team trying on solutions.
 - Be truly open minded to new ideas and approaches.
5. **Demonstrate respect and gratitude. Always.**
 - Hold in your heart the belief that you are not better than the other person.
 - Be humble.
 - Look up to the other person with respect and admiration. They have seen and done things that you can't even imagine.



Craig is a high energy professional speaker for any event

CraigFreshley.com



If you like the Tips, you will love the book

WisdomofGroupDecisions.com

See ALL Craig's Tips at

GoodGroupTips.com

