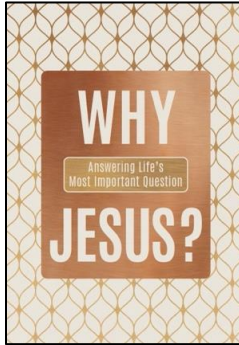


CONTACT: Ben Laurro, 615-595-8466
Ben@purepublicity.com

Why Jesus?

Sharing the Name that Answers Life's Most Important Questions

Bestselling author offers conversation examples for witnessing the gospel to others



Minneapolis, MN: The world offers countless choices for how to live and who to follow. With each conflicting option, we're often left confused in our search for truth and meaning, a search that finds its answer in Jesus.

Still, as people seek answers, many are hesitant to openly share their faith in Jesus out of fear of failure or judgment. Though sharing the gospel can be intimidating, thankless, and time-consuming, we are called to faithfully explain to others that Jesus is the only way to heaven and to trust him to work in their lives.

In *Why Jesus?: Answering Life's Most Important Question*

(BroadStreet® Publishing), author and minister **Ray Comfort** guides readers through personal conversations in which he's shared his faith with other people from all walks of life. Ever since he accepted Jesus as his Savior, Comfort has dedicated his life to helping others understand the same glorious truth that transformed his life.

Comfort advises believers in *Why Jesus?* on how to navigate the challenges and complexities they may encounter when sharing the gospel with people of different backgrounds and beliefs using tips like these:

- **Do not stop sharing the gospel even when others do not understand:** Our confidence in sharing the gospel should be not in our words but in the help of the Holy Spirit, the power of the gospel, and the faithfulness of God. Even though he may use our words, God is the one who changes lives. (Proverbs 28:23)
- **Personalize sin for others to understand their need for the Lord:** It can be difficult for people to believe that their sin violates God's law and his wrath is on those who have not accepted Jesus as their Savior. People who admit their personal sin are then able to recognize their need for Jesus. (Hebrews 10:31)
- **Do not deny anyone the opportunity to hear the gospel:** Even if someone follows another religion, Jesus said we must be "born again," or born of the Spirit, to enter the kingdom of heaven. This only comes through repentance and faith in Jesus. (Romans 6:23)
- **Understand different worldviews and religions to help evangelize:** Addressing opposing beliefs allows us to share our faith and Scripture personally. Nonbelievers often find it difficult to reconcile a God of justice, righteousness, and trust with a God who's also merciful to those who seek salvation through him. (Romans 2:2-11)
- **Remember the biblical truth that people love darkness:** Our sin is an idol because it proclaims us to be innocent. It eliminates the truth of our guilt, an angry God, and a moral responsibility to judgment day. We need to pray God removes the blinders to sin's consequences. (Ezekiel 33:11)

Other topics featured include advice for witnessing to Jewish people and Mormons, the requirement of repentance that leads to salvation, and the critical elements that must be offered.

“You don’t have to be the bravest or the most eloquent or have all the answers to share your faith, but realize that every encounter and every conversation centers around one question: Why Jesus?” says Comfort. “This one question is resolved in one response—the gospel that changes people’s lives.”

Reflecting on real-life faith conversations, *Why Jesus?* helps readers recognize Jesus as the only way to eternal life, identify lies that distort humanity’s view of God, and reference biblical truth that reveals our need of the Savior.

About the Author



Ray Comfort is the founder and CEO of Living Waters and the best-selling author of more than one hundred books. He is the cohost of an award-winning television program that airs in 190 countries and the producer of award-winning movies that have been viewed by millions (www.FullyFreeFilms.com). His ministry’s YouTube channel has over 230 million views and over one million subscribers. Ray lives in Southern California with his wife and has three grown children. For more information, visit LivingWaters.com or his social media: @RayComfort on X (formerly Twitter) and @official.Ray.Comfort on Facebook.

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Suggested Interview Questions

- 1) Ray, what prompted you to write *Why Jesus?*
- 2) What did you find easy to believe about Jesus and the gospel when you became a Christian? What was difficult?
- 3) Throughout your years of sharing the gospel, which elements have become more of a challenge because of changes in our culture?
- 4) What should every Christian understand when it comes to sharing the gospel?
- 5) Why is it important to focus on our sin and sin nature when witnessing? How do we expose people to their own sin if they believe they live a good life?
- 6) Why do you reference certain Ten Commandments when discussing sin?
- 7) How can we help others understand that God is loving but righteous and sin has consequences without scaring someone off?
- 8) Why is it beneficial for a Christian to understand other religious beliefs and worldviews?
- 9) Why is it difficult for people to let go of their sin when it has become an idol?
- 10) How would you encourage those who share their faith when their efforts do not lead to another person’s conversion to Christ?
- 11) Where can we find out more about your ministry?

Notable Quotes

If there's one thing that will hinder us in the task of evangelism, it's a fear of failure. But we should never fear failure because, more often than not, it is the avenue to success. And success for the Christian is faithfulness. It's not necessarily to reap a harvest. Rather, it's to faithfully plant the seed. Sometimes we get to reap, but more often we are sowing in tears (see Psalm 126:5). Sharing the gospel is often a depressing and thankless task, but our confidence is in the fact that God is faithful. It is his work (p. 24).

It is because God is a just judge that he is angry with the wicked. Even in our sinful state, most of us are angered by evil. When I think about what happened to eleven million human beings at the hands of the monster Adolf Hitler, I am infuriated by such wickedness. How much more must a holy God be angered by rape, murder, torture, and all the other evils that are so prevalent in this wicked world!

If we remove his judicial nature, we are left with an unjust Creator, and it would then make sense that he wouldn't be angered by evil. Idolatry is a subtle sin that deceives multitudes. Subtle because it's not an obvious sin but one that leads to others (p. 46).

The greatest benefit for the Christian is the fact that death has lost its sting. In Christ, we are legally saved from death's power because he paid our fine on the cross. We're not only saved from the power of death, but we are also saved from the *fear* of death. God has given us something to help us conquer that haunting terror that grips every human being before they come to Christ. Our faith in Jesus, like having faith in a parachute, lifts us above our fears. So our fear will be in direct proportion to how much faith we have (p. 60).

We Christians know that the world is in great danger. That's why we make ourselves look like fools to warn others. Love and concern cannot remain passive. They are the fountain of our evangelism. Think of what Jesus did. He humbled himself and became obedient to death. He was stripped and humiliated by this evil world—all for our redemption. If he would do that for us, we should be able to suffer a little humiliation for him.

One of the biggest hindrances to the gospel, if not *the* biggest hindrance, is human pride...Self-righteousness will arguably take more people to hell than any other sin (pp. 126–27, 135).

How blessed we are to have the Bible. It's not only God's love letter to humanity, but it really is also a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Because of God's Word, we know where we are going. But even more than that, from Genesis to Revelation, Scripture answers the *Why Jesus?* question. Look at what Luke says about the Scriptures and Jesus: "And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself" (24:27). From the beginning to the end, God has been revealing his plan to bring humanity into a relationship with him—a plan centered on Jesus (pp. 165–66).

You and I may have plans to reach the lost, but those plans will fail if we don't have powerful and reliable weapons...One of our greatest weapons is the law of God. Study how to use it and then be prepared to use it—as Jesus did. The Scriptures speak of "the preparation of the gospel of peace" (Ephesians 6:15). The *Amplified Bible* says of that verse: "having strapped on your feet the gospel of peace in preparation [to face the enemy with firm-footed stability and the readiness produced by the good news]." Jesus is our example. He shows us how to reach the lost. So never hesitate to use the Ten Commandments to show sinners their danger, to surround them with terrible darkness, and to help them to clearly see Jesus (pp. 275–76).