

Discussion Questions: Chapter 4 continued – CONVINCING COMMUNICATION

25. Speaking of the importance of style—the way you make the case for Christianity with others—Wallace says, “It’s one thing to be intellectually _____ or academically _____, but it’s another to confidently and enthusiastically _____ what you’ve prepared to an audience.”
26. Regarding communication style and first impressions, there’s an old adage that you have to be able to make your point in the first 30 seconds or you probably never will. Do you think that’s a true statement? Do you think it would be worthwhile to practice a simple way to do so?
- a. _____
- b. _____
27. How does the importance of your ‘opening statement’ fit in with our philosophy of leading with Columbo questions?
- a.* _____

- b.* _____

28. What does Wallace mean when he says, “... every conversation about Jesus starts long before you begin to make the case with words.” ?
- a.* _____
- b.* _____
- c.* _____
29. Do you agree with Wallace when he advises against using ‘Christianese’ phrases such as ‘born again’ and ‘Invite Jesus into your heart.’ ? Why or why not?
- a. _____

30. Extra credit: What's the difference between "open" and "closed" questions and why is that important to Christian case-makers?

a. _____

31. What are the "three characteristics of errant case making." ?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

32. "...the more you read about the claims of atheism and the more time you take to understand your hearers, the better chance you'll have to act _____ and _____ objections. Are you reading [or listening] to what the _____ has to say about Christianity?" [Have you practiced your 'B D FIM' response until it's automatic?]

33. "If, as Christians, we have the truth, our worldview is the 'big _____' among worldviews. There's no reason to _____, no reason to '_____ up', no reason to make a lot of _____ noise. Our closing argument should be made _____, based on our evidential _____."

34. Why are spiritual decisions "even more critical than jury decisions"?

a. _____

35. "The best evangelists ... are passionate and _____, and they never forget to ask someone if they are _____ to _____ their mind and become a follower of Christ."

36. Why does Wallace say that evangelism is more like baseball than tennis?

a. _____

37. Do you agree with Wallace when he says, “Every story of conversion typically involves incremental decision making. People rarely make dramatic shifts in their thinking overnight.” ? Why or why not?

a. _____

38. “By the power of the Holy Spirit, the first Christians _____ the direct _____ of their _____ observations. Making disciples involved making the _____. It’s not any different today.”

39. “ ...the disciples weren’t the kind of case makers they wanted to be when they first met Jesus. It took them _____ years, hundreds of _____ experiences, and thousands of hours _____ at the _____ of the Master. It takes _____ to become a good case maker.”

40. “There’s nothing more satisfying than _____ with the Holy Spirit to _____ the _____ for Christianity. ... Become a Christian case maker, and watch God transform the hearts and minds of unbelievers, even as He transforms the nature of our Christian family.”