

PERSPECTIVE

INSTRUCTIONS

ABOUT PERSPECTIVE

Many people have never had the opportunity to talk about their beliefs with anyone. **PERSPECTIVE** provides a disarming approach, allowing others to share their perspective about five important topics: **NATURE OF GOD, HUMAN NATURE, MEANING OF LIFE, IDENTITY OF JESUS,** and **SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH.** In each category, participants choose the card which best represents what they believe, and then tell you what they believe and why. Since **PERSPECTIVE** looks and feels like a card game, it helps you relax and enjoy the conversation.

PERSPECTIVE allows you to come alongside others in their spiritual journey. As you ask questions and listen well, opportunities will arise to have significant conversations about Jesus. Sharing the gospel is easy and comfortable as you identify people's barriers to faith, and converse about who God is and what He has done for us.

Before using **PERSPECTIVE** with others

- 1) Carefully read through all the cards.
- 2) Read the instructions one more time.
- 3) Use **PERSPECTIVE** to role-play with a friend or small group.
- 4) Ask a friend to go with you.

INTRODUCING PERSPECTIVE

Say something like this:

"I'm trying to gain a better understanding of people's thoughts on the meaning and purpose of life, the nature of God, and things like that. I have some cards here (show the cards). All you have to do is select the cards that best represent what you believe, and I'll get your thoughts on them. Would you be willing to tell me which cards reflect your views?"

USING PERSPECTIVE

Hand the person one category of cards (e.g. the yellow **NATURE OF GOD** cards), and ask them to select the card that best represents what they believe. Once they've selected a card, ask the **a** and **b** questions from the **PERSPECTIVE QUESTIONNAIRE.** If you have time, ask

the **c** question. When they've finished answering, move on to the next category. (Note: Multiple cards can be chosen for the **MEANING AND PURPOSE OF LIFE** and the **SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH** categories.)

Allow people to be challenged about what they believe in a non-confrontational way. Don't interject your own thoughts or be judgmental. Just ask good questions and listen well.

After you've gone through all five categories, thank them for their time.

If it seems that God has opened a door for further dialogue, transition to the cards numbered 1-6 with the colored headings. These provide an effective way of discussing the truths of the gospel.

TRANSITIONING TO THE GOSPEL

To get started, say something like this:

"I really appreciate hearing your views. We each have a unique perspective, and what we believe influences our lives tremendously. I have a few cards that help me express what I believe. I'd love to hear your thoughts on them. Would you mind listening and then sharing your thoughts with me?"

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Begin with the **BIBLICAL MONOTHEISM** card. Read through each of the numbered cards in order and ask the questions at the bottom of each card. By asking others to share their thoughts on these cards, you help them process the gospel and prevent them from praying to receive Christ when they don't appear to understand. This also allows you to identify the barriers they have to faith.

People may have objections to some of the cards. If you can appropriately address the objections, do so. Then, further the dialogue by asking, "What do you think about that?" If you can't answer the objections, ask something like, "What makes that difficult for you to believe?" Feel free to admit you don't have an answer, but you can do some

investigating. You can also direct people to **EveryStudent.com.**

CLOSING WITH THE PRAYER CARDS

Wrap up your conversation by showing them the blue **NEXT STEP** prayer cards, if appropriate. (See the **NEXT STEP** card #6). Have them read each card to see if one expresses the next step they'd like to take. If they express interest in praying one of the prayers, allow them to do so. If they would like to think about it and pray on their own, give them the prayer card and draw their attention to **CONTINUING THE JOURNEY**, on the back of that card.

If they pray to receive Christ, give them assurance of their salvation (1 John 5:11-13), and seek to help them grow in their relationship with God.

If they pray the seeker's prayer, ask them if they would like to meet again to discuss the subject; they can even bring friends. Draw their attention to **CONTINUING THE JOURNEY**, on the back of the **SEEKER'S PRAYER** card.

If they aren't interested, sincerely thank them for their time.

At the end of the conversation, or if time is cut short, give them a copy of *Knowing God Personally* or *Backstory* (**CruPress.com**) for further reading and reflection.

