

## Engaging Culture: Three Effective Apologetic Strategies

We live in world of weapons of mass distraction, Facebook, Google+, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Vine, Snapchat, YouTube, Netflix, sports, TV, and on and on. Pascal told us “that the sole cause of man’s unhappiness is that he does not know how to stay quietly in his room” (Pensee 136). The secular world does not want or need God in their lives, or at least that is what they think. In this talk we will address three effective universal strategies to make a difference apologetically in this secular culture.

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In this presentation, we discuss the three principles that have worked in presenting in the secular arena for the past 15 years that leave a fragrance for Christ that cannot be ignored. At the same time this talk will help us to accept the hard truth that some people may be outside of our particular reach at this time in their lives. So the best we can do is leave a fragrance for Christ to continue do his work

### I. Strategy 1: **ENGAGE**

A. *Sit at The Table.*

B. How to get a seat at the secular public square where you will have the attention of your secular friends

### II. Strategy 2: **ENQUIRE/EXPOSE**

A. *Turn or Flip The Table.*

B. How being open to listen and taking the important questions your friends ask, turn them around, allow people to open up to you and connect with you in a genuine and uncontrived manner. Stand up and expose the unstable foundations of the secular worldview, Schaeffer style.

### III. Strategy 3: **EDIFY**

A. *Reach Across the Table.*

B. Love individual people redemptively

*Walk in wisdom toward outsiders . . . Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. Col 4:5-6, "You are the redeemed by God, the salt of the earth and light of the world" (Matt 5:13-16).*

#### ***Suggested Readings:***

- Richard Niebuhr, *Christ and Culture*. TouchStone, 1975.
- D. A. Carson, *Christ and Culture Revisited*. Eerdmans, 2012.
- Tim Keller, *Making Sense of God: An Invitation to the Skeptical*. Viking Books, 2016.
- James Davison Hunter, *To Change the World*. Oxford, 2010.
- Miroslav Volf, *Public Faith How Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good*. Brazos, 2013.
- Os Guinness, *Fools Talk*. IVP Press, 2015.