

A WAY TO HELP PEOPLE UNDERSTAND WHERE THEY ARE IN THEIR
RELATIONSHIP TO GOD

by Nate Mirza

Every one is on a spiritual journey seeking meaning and purpose in life. People go through different stages in this journey at different points in their lives. I have found it helpful to identify those stages and give hope to people that they don't have to be stuck anywhere but can come into a meaningful, happy relationship with the one living and true God.

AGNOSTIC - this is a person who says, "There may be a God, there may not be a God. I just don't know."

BITTER - this is a person who has had some very painful or tragic experiences in life and blames God for them.

NOT INTERESTED - this person is drawn to other interests and knowing God is not attractive at this time.

CURIOUS - this is a person who is willing to expose himself to truth about a true God who cares about him.

MISINFORMED - this is a person, usually religious, who thinks he has a right relationship with God, but it is not on God's terms.

SEEKER - this is a person who genuinely wants to know God and will study, discuss and research the subject.

RIGHT WITH GOD - this is a person who has entered into a right relationship with God on God's terms.

Notes:

* One can start with ATHEIST - this is a person who is honestly convinced that there is no God

I leave it out because there are so few true atheists and I don't want to make the presentation any longer than necessary.

** People don't necessarily go through all these stages, neither are they intended to be sequential since people could go back and forth.

Key questions to ask are:

1. Is there anything that needs to be clarified?
2. Assuming these are fairly accurate descriptions of the stages people go through, at this point in your life, which stage best describes where you are?
3. At some point you have to explain what is meant by "On God's terms." Here you deal with the gospel. The "Bridge Illustration" might be a good way to explain the gospel.

agnostic bitter not interested curious misinformed seeker right with God



Note: the above people can be drawn out as stickman on a napkin or whatever as you explain your illustration.