

PR Quotes For “God Space” Book & Workshop

I have assembled an assortment of quotes that will help you promote “God Space” and the “God Space” workshop. Historically it’s been proven over and over again that if your people start reading the book a month or so before the workshop you will have the best form of PR going, unsolicited word of mouth. Early readers create the buzz necessary to get the most people out for the workshop. They also walk into the workshop primed for a more stimulating workshop experience. The “God Space” book is intended to inspire the desire while the multi-media driven workshop is intended to build the skills needed to live an outwardly focused life. Role-playing coupled with small and large group interaction help to move people from information to transformation.

The following four suggestions have proven to be effective:

- Work through the book with your staff and key leaders to insure they have a clear vision and motivation for the workshop two months ahead of time. Having them on board is critical to creating the greatest amount of outward focused synergy. Have these key influencers share their own

personal excitement for the book and the workshop within their own sphere of influence.

- Six to Eight weeks out from the workshop, send out an e-mail blast with the first two chapters of my book in it to your entire faith community. (Go to godsgps.com/read-god-space) Each ensuing week share a quote from the book during the service. Comment on the significance of the quote from your vantage point. End with a reminder to pick up a copy of the book and pre-read it before the workshop.
- As you get closer to the workshop date, use the workshop blurbs to encourage people to sign up. I cannot emphasize how important it is for the Senior Pastor or Teaching Pastor to weekly share why they are excited about the workshop from up front. When the rest of your leaders in their sphere of influence reinforce this, you can rest assured will see a maximum turnout at the workshop.
- The workshop will come and go. What your leaders do with the new found outward focused enthusiasm will greatly determine how much Kingdom momentum is generated. You must answer this question before the workshop if you want to harvest all that the workshop will stir up in your faith community. What are you prepared to intentionally do to create natural on-ramps for those who will now be ready to practitioners?

Book Blurbs

"Christ-followers everywhere are struggling to figure out how to have spiritual conversations in a world that is constantly changing. This lack of confidence and competence has silenced many Christians. "God Space" emboldens God's people to re-engage in these conversations in natural and winsome ways. Practical assignments, coupled with powerful stories, make it easy for any reader to begin experiencing the fresh insights that this much-needed book provides."

-Josh D. McDowell, Author and Speaker

"Doug did it! As I've spoken to thousands of people regarding externally focused living, the missing piece I've identified is the type of conversations that help turn good deeds and good will into good news for this generation. Through genuine concern coupled with curiosity and questions Doug, through Scripture, story and experiences (both positive and negative) presents attractive and compelling ways to engage others in conversations that change lives for eternity. **God Space is the definitive book on outreach for this generation.**"

-Eric Swanson, Leadership Network, Co-author of "The Externally Focused Life

Workshop Blurbs

"Our church's experience with the God Space seminar was outstanding. Not only is Doug a gifted communicator, but his content is relevant, challenging and practical. Our people are growing in their ability to meaningfully connect with those who don't yet know Christ. **I have been in full-time ministry for 40 years, but increasingly frustrated with the effectiveness of evangelistic methods. God Space - the book and the seminar - have given me a new excitement for connecting with those who do not yet know Christ.** Doug's principles are practical and refreshing - and they work!"

Harvey Pflug, Pastor at Faith Evangelical Free Church, Milford, OH 513-831-3770

"I kept telling our church, 'if this guy [Doug] can do what he claims he can do, namely teach us how to share our faith in a way that is not weird and forced, then I want to hear him because I need to know how to do that – and I am a pastor!' Doug did indeed deliver as promised, showing us how to initiate spiritual conversations in ways that are natural. Many in my church genuinely love those outside the church but are handcuffed in their ability to initiate conversations about spiritual topics that do not weird out the person they are talking to. Doug helped us over that hurdle."

Bruce Stevens - Sr. Pastor at the United Baptist Church in Old Town, Maine
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Quotes From The Book

If we're going to create God Space for others, it has to start inside of us. It takes safe people to create safe places. God Space begins when the natural gives way to the supernatural. God Space is where...

...God is felt and encountered in tangible ways that address the longings and cries of the heart.

...gentleness and respect are present, judgment is absent, and divine dialogue flows naturally because trust has been established.

...the invisible principles of God's kingdom are made visible in ways people can see, touch, and feel.

...the topic of God can be explored freely without agendas, biases, and personal convictions getting in the way.

... cynics, skeptics, scoffers, and spiritually curious people alike can raise their questions, share their doubts, voice their concerns, and even vent their anger toward God and the church.

...the "unworthy" feel safe enough to bring their real selves out into the light and journey towards the cross one step at a time

...spiritual curiosity is aroused and the message of Christianity becomes plausible.

Many people we hope to reach with the Gospel anticipate, and are amply prepared for, any direct attack on the holy places and sacred shrines of their hearts. Our message rarely gets through because they hear, “My worldview is better than your worldview, so let me tell you why I’m right and you’re wrong.” Instead of opening hearts to Jesus, many times we merely perpetuate the “us vs. them” standoff.

When we speak “Christianese,” we are unwittingly saying, “If you want to have a spiritual conversation with me, you’ll have to do so on my terms.”

How long does it usually take for you to take over a conversation and dominate it with your worldview? If you want to have a meaningful spiritual conversation, you’ll need to give up the idea of controlling it.

We need to remember that not-yet Christians are not the enemy; they're victims of the enemy. We are called to move into culture with compassion and check our "onward Christian soldier" mindsets at the door.

I've found a direct correlation between how I view my world and what I am moved to do. When I start seeing the world the way Jesus does, I'm moved to do something about it.

When we start to notice others with our Jesus glasses on, something happens inside of us. His compassion melts away the coldness in our hearts. Our callousness towards others is replaced with a genuine concern.

"Outsiders define us by what we do, not by what we say or by what we believe." Servant evangelism is a powerful way to redefine Christianity to our communities. Deeds of love allow us to sneak into the hearts of those we serve." "Good deeds create good will, which opens the heart to the good news."

You may have heard it said that truth separated from experience always leaves room for doubt. When we show up in our Monday-through-Saturday worlds with our Jesus glasses on and begin to notice needs and meet them with no strings attached, no invitations to church, and no gospel tracts, the world around us begins to experience the kingdom of God in a tangible way. The invisible becomes visible, and God Space is created.

If our good deeds create a road for our good news to travel, let's make sure we make the trip. The church has never existed to train up experts in social work. As bad as they are, poverty, injustice, world hunger, and poor health are not life's biggest issues. Where one spends eternity is!

When we over-supply people with spiritual truth, we can kill the demand. When it comes to spiritual conversations, often more is less, and less is more.

Meaningful spiritual conversations happen when we accept where people are in relationship to God, even if we would like them to be somewhere else.

More than anyone, Jesus knew that great questions lead to great thoughts. Many great thoughts are needed on the path from being a self-absorbed person to a God-centered Christ-follower. Questions help to peel back the layers of people's hearts and expose the things that stand between them and God.

One of the greatest ways we can serve people in a spiritual conversation is to raise the kinds of questions that help them see the inconsistencies of their worldviews. For most people, the process of repentance is not one big decision but a series of mini-decisions. Good questions are like time bombs. When they are detonated, they create a dissonance that compels a change in thinking.

I've found that if you demonstrate the Bible's relevance to a topic that they care deeply about, their spiritual apathy is many times reversed right on the spot.

I believe that folks who are de-churched or seemingly apathetic toward Christianity are sending the church a clear message. They want us to demonstrate how a book written several thousand years ago could possibly have something to say to them in this day and age. I think we owe them that much, don't you?

God has called us all to be good-news people in a world dominated by bad news. Everybody we meet is a candidate for good news because everyone is either moving toward the heart of Jesus or away from it.