

# If You Love Them Then You Must Debate Them

## October 2019 Issue “Venue Driven”

### IYLTTYMDT – “Planning Your Encounter”

In this issue I would like to discuss the process of creating a safe place for dialogue called; **“The Venue Driven Encounter.”** The outcome of sharing the Gospel with those around us can be somewhat varied and even though we know it is a growing and learning experience we can see that a time of preparation will always help in the overall success and give us confidence and boldness in our encounters.

#### \* **Starting Place:**

1 Corinthians 2:15 *The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, But we have the mind of Christ.*

When we fall short of His glory we have the Holy Spirit to remind us that we can turn to Him to see the love and the unity break through with the miracles from our Savior.

#### **Starting goals:**

1. Lifestyle of mercy and charity like Jesus.
2. Devotion time and prayer life.
3. Love them unconditionally.
4. Share a simple and practical message of the Good News.
5. Welcome them into the family of Christian brothers and sisters.

### **Venue Driven Encounters**

Creating a Safe Place For Discussions

#### \* **4 principle processes to have a venue driven encounter**

1. Bridging the gap:

##### **Learn about people and things connected to those you want to minister to.**

In every group there are leaders that set a pace. Do the homework on the lead people that you will be speaking with during the engagement. Learn what issues they are concerned with.. See if family members have planted seeds and refer to childhood experiences that may have been positive. Create a safe venue for the discussions.

2. Being honest and sincere:

##### **Vulnerability to the peripheral area.**

People open up when they know you are vulnerable by the same things they are. They can tell if you are sincere in your wanting to identify with their surroundings. Most people already know they are building on sand. Remember in our weakness His strength shines through. Our strength comes from the Rock we stand on. Create a safe venue and sanctuary.

3. Let them steer the conversation:

##### **Get them to ask questions to the important issues.**

The best way to gain respect is to be involved in a learning process with them. Get others to ask questions and show that you are sensitive to their frustrations and discouragements. Don't be too quick to act like you have all the answers. Create a safe venue with Jesus' grace.

4. Give them the invitation that puts Christ's humility above all:

##### **Show an attitude of service and respect for boundaries.**

A servant doesn't have time for taking offense to criticism or complaints. Criticisms are usually generalizations that say a person feels marginalized or powerless. Many questions will be confrontational at first but you can show the person you respect boundaries. You can respect the hierarchy and work with the social order. Create a safe venue with proper boundaries.