



We need to be wise in how we act and talk with Gospel outsiders- in order to make the most of every opportunity with them.



1. Be wise in how we act

2. Be wise in what we say

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2. Be wise in what we say



## 2. Be wise in what we say

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You can only act wise and good if you are wise and good.

**Prov 26:12** Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

**Luke 11:31** The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here.

HEAVENLY MINDED

# ON THINGS ABOVE

C O L O S S I A N S

EARTHLY GOOD





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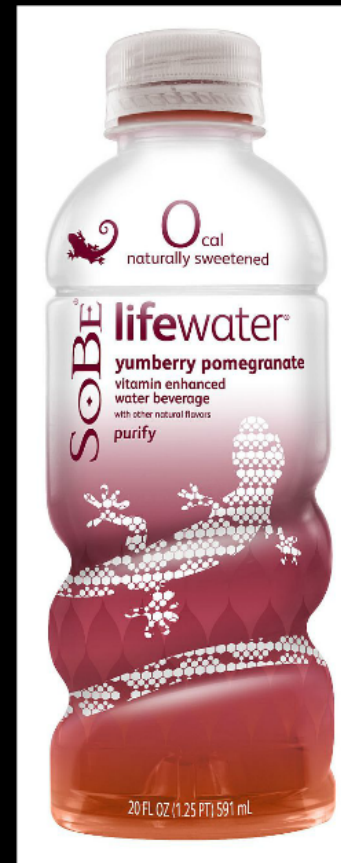
1 Timothy 2:1-6

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone: 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.

1 Peter 3:10-17

10 "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. 11 He must turn from evil and do good, he must seek peace and justice. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." (Ps. 34:12-16)

13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you suffer for righteousness, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." (Isa. 8:12)  
15 In your hearts, fear Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 16 In keeping with the command, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 17 It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.







## 1 Timothy 2:1-6

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## 1 Peter 3:10-17

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"Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. 11 He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." (Ps 34:12-16)

Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?

**But** even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." (Isa 8:12)

**But** in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 17 It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

Colossians 4:5  
Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

Understand their perspective 1 Peter 3:7

They need it  
Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

We need it  
Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

# 1. Be wise in how we act





Colossians 4:5

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

# Understand *their* perspective (*really*)

They need it

Being wise increases  
Christ's good  
reputation

We need it

Being wise often leads  
to our reformation

# Self-righteous defensiveness

*"Protective enculturation"*



# Contextualization

What is their world like?

How do they see me?

Are they right?

YES

NO

I should repent and Trust Jesus

We need to over come evil with good. How?

Ignoring **CONTEXT**

*HPC core value*

# Unrighteous conforming

*"Destructive enculturation"*

# Contextualization

What is their world like?

How do they see me?

Are they right?

YES

NO

I should repent and Trust Jesus

We need to over come evil with good. How?

Colossians 4:6  
Let your words always overflow with grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may have peace and love with everyone.

1 Peter 3:15-16  
Be ready to give an account of the hope that is in you, but do so with gentleness and respect. Be ready to explain the reason of the hope that is in you, but do so with gentleness and respect. Be ready to explain the reason of the hope that is in you, but do so with gentleness and respect.

Understanding and Respect  
[Small icons representing communication and respect]

# 2. Be wise in what we say

## Meek doesn't mean Weak

Proverbs 15:1  
A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh answer stirs up anger.

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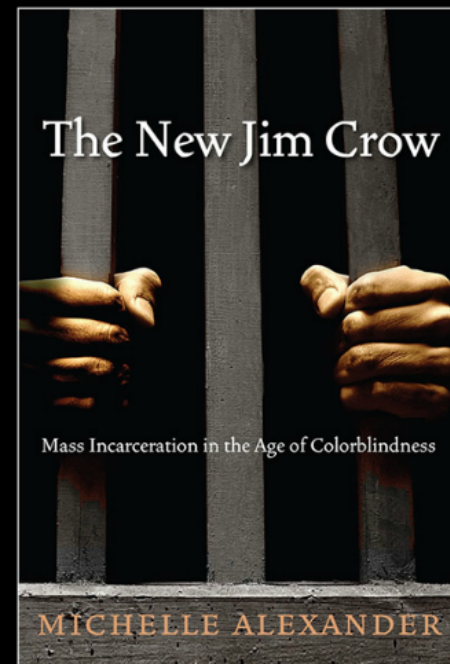
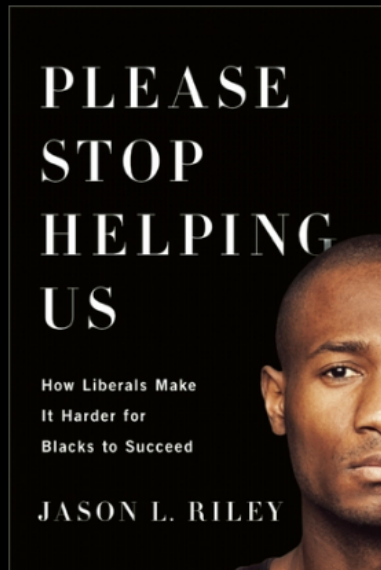
## Colossians 4:6

“Let your conversation be always full of grace,  
seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to  
answer everyone.”

## 1 Peter 3:15-16

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

# Understanding and Respect



# Meek doesn't mean Weak

*gentleness and respect 1 Pet 3:15*

*full of grace Col 4:6*

Proverbs 26:4-5

Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself.

Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.

## Proverbs 26:1-12

Like snow in summer or rain in harvest, honor is not fitting for a fool.

Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting swallow, an undeserved curse does not come to rest.

A whip for the horse, a halter for the donkey, and a rod for the backs of fools!

Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself.

Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.

Like cutting off one's feet or drinking violence is the sending of a message by the hand of a fool.

Like a lame man's legs that hang limp is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.

Like tying a stone in a sling is the giving of honor to a fool. 9 Like a thornbush in a drunkard's hand is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.

Like an archer who wounds at random is he who hires a fool or any passer-by.

As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his folly.

Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.



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They need it  
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# 1. Be wise in how we act



Colossians 4:6  
Let your words always overflow with grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer to everyone.

1 Peter 3:15-16  
Be ready to give an answer to everyone who asks you to explain the hope that is within you, but do so with gentleness and respect, holding your conscience clear, ready to give any explanation to all who ask you about the hope that is within you. Live in peace with the world and be holy, fearing the Lord and respecting the authority of the ruler.

Understanding and Respect

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