

The Gospel Project for Adults, Spring 2017
Interactive Teaching Tips for Adults, Session 3

Introduction: *Engage their thinking by connecting with a quote.*

Write the following quote on the board before your students come to class:

“Humility is not thinking poorly of oneself. Rather, it is having the proper estimate of oneself in the will of God (Rom. 12:3). The person with humbleness of mind thinks of others first and not of himself.”

As they are waiting to begin, ask them to read it. As you begin class, ask 2 or 3 students to comment on it, especially as it relates to Christ’s incarnation.

[Source: Warren Wiersbe, *The Wiersbe Bible Commentary: New Testament* (Colorado Spring: David C. Cook, 2007), 687.]

Point 1: *Reflect on the incarnation with song lyrics.*

Divide your class into 2-3 groups and give each group a copy of the lyrics to the song “No Room. After five minutes, ask each group to share their insights.

*No room, only a manager of hay,
No room, He is a stranger today,
No room, here in His world turned way,
No room, no room.*

*No room, here in the hearts of mankind,
No room, no cheery welcome could find,
No room, surely the world is blind,
No room, no room.*

*Angels, in heaven up yonder,
Watch with amazement and wonder,
To see the Son of the Highest treated so,
No room, no room, no room.*

*No room, only a manger of hay,
No room, He is a stranger today,
No room, here in His world turned away,
No room, No room.*

[Source: John W. Peterson, “No Room,” *Hymns with a Message*, January 3, 2010, <http://barryshymns.blogspot.com/2010/01/no-room.html>.]

Point 2: Use the “Think-Pair-Share” technique.

The lesson emphasizes that Jesus’ birth announcement was to those on the margins of society. Have your class members read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31. Ask your group members the following question: “Why did God primarily choose the ‘outcasts’ of society and not the elite?”

Say something like the following: “**Think** for 30 seconds about this question...Now I want you to discuss your ideas with a person on your left or right who is not your spouse.” (Pause for 60 seconds.) Call on 3-4 pairs to **share** one idea.

Point 3: Help your group members connect with the major theme.

Show your group the video clip “Human Race” (1 minute, 24 seconds) from the film *Not Easily Broken*. It can be found at <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/not-easily-broken/human-race>.

The coach has to teach his team that they are all part of the same race, the human race. Ask the following question: “How should the fact that we are all of the same race influence our evangelistic efforts?” Allow 3-4 students to answer.

Conclusion: Challenge your group members to reflect on the triune God’s desire to know them.

The next time you read your Bible or pray, spend a few minutes thinking about the fact that you are interacting with the triune God of the universe who desires to commune with you. He is one God who exists in three persons eternally and who has acted in history so that humanity would know this God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father sent the Son. The Son of His own volition left the glories of heaven and took on the form of mankind to pay the price for our sins. The Father and the Son sent Holy Spirit to live within us. Thank God for this truth.

Teaching Tip of the Week

Just as there are different ways we prefer to learn—auditory, visual, and kinesthetic—there are also teachers who tend to use teach using teaching methods they are more comfortable with. Visual teachers tend to make a lot of diagrams, charts, and posters. The visual teacher may not talk as freely as the auditory one; chances are they use a lot more silent observation in class, and communicate more readily by writing notes or drawing pictures. No teacher is *just* visual; they will

have either an auditory or kinesthetic aspect as well. If you ask your students to turn in writing assignments more than participate in verbal discussions, chances are this is your dominant style. See the next *Teaching Tip of the Week* installment to learn about kinesthetic teachers.