

Lifting Up Jesus

September 13, 2026

1 Peter 3:15, *“Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.”*

Defense: answer, intelligent reasoning, and a well thought out response

Galatians 2:20, *“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”*

John 12:32, *“And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.”*

Make Friends with Not Yet Christians

1 Corinthians 9:22-23, *“I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. ²³ I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.”*

Luke 7:34, *“A friend of tax collectors and sinners.”*

Luke 7:37-38, 48, *“There was a woman in the city who was a sinner...she began to wet Jesus’ feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume. ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins have been forgiven.””*

Romans 2:4, *“Do you think lightly of the riches of God’s kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?”*