



“REASON—Don’t Live Life Without It!”

Intentional Relationships

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“Whoever gives an answer before he listens is stupid and shameful.” Proverbs 18:13 (GW)

WHAT IS REASON? Reason is the disciplined use of our God-given capacity to think—examining what we know, distinguishing it from what we assume, listening for what we may be missing, and remaining willing to change our conclusions in pursuit of what is true.

REASON ASKS:

- ◆ What actually happened?
- ◆ What might I be missing?
- ◆ What did you mean?
- ◆ Which part of this belongs to me?

REASON...

1. Listens before It Concludes .

“So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him... ‘You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.’” Acts 11:2–3 (NIV)

“Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story:” Acts 11:4 (NIV)

***“Before I defend my conclusion,
have I heard the whole story?”***

2. Examines what It Thinks It Knows.

“The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them... As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning... So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God’s way?” Acts 11:12, 15,17 (NIV)

***“Accurate facts do not automatically
lead to an accurate interpretation.”***

3. Changes when Truth Requires It.

“When the others heard this, they had no further objections. They praised God by saying, “Then God has also led people who are not Jewish to turn to him so that they can change the way they think and act and have eternal life.” Acts 11:18 (GW)

 **Reflection Question:** *“Do I love truth enough to question my own conclusions?”*

 **Remember This:** “REASON slows me down long enough to distinguish what I know from what I think I know.”

“You are an image maker...creating wealth, attracting resources, and transforming lives for God’s glory!”
