

Quest for Relevance

The Way of Love

1Co 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, **but have not love**, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

1Co 13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, **but have not love**, I am nothing.

1Co 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, **but have not love**, it profits me nothing.

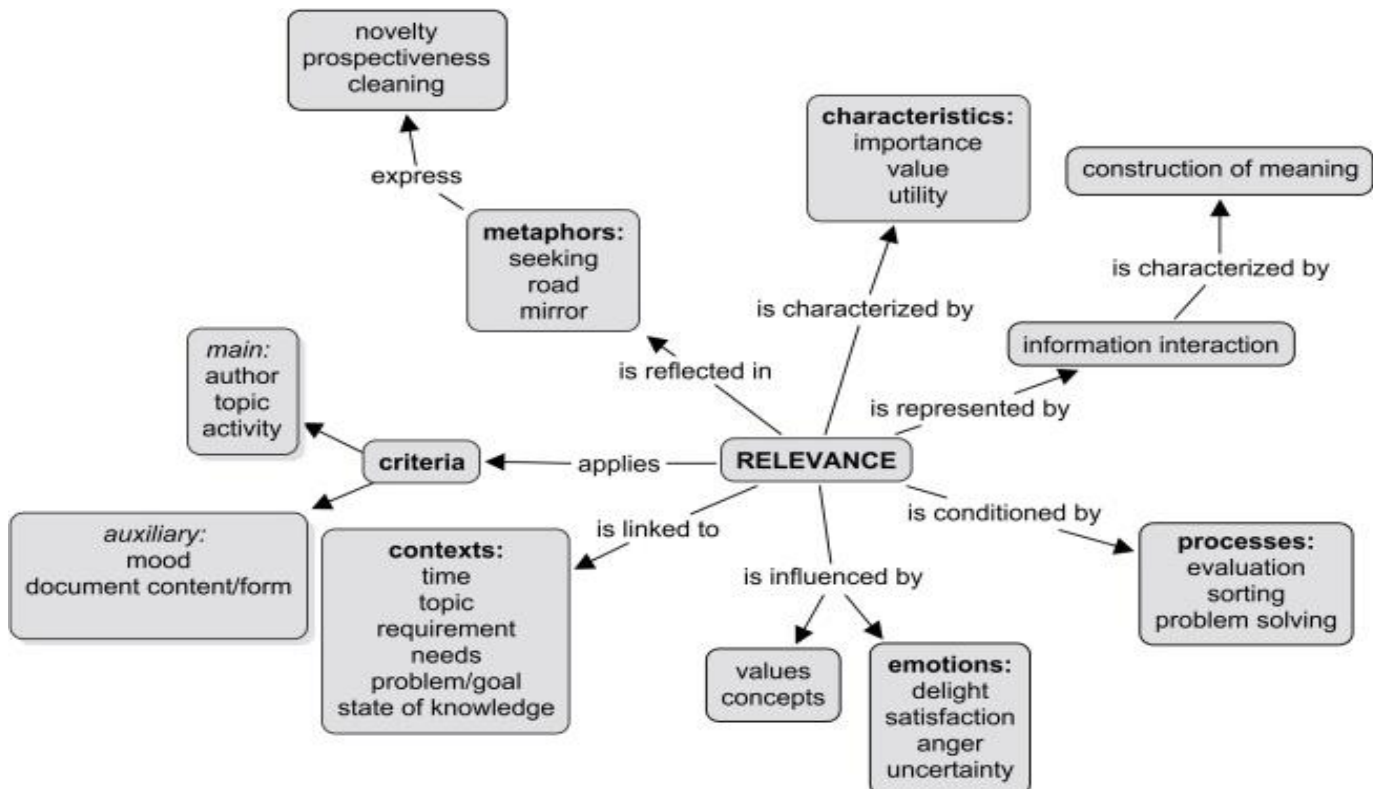
Relevance refers to ... being closely connected or appropriate
... important to the matter at hand, applicable
... the degree to which something is related or useful to what is happening

When someone or something is **irrelevant**, they are considered:

- ... old, useless, out of touch,
- ... a dinosaur (*not* in a “good way”)
- ... unimportant, out of style
- ... not helpful, slows the learning experience
- ... not applicable or pertinent



Perception of Relevance



CSFactor # 3 ... yet -- Internal Challenge #3 – Growing Weakness – Relevant & Rooted

3. Staying Relevant

- Staying Relevant (with the Changing Times)
 - Staying above the Party Politics
 - Teaching meat in due season
 - Preaching about current topics evangelically
 - Incorporating current language into our teachings
 - Teaching against both sides of extremes

1Co 9:19 For though I am free from all *men*, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

1Co 9:20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those *who are* under the law, as under the law, that I might win those *who are* under the law;

1Co 9:21 to those *who are* without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those *who are* without law;

1Co 9:22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.

Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time.

Col 4:5 (NIV) Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

Php 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ

Tit 3:9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

Tit 3:10 Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them.

Tit 3:11 You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.

Mat 24:45 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them **food in due season**?"

Josh 1:7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the **right** hand or to the **left**, that you may prosper wherever you go.

Your personal anecdotal evidence is so much more relevant than this legitimate scientific study.



someecards
user card

2Ti 3:1 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.
2Ti 3:2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,
2Ti 3:3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good,
2Ti 3:4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God--
2Ti 3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. **Have nothing to do with such people.**

... Wow ... It doesn't say "go & evangelize" into the hostile (Antifa) mob

2Pe 3:17 (CEV) My dear friends, you have been warned ahead of time! So don't let the errors of evil people lead you down the wrong path and make you lose your balance.

2Pe 3:17 (GW) Dear friends, you already know these things. So be on your guard not to be carried away by the **deception of people who have no principles**. Then you won't fall from your firm position.

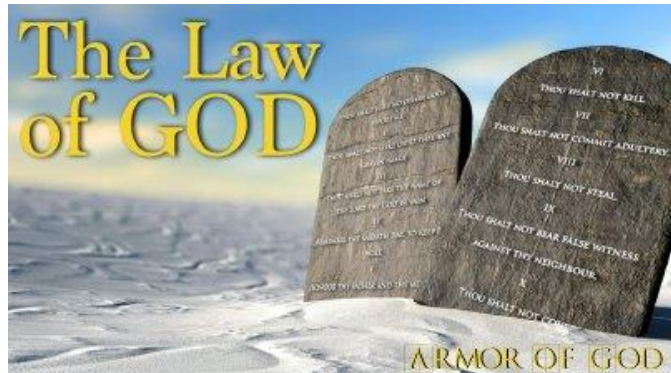
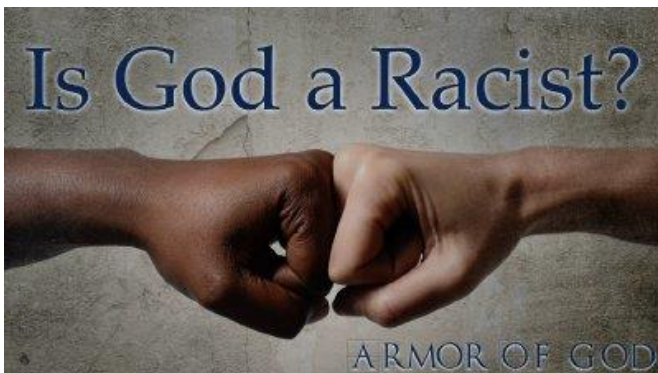
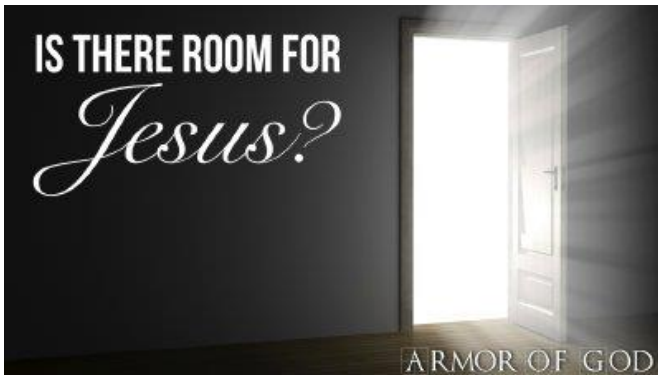
CSF #3 - Staying Relevant -- Gap Score = 3			
<i>Objective: To continue to address current affairs in Bible Studies and sermons</i>			
Thoughts influencing the Gap Score:			
- Canadian Ministry made this a 2019 objective & the Ottawa congregation strongly supports messages covering these themes			
- Some have subscribed to the Epoch Times			
- David Townson send emails to a group to alert to Economic & Social issues occurring around the world			
- Congregation is united in believing dangers of Islam, progressivism, modern culture, etc			
- Several Ottawa members participate in the Current Affairs "Slack Channel"			
- Ottawa is participating in new CGI Hymnal project (which is favoring "traditional older hymns") -- but we continue to add modern praise music in support of youth & variety			
- NOTE: A strong plea was made to say that 25 brethren meeting weekly in a small room is (by definition) " NOT relevant " in a city of 1.25 Million. This point is not addressing our objective listed above... but is worthwhile to be stated.			
Task	Who	by When	Status

Churches ... need to stay relevant ...

People ... need to stay relevant...

- As employees
- As parents
- As Christians

- Topics taught
- Social issues
- Music
- Charitable serving
- Serving the age demographics



Ways to be relevant in our beliefs?

- Feed "topic ideas" to AOG speakers & local speakers (eg in the ThankYou Cards!)
- WATCH AOG episodes—so we can direct people to our premiere evangelism
- With youth Bible Studies... listen to questions & customize lessons to answer
- With friends & your children Ask them why they believe? ... eg in Climate change or God's existence & then customize some solid facts to answer their objections
- Share (eg on Slack) some great "current events" info ... and provide a few key points so people don't need the 90 minute video – they can benefit / be equipped without it

Are we here to Play church? ... Judgment is REAL (for good and evil)

Rev 21:7-8 Everyone who wins the victory will inherit these things. I will be their God, and they will be my children. **But** cowardly, unfaithful, and detestable people, murderers, sexual sinners, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars will find themselves in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

Act 17:6 But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too."

CgiCanada – Mission - *To preach the good news of the Kingdom to all peoples, primarily within Canada, as a witness and a warning; and to nurture and prepare disciples to reign with Jesus Christ.*

CgiCanada – Vision – *By 2025, we will have a reputation for being a healthy Church of God organization - with a ministry that is respected and easy to approach due to our servant leadership culture and our ability to effectively proclaim and teach the Word of God.*

CgiCanada – Core Values –

“I foresee” (I4C)

- ❑ **Integrity** – Rom 12:9; Jos 24:14
- ❑ **Courage** – Prov 28:1
- ❑ **Care** – Eph 4:32
- ❑ **Courtesy** – Gal 5:13-14
- ❑ **Consideration** – Heb 10:24

Values to Light Your Way

Accuracy	Compassion	Friendship	Loyalty
Achievement	Courage	Happiness	Passion
Adventure	Creativity	Harmony	Power
Authenticity	Discipline	Health	Security
Balance	Excellence	Humor	Stability
Bravery	Ethics	Integrity	Time
Collaboration	Faith	Justice	Transformation
Connection	Freedom	Learning	Wealth

CgiCanada – 5 yr Objective 1 – **To help God’s people:**

- a. Walk worthy of our vocation;
- b. Maintain humility while forbearing one another in charity;
- c. Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace;
- d. Discover, develop & use their gifts towards being active members of the body of Christ

“Eph. 4.1-3 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

CgiCanada – 5 yr Objective 2 - **To have an evangelism program**

- a. That is robust and uncompromising in its Biblical content and ability to address current affairs; and
- b. That leverages technology and word of mouth.

CgiCanada – 3 External Forces Against us –

- 1. Political Winds 2. Moral Redefinition 3. Social Unrest

CgiCanada – 3 Internal Forces Against us –

- 1. Division 2. Disrespect 3. Growing weakness

CgiCanada – 7 Critical Success Factors –

- 1. Personal Health 2. Healthy Congregations
- 3. **Staying Relevant** 4. Biblical Fluency
- 5. Lead By Example 6. Communication
- 7. Spiritual Well-Being

(1 page view) **CgiCanada 5 Year Plan to 2025**

CgiCanada – **Mission** - To ...

CgiCanada – **Vision** – By 2025, we will ...

CgiCanada – **Core Values** –

“I foresee” (I4C)

- I
- C
- C
- C
- C

CgiCanada – **5 yr Objective 1** – _____

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

Eph. 4.1-3

CgiCanada – **5 yr Objective 2** - _____

- a.
- b.

CgiCanada – **3 External Forces Against us** –

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

CgiCanada – **3 Internal Forces Against us** –

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

CgiCanada – **7 Critical Success Factors** –

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____