

**The purpose of this folder is to help the men understand that talk is cheap and that action must accompany talk. It is NOT A TEST. It is intended to open up questions and feelings about religion in a non-threatening way.**

## **Pointers for Folder 3**

This folder, as all of them, should be given to the men ahead of time so that they have time to think about the material.

Assure the man that this is not intended to be a test. The questions asked are meant to help the men reflect on how he sees and feels about God, Jesus and the Bible. What images of God do we have? Many of the men will have some idea about Jesus, but they may have questions about him. Most of them will have some questions about the Bible.

A hard call will be deciding how to respond to a statement that we all worship the same God. At times it may be well to let it pass. At other times it may be necessary to go into the question of whether all people think of God in the same way. For example, Christians believe that Jesus is God and people of other religions do not. Some people see God as the God of justice and wrath. Others see God as a loving and forgiving God. These different, even contradictory views determine very much the way we go to God. It usually is enough at this time merely to indicate that the statement is too simplistic.

There may or may not be time to discuss questions about the Bible. Be sure to make note of the questions and promise to discuss them at a later time. Do not get into a debate or argument about them. Less talking at this time often will be more helpful than longer explanations or arguments.

At the end of the session ask the men whether they would like to continue the discussion at another session and what particular points they would like to pursue.