



THE COMPELLING COMMUNITY
EVANGELIZE AS A COMMUNITY | MARCH 22, 2026

EVANGELISM IS BOTH PERSONAL AND CORPORATE

Rather than seeing evangelism as nothing more than _____ someone to church (and church as nothing more than a weekly evangelistic rally), mob evangelism shares the good news through relationships (1 Thessalonians 2:8).

Christians must learn that _____ is something we do in our day-to-day lives, not something limited to our weekly gatherings or special church events. Evangelism is personal.

But evangelism should also be corporate. After all, if the community of the local church is confirmation of the gospel message, we are foolish to evangelize in _____ from it.

Why would you ever share the gospel with a friend without trying to expose him to the supernatural community of the local church? The witness of the local church is today's equivalent of what Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 2:3-5. We want faith to rest in the power of God, and where else is God's power more visible than in the _____?

In the Old Testament, the nation of Israel was God's special people called to show off His splendor to the _____ through their life together (Deuteronomy 4:6-7).

When God describes His rebellious people's failure, He cites this corporate mandate. Instead of showing His glory, they had _____ His name among the nations (Ezekiel 36:20-21).

As Luke introduces us to the church in Acts 2:42-47, he describes their life together. Jesus' explanation that people would know His followers by their love for one another was becoming _____ (John 13:35). This remains a theme in the epistles (Ephesians 3:10; 1 John 3:10).

The local church is not evangelism, but it should display the power of evangelism. Without introducing non-Christians to the local church, evangelism ignores the greatest _____ we have for the truth of the gospel.

ADVICE FOR CHURCH MEMBERS

How can church members expose their non-Christian friends, coworkers, relatives, and neighbors to the attractive _____ of our churches?

1. We can talk about _____ in the church.

Just as you can talk about your marriage while protecting the honor of your spouse, you can describe the glory and reality of life in a church in a way that brings _____ to God.

2. We can _____ our circles of hospitality.

By hosting both people from our church and people outside of our church circle, we give opportunities for unbelievers to _____ casual interactions of genuine Christians.

By inviting others from your church into relationships with your unsaved friends, you give your church community an opportunity to embrace them and display the glory of the gospel to them as well. You can _____ that, when God brings a friend of yours to Christ, your church community will have so embraced him that he wouldn't actually know who "won" him to faith.

3. Aspire to be a _____ church.

When Christians who live near each other put their relationships on display by regularly _____ throughout the week for discipleship, service, or casual gatherings, their commitment to one another can shape perceptions and prompt real conversations about the gospel with their neighbors.

ADVICE FOR CHURCH LEADERS

How can churches _____ their gatherings to put their corporate witness on display to the watching world?

1. Aim your church gatherings at _____.

What is the main evangelistic value of your church gathering? Is it directly explaining the gospel to non-Christians? No. Church is for explaining the gospel to Christians to fuel the supernatural witness of their _____ together.

In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul makes it clear that the church assembles regularly to edify believers. Everything we do should aim at glorifying God by edifying each other. The greatest confirmation of the gospel is the community of the _____.

2. Make church gatherings _____ to Non-Christians.

This might seem to contradict the first point, but while Paul taught in 1 Corinthians 14 that our worship gatherings exist mainly for edification, he also had a keen interest in the response of _____ to those gatherings (vv. 20-25).

Three important things happen when you make your gatherings accessible to non-Christians:

- (1) **You help unbelieving attendees to engage with the gathering — even if they do so as outsiders.** It's OK for them to feel like outsider, but we want them to be _____ and well-informed outsiders.
- (2) **You teach your church that it is normal for non-Christians to be present.** They won't assume that everyone they meet after the gathering is a Christian simply because they are _____ church. And it will spur their thinking about including unbelieving friends at church.
- (3) **You teach your church how to engage with unbelief.** You're showing them how to apply Scripture winsomely to the objections of a non-Christian. And you're showing them all the ways in which the challenges of our world provide an _____ for the gospel.