



SHARING  
JESUS  
{without *freaking out*}

# Proverbs 11:30

New American Standard Bible

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who is wise wins souls.

# WHAT IS THE **MEANING** OF THE WORD *EVANGELISM*?

- **EVANGELISM** means- preaching, announcing, or otherwise communicating the gospel, of our salvation. It's delivering the message (**witnessing**) that Jesus Christ is not only the Son of God but also gave His life as a sacrifice for our sins. In doing so, He ensured eternal life for anyone who believes.
- As we are told in (Jn. 3:16) ***“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”***
- And again, as **JESUS** tells us in (Jn. 14:6) ***“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”***  
Accepting that good news and then telling others about it, so they know too, is the definition of evangelism.

## WHERE DOES THE WORD *EVANGELISM* COME FROM?

- *EVANGELISM* comes from the Greek words *euangelion* — a good message, or gospel — and *euangelizo* — to announce, declare, bring, or preach this good news. Notice the word “*ANGEL*” tucked inside the word — an angel is a “*messenger.*” Those who practice evangelism are indeed delivering a message: One of extraordinarily good news, life-giving and transformative, with **ETERNAL RAMIFICATIONS.**
- Evangelism is one way in which we can fulfill Christ’s call to be His witnesses (**Acts 1:8**) “*but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.*”

- In biblical categories, **“WITNESSING”** involves making visible what is otherwise invisible. The reality to which we bear witness is the invisible kingdom of God, and in witnessing we strive to make the Lord’s reign visibly manifest.
- Among the many ways we can bear witness to Jesus is through loving our fellow believers. We reveal to the world that we belong to our Savior when we love other Christians. Notice (Jn. 13:35). **“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”**
- Celebrating **THE LORD’S SUPPER** proclaims visibly the Lord’s death until He comes again (1 Cor. 11:26) **“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”**
- In **PREACHING** the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus in our evangelism, we are also helping to make visible the invisible reality of Christ.

# WITNESSING/**EVANGELISM**, IS THERE A **DIFFERENCE**?

- The distinction between **witnessing** and **evangelism** is important because it is easy to think we are evangelizing when all we are doing is bearing witness to the Savior.
- **Giving one's *TESTIMONY*** is a good thing, but it is **NOT EVANGELISM**. Testifying to the work of God in our lives bears witness to what Christ has done for us; it does not by itself give the content of the Gospel. Living a righteous life manifests the work of the Holy Spirit, but we have not evangelized our neighbor if we have ***never shared the Gospel*** with him.
- No one is converted by our **kindness** or **honesty**; they are brought into the kingdom of heaven only through **REPENTANCE** and **FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST** ([Acts 16:25–34](#)).

- For example (Acts. 16:25-34) “But about midnight **PAUL** and **SILAS** were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; **26**, and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone’s chains were unfastened. **27**, When the jailer awoke and saw the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. **28**, But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!” **29**, And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, **30**, and after he brought them out, he said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” **31**, They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” **32**, And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house. **33**, And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household. **34**, And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household.”

# RETHINKING/REDEFINING *EVANGELISM*

- *Sometimes* we need to rethink and re-define what it means to ***EVANGELIZE***. The essence of evangelism is the ***GOSPEL***, which is the good news of Jesus—not **methods** or the **kinds and sizes of *audiences***. Which means we are free to make this **unbelievable\*** “good news” about ***JESUS*** more believable in any number of ways: through **urging** or **encouraging**; **blessing** or **warning**; and even **activities** for children such as **singing, puppet shows, and drama**.
- I like what ***SAM CHAN*** said, "Many people today cannot believe in the gospel because of '**defeater beliefs**.'" If someone holds a defeater belief, they cannot imagine calling themselves a Christian—"Not if the Christian God sends people to hell! Not if the Christian God oppresses women. And certainly not if the Christian God won't allow gays to get married." Chan explains, "**Until these [defeater beliefs] are addressed by Christians, people [who hold these beliefs] will refuse to believe the gospel of Jesus**. But if Christians can **hear, understand, empathize with**, and **ADDRESS** [these] **presuppositions**, then the unbelievable news of Jesus might become more believable."

# BIBLE **VERSES** ABOUT *EVANGELISM* AND ITS *ROLES*

- The Bible has some important things to say about various roles in evangelism. These roles help us better understand it. Just as in an orchestra, where there are different parts to play—from violinists to trumpeters, flutists to percussionists—in the same way, there are different roles in evangelism.
- **(1 Thess. 1:4–10)** reveals **six crucial parts** that persons play in the symphony of evangelism.

1. **GOD'S ROLE IS TO CHOOSE PEOPLE FOR SALVATION.** (v.4). *“knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you”* God has a *sovereign role* in salvation. This is the theological idea of **calling**, **election**, and **predestination**.
2. **JESUS' ROLE IS TO SAVE PEOPLE FROM WRATH.** (v.10). *“and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.”* He is responsible for dying for people and their sins, rising from the dead, and one day coming back to judge people. Jesus' other role is that the gospel story is *about him* (v. 8). The gospel is a message about **who** Jesus is and **what** he's done to save people from their sins.

3. PAUL'S ROLE IS TO COMMUNICATE THE GOSPEL. (v. 5). *“for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men, we proved to be among you for your sake.”* He did this both with **words** and **actions**, not just what he *said* but also how he *lived*.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IS TO EMPOWER THE PERSON WHO IS COMMUNICATING THE GOSPEL. (v. 5). This means that the Spirit gives the person the gift of effective communication or the words to say. And the Spirit also **illuminates** the person *hearing* the gospel by **convicting them** (v. 5) and **opening their heart** to *receive* the gospel **with joy** (v. 6) *“...having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,”*

- **5. THE THESSALONIANS HEAR THE GOSPEL AND WELCOME IT WITH JOY.** (v. 6b). They respond with faith (v. 8b) by turning from their idols to God (vv. 8b–9). Now they imitate Paul (v. 6a) and are models for other believers (v. 7) while they wait for Jesus to return (v. 10).
- **6. THE GOSPEL IS A MESSAGE ABOUT JESUS.** (v. 8). *“For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.”* It is the means by which the Holy Spirit **CONVICTS** people of their **SINS** (v. 5) *“for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction”* and **enables** them to welcome God’s salvation with joy (v. 6).  
(20–21)

• This chart further describes these **EVANGELISM ROLES**.

1. **GOD CHOOSES (V.5) ELECTION**

2. **JESUS SAVES (V.10) ATONEMENT**

3. **PAUL (THE EVANGELIST) BRINGS THE GOSPEL (V.5) EXTERNAL CALL**

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT POWER, SUFFERING, JOY (Vv.5-6) INTERNAL CALL**

5. **THESSALONIANS (HEARERS) REPENTANCE AND FAITH (Vv. 8-9)  
CONVERSION**

6. **THE GOSPEL THE STORY OF JESUS (V. 8) INSTRUMENT**

Like **PAUL'S** role in **1 Thessalonians**, “**Our role is to communicate the gospel both in words and actions**. But our role is **not** God’s: we are not sovereignly choosing who gets saved. Our role is **not** Jesus’: we are **not** saving people from their sins. Our role is **not** the Holy Spirit’s: we cannot force people to believe. Instead, **we must stay focused on our role as the evangelist and do it well.**”