

IGNITE INSTITUTE | HOW TO GROW

CLASS 7: EVANGELISM

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

THE GOOD NEWS

1. The Gospel

→ In a few sentences, write out the gospel:

→ Summit Church's gospel statement (compare to your own):

The gospel is the good news that God, our righteous King, because of his great love for us, sent Jesus, the Son, to live, die, and be raised in our place for the punishment of our sins, so that, through faith, we are reconciled to God in order that, by the Spirit, we might live as kingdom citizens in relationship with and in representation of Him. (Luke 2:10-11; Luke 4:14-21; John 3:16-17; Romans 1:16-17)

2. Your Grace Story

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9)

→ Know your grace story and share your grace story.

- As a help, check out the worksheet, *Appendix A: Grace Story*, on the IGNITE App.

WHY WE EVANGELIZE

1. "Evangelism is inseparable from the life of a believer" as it is for the glory of God.³¹ (Capitol Hill Baptist)

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness. (Psalm 115:1)

Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal

³¹ Capitol Hill Baptist. "Class 8: Evangelism." *Core Seminars | Capitol Hill Baptist*, <http://www.capitolhillbaptist.org/sermon/class-8-evangelism/>

life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.'
(John 4:13-15)

→ Evangelism is a means of grace.

- "When our life with Him is healthy and vibrant, we not only ache to keep our roots down deep in Him, but we also want to stretch out our branches and extend his goodness to others."³² (David Mathis)
- When we feel stagnant, bored, and dry in our walk with the Father, it can often be linked back to not living out our purpose given to us. Evangelism is a means of his grace that gives us the exciting, intoxicating, and weighty opportunity to present life's greatest news and most important decision.

2. Evangelism is commanded because people are in desperate need. (Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-47, John 20:21, Acts 1:8)

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. (Ephesians 2:1-3)

→ Is the commandment of our Lord enough?

3. Evangelism is a discipline

→ Like all disciplines, evangelism is an overflow of what the Lord has done. It is a gift of grace and like all disciplines, it requires planning and practice.

- If we do not discipline ourselves to do the work of evangelism, it will likely never happen
- "Deliberate practice will be developed into a gift."³³ (Steven Lee)

4. Evangelism is empowered by the Holy Spirit

... it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. (1 Corinthians 1:21b)

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. (2 Corinthians 4:7)

→ We can rest in his power to save.

- "Successful evangelism is not measured by the response but faithful proclamation."³⁴ (Donald Whitney)

MYCIRCLE TRAINING

1. **Pursue** Jesus daily. (John 15:1-11)
2. **Identify** your MyCircle.
3. **Pray** for one person daily who does not know Christ.
4. **Engage** one person in your circle per week who does not know Christ.
5. **Share** the gospel with at least one person per month in your circle.

³² Mathis, David (2016). *Habits of Grace, Enjoying Jesus through Spiritual Disciplines.*, (Wheaton, IL: Crossway), 198.

³³ Lee, S. (2018). *Guilt Evangelism, a Better Reason to Share your Faith.*, Retrieved from <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/guilt-evangelism>

³⁴ Whitney, Donald S. (2014). *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life.* (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress), 124.